

## **Information Regarding Household Waste Services in Donegal and proposed Waste Presentation Bye - Laws**

From Monday 29th April the Region Waste Management Office will be running adverts on local radio stations on the waste presentation bye laws.

The bye-laws are one of a number of tools being used to protect, conserve and enhance the environment by encouraging sustainable waste management practices.

### **The bye - laws are being introduced to;**

- Help to identify those that are not dealing with their waste in a responsible manner,
- Reduce instances of illegal dumping by increasing the presentation rates for household kerbside collection;
- Improve air quality and eliminate nuisance caused by backyard burning;
- Eliminate littering resulting from animals rifling through refuse bags left out for collection;
- Minimise the health risks that may be associated with mismanaged waste.
- Prevent mismanagement of waste and bring in measures to ensure consistency of service for householders;

### **Status:**

- The Waste Presentation Bye-Laws for Donegal are currently being drafted.
- There will be a presentation to the next Strategic Policy Committee in July 2019.
- The draft bye-laws will then be available for public consultation.
- Submissions considered and evaluated.
- Presentation to the elected members for consideration and /or adoption.

## **Household Waste Management Options**

### **Option (a)**

#### **Make sure you are registered with an authorised household waste collector.**

This has many benefits including the householder being able to access information electronically about the frequency of waste collections and the weights of bins being lifted. Having this information means the householder has more control and can make better choices to reduce the amount of waste produced. If you share a bin ensure that this is formalised.

### **Option (b)**

#### **Householders can bring their waste to an authorised waste facility such as a recycling centre.**

Receipts must be kept, Information about facilities near you can be found via [www.mywaste.ie](http://www.mywaste.ie)

### **Note:**

Home composting of certain waste types is considered good practice and guidance on this can be found on [www.mywaste.ie](http://www.mywaste.ie). Subsidised home composting units are available for purchase from your local Public Service Centres.

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### **Bags:**

There are a small number of householders using a pre-paid bag system. Waste collectors are phasing out this collection system as per the conditions in all waste collection permits. Householders that currently use a pre-paid bag are encouraged to register with a waste collector and take delivery of and use a bin system.

Donegal has a huge network of volunteers who work closely with Council staff on a daily basis protecting and enhancing Donegal's natural environment. By engaging in sustainable waste management practices we can each play our part in conserving our beautiful County.

## Appendix 1

### WASTE – Background & Context

Donegal County Council is one of 9 Local Authorities that makes up the Connacht Ulster Waste Region. A Regional Waste Management Plan is in place that sets out waste management aims and objectives until 2021. You can access the plan in the publications section of [www.curwmo.ie](http://www.curwmo.ie)

**Waste Regulation** – There are three Waste Enforcement Regional Lead Authorities (WERLAs) in Southern Ireland. Donegal sits within the Connacht Ulster WERLA and Donegal County Council, in conjunction with Leitrim County Council, is joint lead authority for this office.

The WERLAs have responsibility for coordinating waste enforcement actions within regions, setting priorities and common objectives for waste enforcement, ensuring consistent enforcement of waste legislation across the three existing waste management planning regions while still leaving local authority personnel as first responders on the ground to specific breaches of waste legislation.

**Waste Permitting**- The Local Authority has responsibility for granting and reviewing Waste Facility Permits and Certificates of Registration. Staff members undertake a programme of work to ensure high quality, fully compliant waste facilities are operational throughout the County.

**Waste Collection**- Kerbside waste collection services are provided by private waste collectors. These collectors are authorised by the National Waste Collection Permit Office (NWCPO) and compliance with conditions is monitored by the Local Authority.

**There are 6 authorised waste companies collecting domestic waste from the kerbside in County Donegal:**

**D & M Environmental Services Ltd t/a DM Waste.**

NWCPO-11-08038-06

**Patrick Logan & Sons Ltd t/a Logan Waste.**

NWCPO- 11-08004-05

**Sharkey Waste Recycling Ltd t/a Sharkey Waste & Recycle**

NWCPO-07-08005-08

**Shaun Molloy & Sons Ltd t/a Donegal Waste & Recycle.**

NWCPO-11-08002-06

**Starrus Eco Holdings Ltd t/a Greenstar A1 Skip Hire, A1 Skips, A1 Waste.**

NWCPO-13-11193-05

**Wheeley Environmental Refuse Services Ltd t/a WERS Waste.**

NWCPO-09-03608-07

For more information on authorised waste collectors in Ireland see [www.nwcpo.ie](http://www.nwcpo.ie)

## Household food waste



Every household in Ireland is responsible for **one ton of food waste per year**. That's between **€400 and €1,000 per household per year thrown into the bin**.

This is not just a waste of money, it's also costing the earth. Food waste sent to landfill does not harmlessly break down but instead releases methane, a greenhouse gas 25 times more potent than carbon dioxide.

Where possible we should **prevent food waste** in the first instance. Top tips to prevent food waste can be found at [www.stopfoodwaste.ie](http://www.stopfoodwaste.ie)

### Do you know that:

- **60% is Avoidable food waste** such Plate scrapings, leftovers, gone off fruit and veg and passed its date perishables. We can control this waste easily by serving smaller portion sizes at meals times and by shopping smarter
- **20 % is Potentially Avoidable food waste** – things like bread crusts, potato skins. This waste could be used in another way; crusts could be made into bread crumbs and then frozen until you need them.
- **20% is Unavoidable food waste** – such as banana skins and chicken bones

([www.mywaste.ie](http://www.mywaste.ie), 2019)

The good news is food waste doesn't have to end up in landfill. It can be stored in your food waste recycling bin/caddie and used to produce compost or renewable energy.

All households living in a population agglomeration >500 people are entitled to a Food Waste Recycling service from their waste collector. You can check if you are entitled to a food waste receptacle on [www.mywaste.ie](http://www.mywaste.ie) in the food waste section. We currently have more than 3600 domestic food waste receptacles provided throughout the County.

## Household Waste Recycling

There are 6 Recycling Centres at Carndonagh, Dungloe, Milford, Laghey, Letterkenny and Stranorlar operated under contract by Bryson Recycling Ltd. These sites provide a recycling service for a range of waste items including but not limited to paper, cardboard, plastic, oils, garden waste and polystyrene. In addition household waste is accepted at each of the sites. All waste streams are accepted in accordance with the Waste Management obligations.

There are 445 Bring Banks at 72 sites around the county allowing for the collection of glass and cans. The development of additional sites is progressed, as locations are identified, through risk assessments in consultation with the service provider.

**Other recycling services provided by Donegal County Council include:** collection points for Textiles, Hazardous Household wastes and separately, working with WEEE Ireland to host collection days for waste electrical and electronic equipment.

## Litter Management

A team of 5 on the ground litter wardens and 3 mobile litter units work closely with the community in preventing litter, detecting offences and coordinating clean ups in conjunction with Tidy Town and other community groups throughout the County.

### 2018 Donegal Figures

- More than **2500** litter & waste investigations, including a number of multi agency operations.
- **1000** mattresses diverted from landfill through the mattress amnesty.
- A highly successful dog fouling awareness campaign led by the litter wardens.
- Successfully achieved funding for **4 new waste enforcement positions** through a Comprehensive submission and negotiations with the Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment.
- **100 litter fines** issued, **148 warning letters** and **5 prosecutions** were initiated for failure to pay litter fines.
- **91%** achieved with REPAK ELT compliance scheme for tyres
- Over **100 tonnes** of waste removed from scenic areas across the County as part of the **2018 Anti Dumping Initiative**. The Local Authority successfully secured **€69,119 from the Department of Communications, Climate Action & The Environment** to deliver this initiative. The funds focussed on a number of key projects including: **providing community clean up assistance** through resources and support. This project enabled the council to **support community clean ups**, Tidy Towns and other environmental groups in a real and tangible way. This initiative also included **investment in surveillance equipment including camouflaged covert cameras and drones**. A **comprehensive communications campaign** was initiated to support the projects being funded.