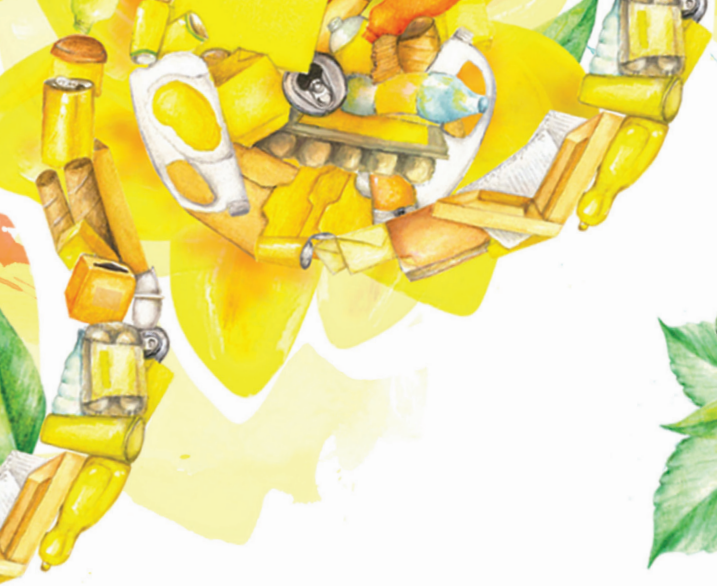
2022 - 23 EDITION



Bin it Right

Your Guide to Mid Canterbury's
Kerbside Collection Service

Ashburton DISTRICT COUNCIL

EnviroWaste

binitright.nz

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This booklet is 100% recyclable.

Don't waste tomorrow, recycle today.

binitright.nz

ADC#19569

Our System

Mid Canterbury is a beautiful place to live, and as a community, we are passionate about keeping it that way.

When the Ashburton District Council replaced the old rubbish bag and crate system back in 2017 with the wheelie bin and crate system, it was an opportunity for residents to recycle more and waste less.

Unfortunately since that time, the global market along with the Covid-19 worldwide pandemic, has seen a change in the demand for low grade plastics and how they are processed. This reduced the available markets and impacted how New Zealand deals with these types of plastics, including here in Mid Canterbury.

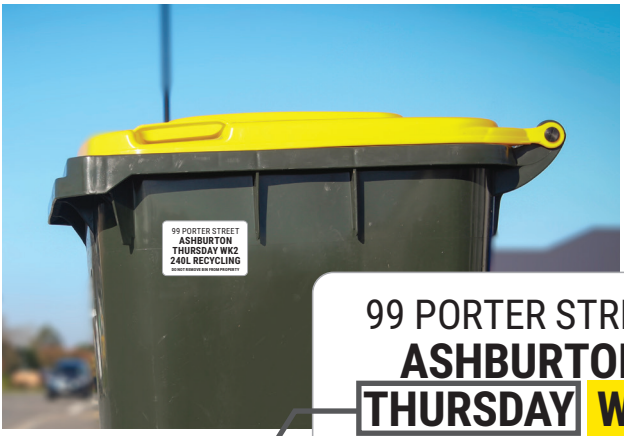
From 1 August 2020, **only certain types of plastic (hard plastics, grades 1, 2 and 5) can be put in the yellow recycling wheelie bin**. All other plastics must go in the red rubbish bin.

Use this booklet to learn more about what can and can't go into your wheelie bins and crate. It outlines how Mid Canterbury's rubbish and recycling kerbside collection service works and the ways you can reduce waste to help make our district an even more sustainable and vibrant place to live.

WHAT PLASTICS CAN BE RECYCLED – HOW TO REMEMBER

When are my bins collected?

Each wheelie bin and crate is assigned to a specific address. The address appears on the sticker on your yellow wheelie bin.



This sticker tells you what day of the week your bins and crate are collected.

The sticker also says that you are either **Week 1** or **Week 2**. If you are **Week 1**, use the **Week 1** kerbside collection calendar. If you are **Week 2**, use the **Week 2** kerbside collection calendar.

Recycling
YELLOW BIN

Every two weeks

Glass
GREEN CRATE

Every two weeks

Rubbish
RED BIN

Every week

When are my recycling bins collected?

Your yellow recycling bin and green glass crate are collected on alternate weeks from each other on a **Week 1** or **Week 2** schedule.

Your green glass crate is collected on whichever week your yellow recycling is not collected. The red rubbish bin is collected **every week.**

Public holidays

If your collection day falls on **Christmas Day or Good Friday**, your bins/crate will be collected the very next day. All remaining collection days that week will also be picked up the day after their usual collection day.

For example, if Christmas Day is on a Tuesday, Tuesday's collection is picked up on Wednesday, Wednesday's collection is picked up on Thursday, Thursday's collection is picked up on Friday and Friday's collection is picked up on Saturday.
No other public holidays are affected.

Calendars can be obtained from binitright.nz or from the Council.

Tips to Recycle it Right:

- ✓ Ensure all items are loose, not bagged.
- ✓ Rinse out the bottles, meat trays, cans and containers.
- ✓ Put all lids in the red bin. They **can't go** in the yellow bin.
- ✓ Flatten cardboard and newspapers. Recycled paper must be no smaller than envelope size.
- ✓ Plastics 1, 2 and 5 should come from the kitchen, bathroom and laundry. No hazardous garden or vehicle chemical containers.

Recycling Bin

Your yellow recycling bin is for the following clean/rinsed out and loose (not bagged) items.

Cardboard ✓

Paper, newspapers and magazines ✓

Aluminium cans and metal tins ✓

Put ALL container lids and bottle lids in the rubbish.

We only accept hard plastic containers/bottles marked either 1, 2 or 5. NO soft scrunchable plastics.

Plastic containers must be smaller than 4 litres in size.

Look for the small triangle imprinted on the container with a single number inside the triangle.

The following items **MUST NOT** go in your yellow recycling bin:

- ✗ Plastic bags, cling wrap or plastic packaging/ wrapping (soft plastics that you can scrunch easily in your hands)
- ✗ Plastic items with no plastic grade marked on them, or grades 3, 4, 6 and 7 including lids.
- ✗ Fast food wrapping/ packaging/cups
- ✗ Aerosol cans/gas cannisters
- ✗ Polystyrene
- ✗ Batteries, electronics and electrical appliances
- ✗ Food and green waste
- ✗ Tetra pak cartons such as juice, yoghurt and soy milk cartons
- ✗ Clothing, shoes or toys
- ✗ Ceramics
- ✗ Plant pots (unless marked 5)
- ✗ Foul waste (used tissues, personal hygiene products, nappies etc)
- ✗ Face masks, rapid antigen tests (RATs), gloves
- ✗ Shredded and laminated paper

No soft or scrunchable plastic

No rubbish or bagged recycling

No clothes or toys

No food and no fast food packaging

Recycling right is important

Waste practices have a huge impact on the environment and your quality of life.

Council moved to the use of 240 litre recycling wheelie bins to encourage more recycling and to stop recyclable items needlessly going to landfill.

Since the wheelie bin service began, the amount of recycling recovered per household has increased, so **more recycling is being recycled and less of it is going to landfill.** This is a great effort!

Not only do we want to recycle more and waste less, but **we need to ensure that what is going into the recycling bin is supposed to go there**.

Putting the wrong things in your recycling bin can **contaminate an entire truck load of clean recycling** that then must all be taken to landfill, **costing thousands of dollars**.

While some items cannot be recycled in your yellow bin, they can be dropped off for free into special collection banks at the Resource Recovery Parks - items include plastic lids, bread bag tags, batteries.

If you are unsure if something can or can't go in your recycling bin, visit **binitright.nz** for a full checklist of items, or check the sticker on your yellow bin lid.

Thumbs up

We love

High 5!

Battery Recycling Station

Recycle important resources and help reduce the risk of kerbside truck fires. While batteries must not be placed in the kerbside recycling bins, they can be dropped off to the purpose built recycling stations located at the Ashburton Resource Recovery Park.

Recycle your unwanted batteries safely.

Alkaline, drycell & zinc

Button cells

LI-ion (Laptops, cameras, cell phones, tools batteries)

Other (NiCd, NiMH, gel cell, button cells, CR123 camera batteries)

Battery Recycling Station
Binitright
Recycle your unwanted batteries safely
To find out more visit ashburtondc.govt.nz/batteryrecycling
03 307 7700 | info@adc.govt.nz | ashburtondc.govt.nz
Ashburton
DISTRICT COUNCIL
Alkaline, Drycell & Zinc
Button Cells
Other
Li-ion

Lid Recycling

Although lids are not part of the kerbside collection service, some lids can still be recycled by taking them to the drop off.

Some lids can still be recycled by taking them to the drop off recycling station located at the Ashburton Resource Recovery Park and Rakaia Resource Recovery Park.

We can't accept lids in the kerbside collection, even if they're marked with a plastic type 1, 2 or 5 as often they're flat so the sorting machine has difficulty detecting them and they can end up in the wrong recycling stream.

Tin can lids must remain attached to the can in order to be accepted in recycling.

Plastic bottle tops

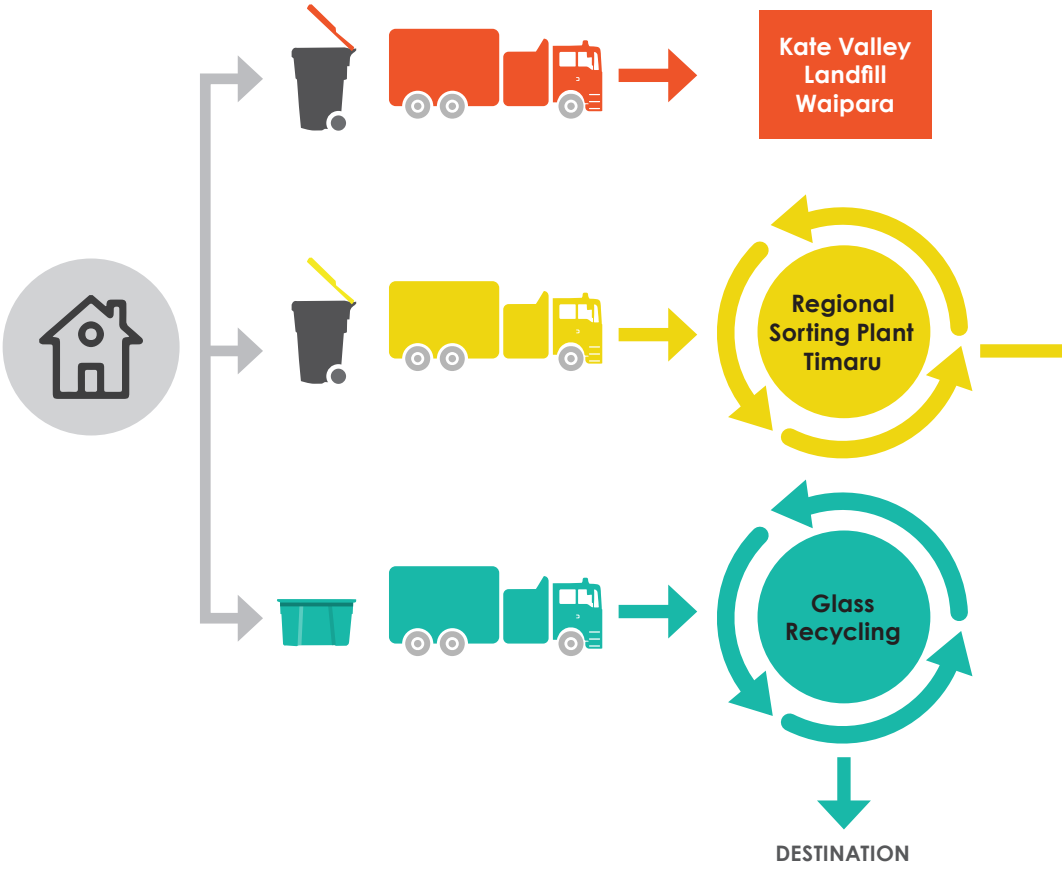
Aluminium bottle tops

The following items **MUST NOT** go in your yellow recycling bin:

✗ **All plastic container and bottle lids must be placed in the rubbish regardless of their recycling number.**

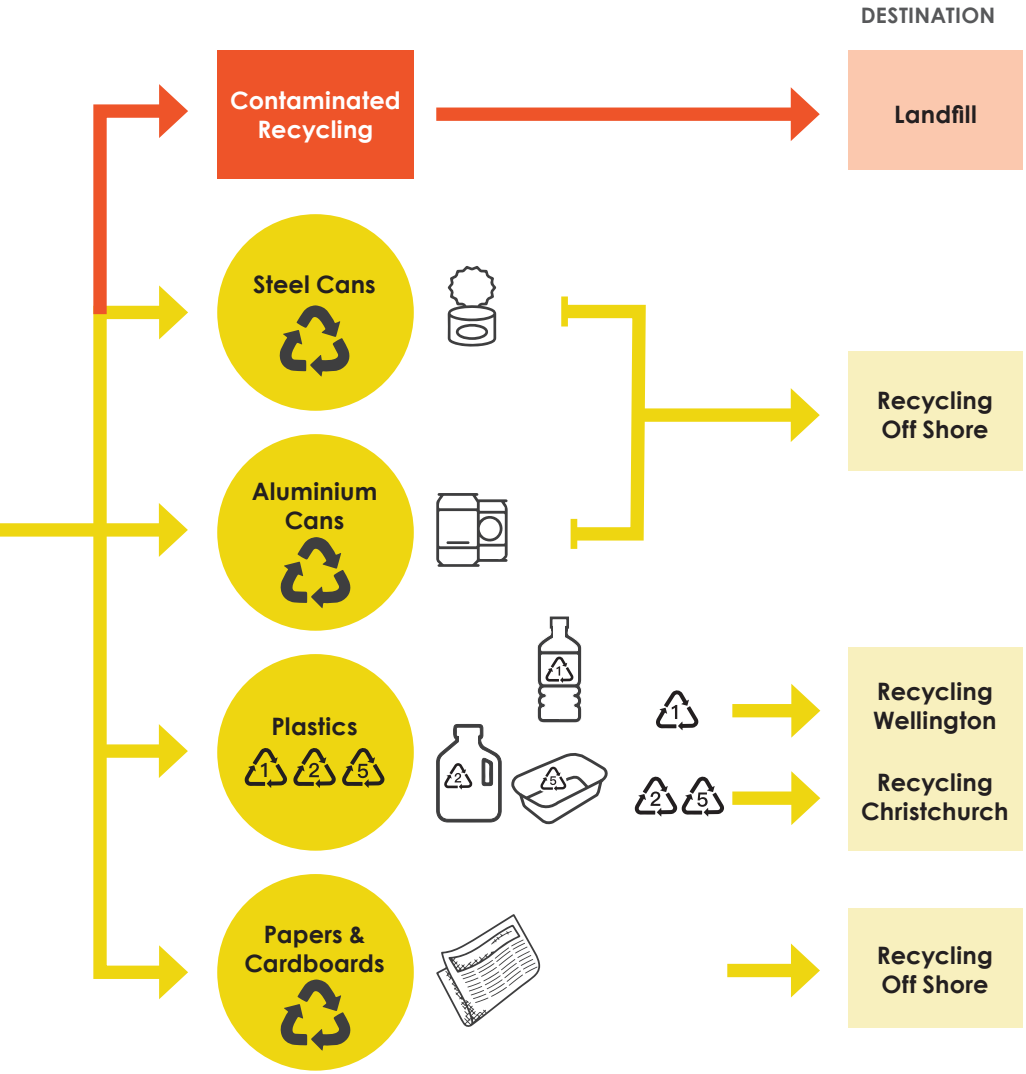
Recycling Journey

Your used items become useful again!



Please rinse/wipe your **items clean** before putting them in the bin.

Dirty items can't be recycled.
NO lids please.



Check our online recycling calendar to find out when to put your bins out and print a copy of your zone calendar at **binitright.nz**

Glass Crate

Your green crate is for clean glass bottles and jars.

Tips to recycle it right:

- **Ensure all items are loose (not bagged)**
- **Empty and rinse bottles and jars (lids go in the red bin) or to the drop off centre.**
- **No broken glass**

Clear, green, amber and blue glass bottles and jars should be placed in your green crate for collection.

For a full list of what can and can't go in your green crate, please visit **binitright.nz**

The following items **MUST NOT** go in your green crate:

- ✗ **Window glass**
- ✗ **Pyrex or ovenware**
- ✗ **Drinking glasses**
- ✗ **Optical lenses/eye glasses**
- ✗ **Medical or laboratory glass**
- ✗ **Television or computer screens**
- ✗ **Light bulbs**
- ✗ **Lids**

For a full list of what can and can't go in your red rubbish bin, please visit **binitright.nz**

Rubbish Bin

Your red bin is for the items that cannot go in the yellow recycling bin or green glass crate, including:

- ✓ Household waste
- ✓ Food scraps
- ✓ Soft plastics (plastic bags and packaging you can scrunch in your hands) and plastic grades 3, 4, 6 and 7.
- ✓ Polystyrene
- ✓ Garden waste

The following hazardous items are not accepted in any of our kerbside collection wheelie bins or crates:

✗ **Explosive and flammable materials**

✗ **Paints and solvents**

✗ **Household chemicals**

✗ **Automotive products**

✗ **Liquid and dry chemicals**

✗ **Building materials**

These items can be safely dropped off at the Ashburton Resource Recovery Park.

Collection of your wheelie bins and crate

- Bins should be placed at least 50cm apart from one another to be collected, and the same distance away from trees, poles, cars and other obstructions. Hint: you should be able to stand between your bins.
- Wheelie bin lids must be closed flat to be collected. Overfilled bins and items placed next to the bins for collection will not be picked up. Please make use of the wind strap on your bin to keep your lid closed.
- Ensure your bins are no heavier than 30kg. Bins heavier than this cannot be collected.
- Collections will be completed by 7.30pm each day.
- Place your bins as close to the kerb as possible, with the bin's logo facing out to the road.
- Each wheelie bin has a unique identification, which links it to a specific property. If you move house, the bins (and crate) must stay at that address. If your bin does not have a label or you have a bin that belongs to another address, contact the Council.
- Please ensure your bins are stored securely on your property between collection days.
- If you have a wind strap on your wheelie bin, it is recommended to use it each time your bin is placed at the kerbside to prevent spillage.

Make sure bins are out by **7.30am** on your collection day

Ashburton
DISTRICT COUNCIL
Waste
Landfill
50cm

SAFEWASTE
www.safewaste.works

Wind strap

Ways to reduce waste

Food scraps and garden waste (together known as organic waste) make up almost half of what we send to landfill every year.

The Council is looking at ways of diverting this organic waste from making its way into the waste stream, and to help reduce the greenhouse gas emissions generated by the waste as it breaks down in the landfill.

Starting in 2022, Council will investigate the possibility of kerbside collections of either organic waste or separate food waste and garden waste collections in the future.

In the meantime there are several private companies in Ashburton you can contact if you would like your garden waste collected. Search for them in the local phone book or online for Ashburton organic waste collection services. Food waste is best reduced through good practices at home - the **Love Food Hate Waste** website has lots of great tips to get you started.

You can also drop off garden waste at your nearest Resource Recovery Park or at the Methven Greenwaste Drop-Off Facility.

Reducing the amount of organic waste going to landfill by minimising food waste and composting garden waste is not only good for the environment, but can also save you money! See some of our tips below:

MINIMISE FOOD WASTE

- ✓ Write a shopping list before you go to the supermarket so you only buy what you need.
- ✓ Store fresh food correctly so that it lasts as long as possible.
- ✓ Leftovers can be stored in the freezer for up to two months.
- ✓ Pigs, chickens, dogs and cats love food scraps, however always check that they are safe for your animals to eat first.

For more tips on reducing food wastage, head to lovefoodhatewaste.co.nz/reduce-your-waste

USES FOR YOUR GARDEN WASTE

Garden waste includes grass clippings, branches, weeds and plants.

- ✓ Almost all garden waste can be composted.
- ✓ Lawn clippings can be mulched and used around trees and plants to suppress weeds, retain moisture and give them the nourishment they need.
- ✓ Create your own organic waste garden spray by placing lawn clippings in a barrel and filling it with water. One part lawn mix and 10 parts water should do the trick.
- ✓ Larger branches can be used as firewood. If you don't have a fireplace, give the wood to a neighbour or friend who does.

COMPOST

Composting is a great way to make the most of your organic waste. It's simple to set up, makes nutrient rich food for your garden and is cheaper than you might think. There are several different types of composting:

- Compost bins are excellent for food scraps, garden prunings, grass and dead leaves.
- Worm farms are a great option for small households that produce mainly food scraps.
- Bokashi fermentation buckets are ideal for food scraps that are not suitable for standard compost mixes, including cooked meat, fish and leftovers. This method creates a compost product in just two to four weeks and can be stored inside due to its neutral odour.

PACKAGING AND WRAPPING

The Council does its best to try and return as much waste back into the system to be used again and again, so that it doesn't end up in landfill. However, most household waste is discarded packaging. See these ideas for reducing this wastage in your home:

- Swap out highly processed food products for less processed products such as fresh fruits and vegetables.
- Opt for cooking your meals, rather than buying takeaways.
- Choose raw ingredients to prepare your meals rather than buying pre-packed products. Usually, this can also save you money.
- Don't be shy to tell your retailer or the manufacturer that you expect their packaging to be recyclable. Companies may be more likely to use more sustainable packaging if their customers demand it.

FAQs

WHY CAN'T I PUT ALL PLASTICS IN MY YELLOW RECYCLING BIN?

The global markets that process low grade mixed plastics changed in August 2020. In response, New Zealand's recycling centres have had to adapt and are now only accepting grades 1 (Polyethylene Terephthalate), 2, (High-Density Polyethylene) and 5 (Polypropylene). So only grades 1, 2 and 5 can go into our recycling bins. This change has affected councils and communities all across the country, including Mid Canterbury. If you have placed a wrong item in your bin, which happens to have been audited, your bin will have a tag attached outlining why it was not collected. Unfortunately all plastic lids, regardless of their recycling numbers cannot be recycled.

WHY HAS MY BIN/CRATE NOT BEEN COLLECTED?

There could be several reasons why your bin/crate hasn't been collected. These include not having them at the kerb on time; placing the wrong items in your bins/crate; having a bin that is overfull; or placing the bins/crate too close together or behind an obstruction like a parked car or power pole.

WHY ARE RECYCLING BINS AUDITED?

If wrong items are placed into the recycling bins and make their way into the truck, these items can contaminate the entire load of recycling. This then means the load must go to landfill, this is an extra cost to all ratepayers.

Council has a team of bin auditors who monitor bins at the kerbside prior to collection If bins contain non-recyclable material, the bin may be tagged (outlining what material should not have been in the bin) and not collected that day. Our audit team are happy to provide further information on what you can and cannot recycle.

Repeat offenders may have their bins removed completely.

MY RED RUBBISH BIN DOESN'T SEEM TO BE BIG ENOUGH FOR MY WEEKLY WASTE. WHAT CAN I DO?

The 80 litre red rubbish bins are designed to encourage residents to correctly recycle as much as possible, rather than putting it in the rubbish.

First have a look at the things your household is ordinarily putting into the rubbish bin. Can any of these items actually go in recycling? It may also be worth checking out the useful tips 'ways to reduce your waste' on page 18.

If your rubbish bin is still not meeting your needs, the Council offers additional wheelie bins. These additional bins are charged to the user rather than through rates, so a tenant can pay for them rather than having to go through their landlord. Please note that these bins do not replace the bins and crate already provided through rates - they are an extra service.

The additional wheelie bins are available in three sizes; 80 litre, 120 litre and 240 litre. Visit **binitright.nz** or call the Council on 03 307 7700 to enquire about the prices for each.

I HAVE A LOT OF RECYCLING. CAN I GET AN EXTRA RECYCLING BIN?

The Council offers additional 240 litre yellow recycling bins. These are charged to the user, rather than through your rates. They are an additional service to the bins and crate already provided. Visit **binitright.nz** or call the Council on 03 307 7700 to enquire about the price of these bins.

DO BINS AND CRATES HAVE TO BE FULL TO BE COLLECTED?

No. Your bins and crate will be collected no matter how full they are. However, they cannot be overfull - lids must be closed flat for the bins to be collected.

WHAT IS THE BLACK RUBBER STRAP ATTACHED TO THE BINS?

The 'wind strap' attached to your bins enables you to securely close the lid to prevent any spillage should your bin be blown, or knocked over.

These straps should be used every time your bins are placed at the kerbside.

CAN I STILL BUY ADC BRANDED BLACK RUBBISH BAGS?

ADC branded black rubbish bags can be purchased from the Resource Recovery Parks and Council office. These can then be dropped off for free at the Ashburton and Rakaia Resource Recovery Parks, but you don't need them for your red rubbish bin to be picked up.

WHY WASN'T MY BIN COMPLETELY EMPTIED?

You must ensure that your bins are packed in a way that allows all items to fall out freely when the truck is emptying your bin: - Placing newspaper in the bottom of your bin helps stop items sticking.

- Do not place cardboard flat in your bin and push down as this can stop all items underneath the cardboard from falling out of the bin.
- A tied up black bag acts like a balloon in your bin and often will not fall out.
- Do not pack too much stuff into your bin!

WHY HAS MY BIN BEEN TAGGED?

There are a few reasons that a bin may be tagged but it will explain the reasons on the tag. The main reasons would be incorrect materials in the bin, the bin is overfull, or incorrect presentation e.g. behind or too close to an object.

WHERE ARE THE RESOURCE RECOVERY PARKS

The two Resource Recovery Parks can be found at: Ashburton, 25 Range Street and Rakaia, the corner of West Town Belt and Rakaia Terrace. Further details are available at **ashburtondc.govt.nz**

IS THERE AN INORGANIC COLLECTION FOR HOUSEHOLD ITEMS LIKE APPLIANCES AND FURNITURE?

No. Items such as these will not be collected from your kerbside. If you have usable household goods or furniture in good condition, you are welcome to drop them off at the Ashburton Resource Recovery Park Reuse Shop. Alternatively, there are several local charities who would appreciate your donations.

Electronics are not designed to break down in landfill, and they contain heavy metals - including lead, mercury and cadmium - that can be harmful to the environment. If electronic appliances no longer work, consider getting them repaired or sell them to a second-hand agent who can repair and on-sell them. Some manufacturers also have a take-back scheme, so it's worth checking with them.

HOW CAN I DISPOSE OF HAZARDOUS WASTE?

Hazardous waste must not be put out with household rubbish. The best place to dispose of your hazardous waste is at your nearest Resource Recovery Park. You can also manage your hazardous waste by reducing its use wherever possible.

- Use household items as a replacement for harsh chemicals. Baking soda and vinegar, for example make great cleaning products around the home.
- Reduce waste by only buying as much as you need.
- Buy environmentally-friendly products - look for the New Zealand Environmental Choice logo.
- If you're shifting house, dispose of any hazardous materials safely at your nearest drop-off point. Don't leave it for the new owner.

I'M MOVING TO A NEW HOUSE. DO I TAKE MY BINS WITH ME?

No. Wheelie bins are allocated to each property using a unique ID. They must stay at the correct property for new owners and tenants to use. If your new property is in the kerbside collection area, it will have its own bins and crate. If it doesn't, contact the Council.

Sort, recycle and rubbish it right

You'll find more information about Mid Canterbury's kerbside collection service as well as handy hints to reduce waste online at binitright.nz

The Ashburton District Council is here to help too. Get in touch if you need:

- to report damaged or stolen wheelie bins or crates
- to replace an address sticker on your bins
- purchase an additional rubbish or recycling bin

Phone us:
(03) 307 7700

Email us:
info@adc.govt.nz

Visit us:
Ashburton District Council Office, 5 Baring Square West, Ashburton

Thumbs up

We love

High 5!

binitright.nz

Don't waste tomorrow,
recycle today.

binitright.nz