

Bridgwater, Burnham collections

SWP, on behalf of Sedgemoor District Council, is writing to almost 800 town centre households in Bridgwater and in Burnham-on-Sea as they move from weekly to fortnightly rubbish collections, in line with the rest of the district. As part of the support to residents, an information campaign will be run and the provision of gull-proof reusable bags to protect their refuse will be offered.

Fire risks in rubbish

Following the recent fire on the Dimmer landfill site, which took Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Service and site operator Viridor several days to bring under control, SWP has been reminding residents about the risks of fires caused by inappropriate waste.

Advice included reminders to avoid the disposal of hot ash from fires and barbeques, the wrapping and bagging up of broken glass to prevent glass acting as a magnifying glass, and the use of the kerbside recycling service for aerosols as they may get hot or be pierced during the landfill process. For the full press release, [see our website](#).

Frome fly-tipping prevention

SWP is working with Frome Town Council and Mendip District Council about a litter and fly-tipping “hot spot” around the Catherine Hill, Stoney Street and Palmer Street area of Frome.

Local residents, whose domestic collections are on Mondays, have received a letter reminding them of collection arrangements, including that

waste should be presented by 7am on a Monday and no earlier than the evening before. This follows concerns that early presentation is encouraging fly-tipping, including the dumping of unauthorised business waste in this part of Frome. Reminder signs are also being put up.

Food champions training

SWP is launching a new food waste prevention scheme, working with volunteers to help local people save money and waste less food. On average, UK households throw away the equivalent of six meals every week, which is the equivalent of between £200 and £290 of food being discarded each year for each person.

While SWP encourages the use of the food waste recycling service rather than food waste ending up in the refuse bin, waste prevention is far better and this scheme will encourage more people to pass on food saving tips and advice.

Two training days are being run, on Saturday 26 September in Yeovil and Saturday 24 October in Burnham-on-Sea. For details or to book a place, visit <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FC2015-training> or contact Beth Prince on beth.prince@somersetwaste.gov.uk or 01823 625700.

Bridgwater recycling site trees

Bridgwater Recycling Centre planned maintenance work has started on site to remove unsafe trees, which have started dropping branches onto the recycling centre and access road. The felled wood will be recycled by Viridor

via their composting facilities and Poplar trees will be planted to replace the site screen. The work is being undertaken by South Somerset District Council's maintenance team after 4pm when the site is closed, so this project should not affect public access.

Revised festive collections

SWP will be running waste prevention campaigns around Christmas, when residents produce far more waste. Please find attached to this email, a copy of our revised collections flyer which will be distributed to parish clerks, Somerset libraries and customer information centres, local authority customer service teams, recycling centres etc. Nearer the time, we will put out press releases and adverts in local publications as well as providing information on our website.

Latest media releases

Media releases from SWP in the last month included:

- [Trials success boosts recycling and cuts waste](#)
- [Bank Holiday collections one day later](#)
- [Waste Trials show residents keen to Recycle More](#)

Somerset Waste Board

SWP is the executive arm of SWB, which consists of two members nominated by each of the six partner councils in Somerset, one of which must be the portfolio holder for waste and/or the environment.

The Chair and Vice-Chair are elected at the AGM from the Board's membership.

The next Board meeting will be held on Friday 25 September.

For details of SWP, SWB and our services: www.somersetwaste.gov.uk.

SWB membership by council is:

- **Mendip** – Cllrs Nigel Woollcombe-Adams (Vice Chair), Terry Napper
- **Sedgemoor** – Cllrs Dawn Hill, Gill Slocombe
- **Somerset County** – Cllrs Derek Yeomans (Chair), David Hall
- **South Somerset** – Cllrs Jo Roundell Greene, Angie Singleton
- **Taunton Deane Borough** – Cllr Patrick Berry, Steve Ross
- **West Somerset** – Cllrs Martin Dewdney, Brenda Maitland-Walker

Agenda, papers and reports for SWB meetings are available [online](#).

Information on SWP services

The main source of advice and information on SWP services is www.somersetwaste.gov.uk.

Customer service helplines for all partner authorities can assist with service enquiries.

SWP publishes a monthly e-zine (sign-up on our website) and posts on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

