

Summer 2021

# Inside Swale

## Keep our beaches clean

How you can help keep our award winning beaches clean and safe for all

## Bring back the buzz

Make your gardens more wildlife friendly and keep an eye out for knitted creepy crawlies

## Cinema and bowling open

The Light cinema and bowl officially open in Sittingbourne

## Travel responsibly this summer

Enjoy Swale's attractions safely this summer

## Cracking down on fly tippers

29 fined for fly-tipping in Sheerness

## How to get recycling right

Tips and tricks to help you get recycling right

## Save on your water bills

Handy tips to save money and to cut down on your water use





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*Monique Bonney, Cabinet Member for Economy and Property.*

Summer is here and there is plenty to see and do in Swale. We have fantastic natural assets on our doorstep. We have three blue flag beaches on the Isle of Sheppey, Sheerness, Minster and Leysdown. This year we have the full compliment of lifeguards on each of the beaches. If you fancy going off the beaten track, you can explore the wilderness of Shellness and the Swale Nature Reserve and Elmley Marshes on the southern side of Sheppey. We have the lovely historic ports of Queenborough and Faversham. There are vast expanses of open countryside to walk and cycle in, the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Oare Marshes, Blean Woods, the Saxon Shoreway. Don't forget our local museums, lovely shops, cafes, pubs and restaurants and of course some delightful gardens to visit. It's worth looking at our website [www.visit-swale.co.uk](http://www.visit-swale.co.uk) for more ideas and information.

The last year has been one hell of a ride. All our businesses have faced huge challenges and pressures. Our officers have worked extremely hard to support businesses across Swale and administer over £34m in business grants. For information on business support see [www.swalemeansbusiness.co.uk](http://www.swalemeansbusiness.co.uk) and join our mailing list where we let you know about the latest tendering opportunities and grants.

Clearly the world has changed and we must embrace the opportunities that arise. We have focused our energy reviewing our property portfolio. Swale owns not just car parks, recreation grounds, parks and beaches but also offices, industrial buildings, retail units and of course Bourne Place including the new cinema, bowling alley, restaurants and hotel. I firmly believe it is important the council invests money in looking after the assets it owns.

Both Swale House in Sittingbourne and Masters House (the old council offices) in Sheerness will be undergoing refurbishment. Swale House will have its roof repaired, new windows and insulation upgraded and LED lighting installed. We will be rationalising the space we use and letting out surplus space to attract more businesses to the town centre. Masters House will be throughly renovated to create space for small businesses, studio spaces, meetings rooms and a large function space. Both refurbishments will be low carbon, low energy, staying true to our commitment on the environment.

We are also investing in our heritage. The full restoration of the grade II listed clock tower in the centre of Sheerness and various closed churchyard walls will be repaired.

It is important our town centres are cared for, we want our residents and businesses to enjoy the urban space. We have started a programme of improvement works tailored to each town: Faversham, Sheerness and Sittingbourne. KCC will need to repair road surfaces and we will be removing any broken or surplus street furniture. We have started repainting benches, lamp posts, railings and installed new planters. In Faversham we are creating additional disabled parking bays, in Sheerness we have deep cleaned the streets and in Sittingbourne the alleyway chalk art has been refreshed. This programme will take a couple of years to complete; coordinating work with the utility companies, KCC and other stakeholders. For updates follow Swale Borough Council on Facebook and Twitter.



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The information in this publication is correct at the time of going to print and every attempt is made to ensure its accuracy.

# Cleaning up The Moat in Sheerness

If you are crossing the bridge from Sheerness High Street over to the supermarket you can enjoy seeing the flowing Moat without rubbish floating along the top.

In April we worked with local contractor Island Grounds Maintenance who got down into the water to remove more than 60 bags of rubbish.

The rubbish is thrown into the water by passers-by which then builds up and accumulates in the reeds by the bridge.

The Moat in Sheerness along Bridge Road is a hot spot as litter is thoughtlessly thrown into the water by passers-by who can't be bothered to take their rubbish to the nearest bin.

We removed tents, sleeping bags, road barriers, plastic bags, crisp bags, drink bottles and takeaway containers from the water.

There are bins available at either side of the bridge, along the high street and at the supermarket, so there's no excuse for clogging up an essential waterway. It's dangerous for our wildlife and an eyesore.

To report litter in your area, visit [www.swale.gov.uk/report-litter](http://www.swale.gov.uk/report-litter) or call **01795 417850**.



## Supporting Crohn's & Colitis UK with new toilet signs

New signs reminding people that not every disability is visible have been installed on all disabled toilets around the borough.

We've installed the signs on 12 disabled toilets around the borough in support of Crohn's & Colitis UK's nationwide campaign to tackle the stigma and misunderstanding surrounding invisible disabilities.

To find a public toilet in Swale visit [www.swale.gov.uk/lists-and-registers](http://www.swale.gov.uk/lists-and-registers)

Disabled toilets with new signs include:

- Library car park in Sittingbourne
- Central car park in Faversham
- Rose Street car park in Sheerness
- Forum shopping centre car park in Sittingbourne
- Grove Services, Grove Avenue, Leysdown
- Queenborough Park, Queenborough
- The White House, Minster
- The Spinney, Leysdown
- Bartons Point, Minster
- Faversham Recreation Ground, Park Road, Faversham
- Oare Gunpowder Works Visitors Centre
- Milton Creek Country Park



# Investments into churchyards and war memorials around Swale



*St. Peter and St. Paul Church, Newnham.*

To help maintain some of the 13 closed churchyards around Swale, we've committed £45,000 to carry out maintenance.

We'll carry out a variety of work including repairing broken steps and pathways, rebuilding fallen walls, and cutting back any overgrown hedges to tidy up these older churchyards for those visiting and paying their respects to their loved ones.

Condition surveys have been carried out in some of the churchyards we are responsible for and quotes are now being obtained to put together a schedule of work. Once permission has been granted by the church and diocese, the work could begin this summer.

The work will also help us protect Swale's important heritage.

Work will be carried out at churchyards in Lynsted, Newnham, Faversham, Kemsley, Minster Abbey, Queenborough and Borden, with other locations to follow.

War memorials have also been reviewed and work will start in the coming months at Ospringe, Faversham, Sittingbourne and Queenborough, and the Aviation Memorial at Eastchurch.

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## Work to begin at Periwinkle Mill

The site of Periwinkle watermill, which dates back to Roman times, is being improved for the local community.

We're working with the Sittingbourne Society and the East Kent Engineering Partnership to enhance the site of the ancient mill in Periwinkle Close, Milton Regis.

The project will help bring to life the long and rich industrial heritage of the site and create an oasis for flora and fauna to thrive in what is now a relatively quiet and primarily residential area in Milton Regis.

The mill house was razed to the ground by the then owners in the 1960's as it was in such a dangerous condition, but pieces of mill machinery remained on the site. At the suggestion of the Sittingbourne Society, we bought the site and the society raised funds to pay for the restoration of much of the machinery.

Archaeological investigations in the 1960's found Roman Samian pottery shards on the site, suggesting it's use as a mill spanned two millennia.

The Sittingbourne Society are once again supporting the site by providing funding for the improvement works. We are supporting the scheme by paying for design works, interpretation signs and officer support with project management and procurement.



*Watermill, Periwinkle Close.*

# The Light – diner, cinema & bowl coming to Sittingbourne

The Light have brought a whole new leisure experience to the heart of Sittingbourne. As the centrepiece to Bourne Place, they're helping kickstart the town's regeneration by offering the ultimate destination to meet, watch and play.

All of their eight state-of-the-art screens offer a range of super comfortable seating. So, you can kick back in one of their plush armchairs, roomy electric recliners, sofas, or full-length loungers and catch everything from the latest Hollywood blockbusters, family favourites and indie flicks to some much-loved old favourites. They'll also be showing opera, ballet, theatre, and music productions from around the world.

If you like a little competition, check out their nine boutique bowling lanes where you can treat yourself to one of their delicious food bundles to enjoy during your game. Their arcade also has games for all ages and is guaranteed to reignite some nostalgia for you adults as you battle it out to go top of the leader board. Keep an eye on their events calendar too, with everything from DJ sets to pizza making parties, the venue like to offer up something a little different.

Serving up a storm, they also have three street food style eateries that hand make only the best quality pizzas, mouth-watering burgers and tempting desserts for you to indulge in either in their airy main dining area, cosy treehouse, or you can opt for the all-American experience at their Upper Westside mezzanine, complete with retro jukebox.

The Light will take you all the way from your peaceful mid-morning coffee while enjoying the latest film, to grabbing a beer and a bite to eat as you get set to hit the lanes in the evening, they are a much-welcomed addition to the town.

Visit their website [www.thelight.co.uk](http://www.thelight.co.uk) for more information and sign up for a free myLight account to keep up to date with the latest news, events and movie releases. If you're mad about movies, there's also a myLight Premiere membership, which offers free tickets and discounts for a special introductory price of £14.99 per month, available for the next few months only.



Photo above: The Light Cinema

Photo below: The Light Diner





*Photo above: Sentado Lounge front entrance*

*Photo below: Enjoying a meal in the Sentado Lounge*

## Sentado Lounge back open again

Sentado Lounge is a beautifully-decorated home from home, offering delicious food, coffee, cocktails and cakes to suit every taste. Sentado has extensive standalone gluten-free and vegan menus, so no one is left out.

A family-friendly venue, you can bring the kids who will be entertained by colouring and receive a free snack pot with their meal. The dog can tag along, too, as Sentado Lounge is a dog-friendly restaurant – provided the Lounge's Canine Code is adhered to.



# Sheerness clock tower gets facelift

The Coronation Clock Tower will be undergoing essential works and improvements to ensure it can remain an iconic structure in Sheerness.

The clock tower was fenced off in February after an inspection of the structure found several serious defects internally and externally, including some areas towards the top of the tower with multiple fractures.

Councillors approved the funding of the works at a cabinet meeting in March. The plans are to disassemble the clock tower and transport it to a warehouse for repairs to the dial, hands, and clock mechanism. New iron sections need to be cast to replace the damaged areas, and the existing paintwork needs to be removed before being fully restored and transported back to Sheerness for reinstallation.

As this is specialist work, it will take some time to get the clock back to its best, and there is not yet a timeframe for the works to be concluded. In addition to the works to the clock itself, there needs to be more permanent hoardings at the site, the power supply needs disconnecting and the seating at the rear of the tower needs to be removed and reinstated after the tower is returned to the site.

## Masters House to receive £1.3million refurbishment

Masters House in Sheerness is getting a £1.3 million upgrade. The work, part of our low carbon refurbishment proposals, were agreed in March.

The plans are to create a social, community and business hub for Sheerness. The ambitious refurbishment started in the spring of this year and will be ready for local organisations and businesses by the autumn.

Cllr Monique Bonney, cabinet member for economy and property at the council, said: "We're committing £1.3 million from our capital funds budget to refurbish Masters House in Sheerness.

"We successfully applied for a grant of more than £300,000 from the government's Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme earlier this year which requires us to complete the work in a short time scale – starting 31 March and finishing by 30 September.

"We're upgrading the space to include three workshops, nine office suites, 3 meeting/conference spaces including the large function hall, a kitchen and breakout space.

"We believe these changes can support local businesses and the community, while meeting our climate commitment to reduce our carbon emissions by 2025."

# New toilets for Milton Creek Country Park and Minster Leas



*New public toilets at Milton Creek Country Park*

New toilets have been installed and are open for use for visitors of Milton Creek Country.

The new modular block includes two unisex cubicles and one disabled cubicle with a grass sedum roof to help it blend in with the surrounding environment.

We invested £75,000 in the new toilet block to provide better facilities and improve visitors' experience at the country park.

The new toilet block has been installed and can be found by the play area at Milton Creek Country Park.

The new toilet block at Minster Leas is also now open. The new block will materially improve the quality

of people's visits to Minster and is part of a wider programme to make visiting sites in Swale more comfortable. Prior to this the closest toilets for public use were half a mile away, making it a long journey for those who need to make use of public conveniences.

We welcomed a report of the ombudsman in April, with the confirmation that the Leas toilet was positioned in the right place, but we understand that despite efforts to consult we need to work on a more inclusive approach to involving residents in future decisions like this.

We've seen an increase in visitors to our seafronts and green spaces in the past year, particularly due to covid. The opening of these new toilets will provide a much-needed facility for one of our popular award-winning beaches for the summer ahead and helps to support tourism and local businesses by encouraging visitors to stay for longer.



*New public toilets at Minster Leas*

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**£1750 inc VAT**

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# Rediscover Faversham Rec

With lifting of the Coronavirus restrictions, thankfully we can all start to get out more. Local parks and open spaces have become vitally important places for family outings, exercise and recreation. Surveys have also found that visits to green spaces and natural areas are important for overall mental health and sense of wellbeing.



The 20 acre Faversham Rec is one of the key open spaces in Swale, with woodland, tree lined walks, pitches and lawns. It is just a few minutes walk from Faversham town centre and has always been a popular venue for sport, and a welcoming place to stroll around, meet friends, sit, rest and watch the world go by.

Recently, with the support of the National Heritage Lottery Fund, the lodge and pavilion have been restored, paths upgraded, and new park railings and benches installed. A new kiosk is open and doing great trade.



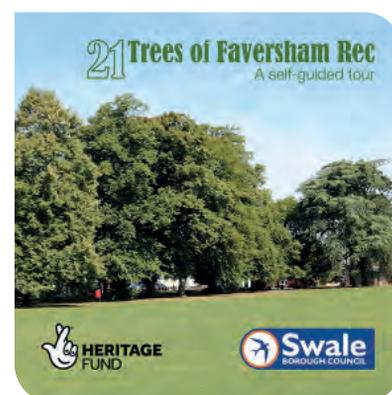
At the Rec we've been able to restart volunteering and community activities that have been managed with safe distancing. Volunteers have been planting flowers, trees, seeds and bulbs.

## Memories of Faversham Rec



We've had a great response to requests for contributions to our oral history of the Rec, in which residents have been interviewed over the phone about their recollections of the site in times gone by. These memories will be displayed as a 'Storyboard' at the Rec.

This May Day Bank Holiday displays about heritage were set out 2 metres apart on one of the avenues, and this summer a self-guided Tour of the Trees booklet will be launched, describing the main features, folklore and timber uses of the different trees at the Rec.



# Visit Swale

Visit Swale promotes Faversham, the Isle of Sheppey, Sittingbourne and surrounding villages as safe destinations to return to responsibly after the lockdown.

We would like to encourage you, your friends and your family to support our local tourism and hospitality businesses by planning a staycation in 2021.



## Escape the Everyday

There are numerous attractions in Swale which will help you to escape the everyday. Try booking a short staycation, or take some time out to enjoy the local area, whether that's a picnic in the local countryside, visiting one of our award winning beaches or exploring hidden gems in our towns. For some ideas of what to do in the borough head to [www.visit-swale.co.uk](http://www.visit-swale.co.uk)

On Visit Swale we are also signposting for businesses at [www.visit-swale.co.uk/visit-swale-business-support-and-useful-links](http://www.visit-swale.co.uk/visit-swale-business-support-and-useful-links). Some of our businesses have gained the official We're Good to Go and Safer Travel Marks and are using them in their Covid safe attraction promotion.

## Look out for the Good To Go mark

The We're Good To Go scheme, launched last year by VisitEngland and has been recognised by the World Travel and Tourism Council (WTTC) as meeting its international global standardised health and hygiene protocols and for its role in supporting the recovery of the UK tourism sector. The WTTC helps you to recognise destinations that have adopted global standardised protocols so you can experience 'Safe Travels.' Businesses wishing to achieve the mark can apply at <https://goodtogo.visitbritain.com>.



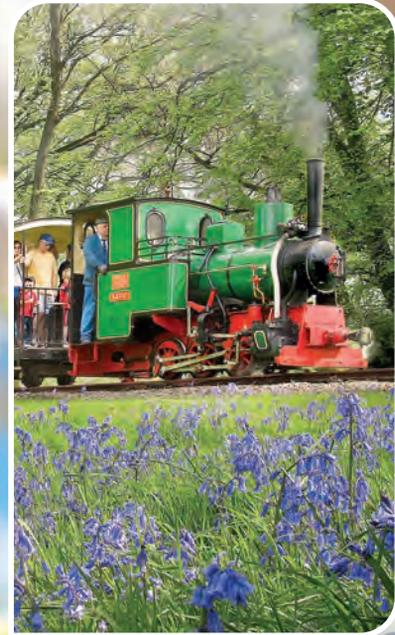
# Know Before You Go

Know before you go and check before you leave by visiting destination websites. Make bookings and travel in confidence knowing what Covid safety measures an establishment has in place and that your space and booking is in place.

## Travel responsibly

- Plan and book ahead – if your plans change, remember to cancel in good time so your table or room doesn't go to waste
- Respect, protect and enjoy nature and the great outdoors
- Avoid tourist hotspots and check out Swale's hidden gems instead
- Be kind to staff and locals, and support local independent businesses where you can
- Follow social distancing rules, wash your hands regularly and wear face coverings where necessary
- Look out for the We're Good to Go mark – it shows businesses that are operating in line with government COVID guidance

For the latest event and attraction information head to the Visit Swale website: [www.visit-swale.co.uk](http://www.visit-swale.co.uk).



## Promote your business on Visit Swale

If your tourism or hospitality business doesn't have a listing on Visit Swale yet, make the most of our free promotional listings. To get a listing on our website contact [tourismsupport@swale.gov.uk](mailto:tourismsupport@swale.gov.uk) for details on how to submit information and images and also sign up to our monthly Swale Visitor Economy E-Newsletter, back issues can be viewed at [www.swalemeansbusiness.co.uk/home/news-and-events/e-bulletins/another-news-page](http://www.swalemeansbusiness.co.uk/home/news-and-events/e-bulletins/another-news-page)

To find out what's on in Swale, or for a list of attractions around the Borough so that you can enjoy our open spaces safely this summer, visit [www.visit-swale.co.uk](http://www.visit-swale.co.uk) or follow our Facebook [www.facebook.com/VisitSwale](http://www.facebook.com/VisitSwale) or our Twitter [www.twitter.com/visit\\_swale](http://www.twitter.com/visit_swale)

*Photos page 12: Sheerness seafront, painting at Faversham Creek*

*Photos page 13: Bredgar and Wormshill Light Railway, The Guildhall Faversham, Milton Court Hall*

# Green spaces bloom around the borough

Flowers bloomed around Swale bathing the borough in a wash of colour as the spring weather encouraged daffodils, tulips and hyacinth buds to open.

Bulb mixes planted in Mill Way in Sittingbourne, Wildish Road in Faversham and The Glen on the Isle of Sheppey have been planted so they can bloom every spring.

Planted in 2019, the bulb mix was over-sown with seed, providing the early nectar and pollen needed by local bees and insects and to provide a long flowering season for residents to enjoy.

The Bee(R) garden planted with Faversham in Bloom and Shepherd Neame in 2019 at the Partridge Lane car park in Faversham, is also providing the important nectar and pollen needed for bees and other local wildlife.



Bees, wasps, moths, butterflies, beetles and birds are just some of the pollinators supported by the annual seed mix of poppies, corncockle, camomile and toadflax with honeysuckle and clematis climbing up the wall.

Faversham's hanging basket flowers were recycled and planted in the garden last year, and old tree stumps were drilled to make holes for solitary bees to nest in.

The patch of land next to the car park was an empty bed a few years ago, but now people can see a variety of flowers covered in bees.

Anybody wanting to get involved in supporting their local wildlife can join a local community gardening group or even start one in a greenspace nearby.

Contact our greenspaces activities co-ordinator on **01795 417 240** or email **alicorbel@swale.gov.uk**.



## Compost giveaway to help local gardens flourish

As a thank you to local gardeners for recycling their garden waste, we teamed up with partners Blaise Farm and Steve Pack Agricultural Services for a free compost giveaway.

The giveaway, which ran in Sittingbourne, Faversham and Sheppey, was to help local gardeners feed their flowerpots, gardens, allotments and vegetable patches. The prebooked slots in April meant residents could book to collect up to two 25 litre reusable hessian bags of compost.

The compost came from our partners Blaise Farm who take the garden waste collected from around Swale and turn it into soil conditioner and compost for farmers to use to help grow crops.

We also offered free wild-flower seedboms at the sites to help encourage pollinators and wildlife into more gardens in the borough.

To find out more about food waste collections, visit **[www.swale.gov.uk/bins-recycling](http://www.swale.gov.uk/bins-recycling)**, or call **01795 417888** for a food waste caddy.

To subscribe to garden waste collections, visit **[www.swale.gov.uk/garden-waste](http://www.swale.gov.uk/garden-waste)** or call **01795 417888**.

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# Keep our beaches clean and recycle your plastic bottles this summer



*Plastic bottle recycling bin at Minster Leas*

Last year we were able to introduce new recycling bins from the GreenSeas Trust to Minster Leas, Leysdown and Sheerness beaches. They are a great opportunity to help you to keep our beaches clean while enjoying them this summer.

We all want to do more to keep our beaches and our seas as clean as possible, and these bins are helping us to do just that.

You can recycle your plastic bottles in these bins, and we encourage you to use the litter bins along the beaches to dispose of any of your litter. Or, if the bins are full, please take the rubbish and recycling home with you to dispose of in your green or blue bins. We have installed extra temporary litter bins this year at popular spots along our sea fronts.

The beaches are among only 76 in the country to receive the Blue Flag Award – widely considered to be the gold standard for beaches - after meeting the highest standards for cleanliness, facilities and water quality. We want to maintain the standards

that come with that by keeping them clean.

Each one of our beaches have also received the Seaside Award, which is Keep Britain Tidy's own award for beaches that meet the very highest standards for cleanliness and facilities, which has been awarded to 132 beaches in the country this year.

We teamed up with GreenSeas trust last year to install these bins. They are designed to help protect marine life by reducing the amount of single use plastics discarded on the beaches and promenades.

We contributed more than £4,500 towards the new bright and educational bins in the hopes they will encourage people to recycle their plastics bottles.



*Mayor of Swale, Cllr Paul Stephen and seafront officer, Ian Arnell raising the Blue Flag at Minster Leas*

# Bring back the Buzz - help make your gardens more wildlife friendly

Swale will be welcoming the 'South, South East In Bloom' judges to our towns, villages, parks and communities in 2021 and we'd like your help.

We are promoting wildlife friendly gardening and encouraging everyone to help us bring back the buzz to our borough.

Not everyone can get out and garden or join our volunteer teams and we know the past year has made many feel isolated.

So we'd like you to get involved by creating beautiful bees, butterflies, bugs and flowers for our bee lines that will be attached at green spaces across Swale.



Please knit, crochet, sew or craft and tie them to the line with ribbon or thread. The lines went up on 8th June, so once you've created your creepy crawlies, simply add them to the line in your local area. The judges will be coming between mid-June and mid-July.

## Do you need to manage the affairs of someone else?

Register to watch one of our Zoom webinars that we host on the 2nd Thursday of every month which covers the following topics:

- how to protect your family assets from inheritance tax
- Lasting Powers of Attorney; and
- planning for the cost of long-term care.

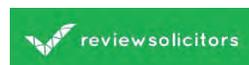
We're now taking bookings for:  
**Thursday 8th July at 7.00pm**  
**Thursday 12th August at 7.00pm**



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To register your interest and to receive a webinar link, visit [www.cwj.co.uk/site/seminars](http://www.cwj.co.uk/site/seminars) or email [marketing@cwj.co.uk](mailto:marketing@cwj.co.uk) or call 01795 536820



"The helpful and efficient way we were dealt with each time was great."

"I have been using your company for years as do other family members - as always excellent service from start to finish."

# Brown bins for green fingered gardeners

As the sun starts to appear, now is the time to get out in your gardens and start getting it ready for the sunny days ahead.

You're more likely to generate more garden waste during the summer months. Grass clippings, weeds and trimmings from your pruning – it all builds up.

So what do you do with all this waste? Our garden waste collection is an ideal solution for frequent gardeners, and everything that's collected gets turned into compost. Simply sign up and let us do all the work! You can claim back that lost time you'd spend loading up your car to take it to the tip (not to mention cleaning your car out after).

It's a quick, easy and convenient way to get rid of your garden waste. For just £40 a year, you'll get a 240 litre brown bin, all you need to do is fill it up!

Your brown bin collection day may be collected on different days to your other waste collections.



Only  
£40  
per year

## What can go in my brown bin?

-  Grass clippings
-  Hedge / shrub trimmings
-  Cut flowers
-  Twigs
-  Small branches

## What should I leave out of my brown bin?

-  Soil / compost / stones / gravel
-  Seed trays / flower pots
-  Pet litter
-  Kitchen / food waste
-  Black sacks
-  General waste or recycling

It's quick and simple to sign up online, just visit  
[www.swale.gov.uk/brown-bin-garden-waste](http://www.swale.gov.uk/brown-bin-garden-waste) or call **01795 417888**

# Keep your recycling free from contamination

Everyone can play their part by helping us ensure we can recycle the waste we collect without it being rejected from recycling facilities.

We're unfortunately seeing lots of non-recyclable materials ending up in recycling bins, which means it can get turned away from the recycling centres.

There are some items that we are continuing to see ending up in blue recycling bins that should not be going in there.



## Clothes and textiles

There are a number of ways you can reduce or reuse your textile waste. Clothes that are still good quality can be resold on second-hand sites, or donated to local charities. If there is some light wear or damage to them, why not try altering them into something else, or turn them into children's clothing or even add some stuffing and make a dog toy. Old but clean socks are great for cleaning windows or buffing the wax off your car.

If they are too far past saving though, then pop it in a tied up carrier bag next to your blue bin on collection day – but don't put it in with your recycling.

## Food

Food should be going in your food waste caddy so it can be taken to be turned into biogas to create electricity and liquid fertiliser for local farmers to grow crops. If you would like to order a replacement food waste caddy, call **01795 417888**. Please rinse any food residue off items to be recycled as it causes contamination at the recycling facility.

## Nappies

Nappies need to go in your green general waste bins, they should not be going in your recycling.

## Black Sacks and carrier bags

Please do not put black sacks or carrier bags in your recycling. Recycling can be popped loose into your blue bins, or in clear sacks.

If you're unsure of what should go in with your recycling check out our waste wizard, visit [www.swale.gov.uk/waste-wizard](http://www.swale.gov.uk/waste-wizard)

Make sure none of these are going in with your recycling:

- ✘ **Clothes and textiles**
- ✘ **Food**
- ✘ **Nappies**
- ✘ **Black sacks**
- ✘ **Carrier bags**

## Don't forget to flatten your boxes

When popping your cardboard boxes into your recycling bins, don't forget to empty them of all non-recyclable packaging and flatten them. If the box is too large for the bin, flatten it down and place it next to your blue bin on collection day.

# What to do with your plastic bags

It can be difficult to know what to do with some items when it comes to recycling, particularly when to recycle certain plastics.

Not all plastics can go in your recycling bin, soft plastics and carrier bags for example, can't go in your recycling.

Swale's supermarkets have some recycling points where you can recycle things such as your plastic bags and soft plastics. In Swale's supermarkets you can find the following recycling points available:

**Sainsbury's** – recycle used water filters

**Morrison's** – recycle the below at their carrier bag recycling points; plastic Carrier Bags, plastic bread bags, plastic cereal bags and inner cereal bags, plastic wrappers and ring joiners from multipacks of cans and plastic bottles, plastic wrappers from toilet roll and kitchen towel packs, plastic freezer bags, plastic magazine and newspaper wrap (type used for home delivery only), thin bags used for fruit and veg at supermarkets, bubble wrap, low-density polyethylene (LDPE) - resin ID code 4, flexible plastic multi-pack can holders/rings

**Asda** – recycle plastic bags, film plastics and batteries

Don't forget that if you are unsure what bin you should be putting something in, head to our waste wizard. Simply visit [www.swale.gov.uk/waste-wizard](http://www.swale.gov.uk/waste-wizard)

## Recycling and refuse collection dates

If you're unsure of your collection week, visit [www.swale.gov.uk/my-collection-day](http://www.swale.gov.uk/my-collection-day) and click the 'Next Bin Collection' link, or call 01795 417888.

**Don't forget – food waste is collected weekly with both bins**

In the event of severe weather, please leave your green/blue bin and food waste bin out as per your normal collection schedule – we'll get to you as soon as we can. Daily updates will be available on [www.swale.gov.uk](http://www.swale.gov.uk)

### Week 1 collections

July 2021							August 2021							September 2021						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun
			1	2	3	4							1			1	2	3	4	5
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30			
							30	31												

### Week 2 collections

July 2021							August 2021							September 2021						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun
			1	2	3	4							1			1	2	3	4	5
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30			
							30	31												

 Blue bin collection week  Green bin collection week

# Fly-tippers fined more than £9,000

We've caught and fined 29 fly-tippers more than £9,000 for dumping their waste in the car park opposite the Ship on Shore in Sheerness.

They were caught on camera fly-tipping in the car park opposite the Ship on Shore public house on Marine Parade, and have been doing so since March.

Each offender received a fixed penalty notice (FPN) of £400, which is reduced to £300 if they pay within 10 days. Anybody who refuses to pay will be prosecuted in court.

A further three people have also received FPNs of £150 for littering.

Cllr Julian Saunders, cabinet member for environment at the council, said:

"We have three large, grey, locked bins for our beach cleaners in the car park opposite the Ship on Shore that people are dumping their waste in front of.

"Deck chairs, sofa cushions, a clothes airer, toolbox, black bin bags full of rubbish, garden waste and even rubble from what looks like an extension or landscaping project have been dumped.

"Each bin has bright pink signs on the front and sides warning people to not fly-tip, we also have signs along the seawall as well as on the entrance gate so nobody can claim they didn't know that they couldn't leave their rubbish. One offender even came as far as Romford to drop their waste.

"With the nearest household waste and recycling centre less than a mile away, this fly-tipping is unacceptable.

"Modernising our CCTV and surveillance capabilities to reduce crime and antisocial behaviour is a council priority and we'll be prosecuting anybody caught on camera dumping their waste.

"Why risk a £400 fine when a visit to the tip is free?"



To book a slot at your nearest household waste and recycling centre visit Kent County Council's website

[www.kent.gov.uk/environment-waste-and-planning/rubbish-and-recycling/household-waste-recycling-centres/visiting-a-hwrc-during-coronavirus](http://www.kent.gov.uk/environment-waste-and-planning/rubbish-and-recycling/household-waste-recycling-centres/visiting-a-hwrc-during-coronavirus) or call **03000 417373** if you can't book online.

To arrange collection of up to four bulky items, call Swale Borough Council on **01795 417 888**.

You can report fly-tipping online at [www.swale.gov.uk/fly-tipping](http://www.swale.gov.uk/fly-tipping).

# Save water and money this summer

Water bills and water debt can be something that can creep up and get overwhelming. But making some simple changes at home can make a big difference to help you cut down on your water usage and also your water bills.

## Top tips for saving water

There's some simple ways to save money and energy in your home:



### Water efficient gardens

Less watering doesn't have to mean less gardening. Try opting for plants that don't mind going without water for a while.

### Turn off the tap

A running tap can use six litres of water per minute. Turning it off while brushing your teeth can save up to £36 a year on metered water bills.

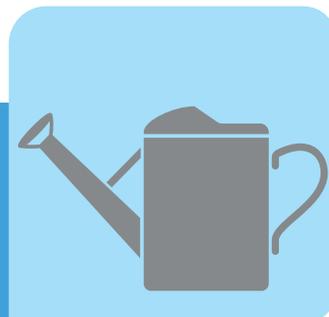


### Take a shower instead of a bath

Switching to showers can help cut down on your water usage. The average shower only uses 30 litres of water, but a bath uses 80 litres of water.

### Order a water butt

Collect rainwater to use on your plants and lawn through the summer. A hosepipe can use up to 1,000 litres of water an hour.



### Boiling water with a kettle

By only filling a kettle with the amount of water you need for your hot drink you can avoid wasting energy boiling excess water. You can save more than £23 a year just by being careful with how you use kitchen appliances.

For more tips like this, book an appointment with our Fuel and Water Home Adviser.

## Need help reducing your water and energy bills?

If you need extra support in reducing your water and energy bills, you can reach out to our Fuel and Water Home Adviser Service for help and advice.

It's simple to make an appointment with Fuel and Water Home Adviser Service, visit [www.children-families.org/fuel--water-home-adviser.html](http://www.children-families.org/fuel--water-home-adviser.html) or call **01795 889233**.

# Your councillors

For more information about your local councillor visit  
[www.swale.gov.uk/find-my-councillor](http://www.swale.gov.uk/find-my-councillor)



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# Still time let us know your views - take part in our Active Travel Survey

We want to hear your views on the projects proposed in our Climate and Ecological Emergency Action Plan, including your thoughts on things like car clubs and bike shares.

To help encourage more people to take part in more active travel, we need to know what infrastructure is needed. So that we can gain a better understanding of what is needed where, we are asking residents and businesses to give their views on what is stopping them from making greener choices.

The survey will also help us to gain a better understanding of the demand for current and future charging infrastructure within Swale.

This is a chance for us to gather the vital information needed to plan what will work best for residents and what is required to encourage the vital travel behaviour change necessary to reduce emissions and slow global warming.

Although you can suggest locations for charge points in the survey, this is for data gathering at this stage and does not mean that a charge point will be installed in this location – it is not a request service.

The projects in the Climate and Ecological Emergency Action Plan will be part of our solution



to the climate crisis, providing more sustainable forms of transport, helping Swale to reach net-zero carbon emissions by 2030. The project will also help improve air quality for all in the borough.

If you're a business owner, there's also an opportunity to share your thoughts on integrating these solutions into your operations.

The consultation runs until Friday 25 June 2021.

To find out more about the survey, or about our Climate and Ecological Emergency Action Plan, visit

[www.swale.gov.uk/gtt](http://www.swale.gov.uk/gtt).



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