

## **Our Garden Waste service is changing... but it is still great value at £30 per year**



### **Release date: 12 April 2019**

Cotswold District Council's garden waste collection service is changing with effect from 4 November 2019. At that time, the service will move from a weekly to a fortnightly schedule. However, proposals to suspend the service during the winter have been shelved pending a review which will be linked to a public consultation which begins early next year.

The Council is currently encouraging residents to sign up to the garden waste collection scheme for 2019/20 as soon as possible to make the most of the service. The annual charge for this discretionary service will continue to be £30 for each licence.

This call to renew licences is slightly late because the Council needed to consider the options for changing the service. As there has been a delay in calling for licence renewals, we were not able to guarantee that new licences would be sent to residents for the start of the new service year (1 April 2019). In the circumstances, residents who currently subscribe to the service should continue displaying their current licences beyond the expiry date (end of March 2019). This will enable them to continue receiving garden waste collections pending the issue of new licences.

Additional licences can be purchased for a further £30 each.

Alternatively, those who do not have room for a green wheeled bin at their property, can purchase 50 compostable brown paper garden waste bags for £30 (available from the Council's Trinity Road offices or at the Moreton Area Centre) and they can be left at the kerbside for weekly collection.

Residents who receive Council Tax or Housing Benefit are entitled to a 50% discount on the price of a garden waste licence.

To sign up for this service, please visit [www.cotswold.gov.uk](http://www.cotswold.gov.uk)[\(opens in a new window\)](#) or contact the Council's waste hotline on 01285 623123 to make a credit or debit card payment.

To enable us to maintain the low cost of the licence fee, we will only take payments by cash and cheque if there is no other means of payment.

Prior to the change from a weekly to fortnightly garden waste service on 4 November, residents will be provided with a new robust and larger outdoor caddy for food waste (collected weekly) because they will no longer be permitted to place used food in garden waste bins. By separating food from garden waste we will be able to produce better quality recycled products in line with county-wide practices.

Group Manager Claire Locke says:

"We have written to every household in the District about the garden waste service. Residents in the Cotswolds have an extremely positive attitude towards recycling and I very much hope that many will sign up, especially since the cost of the licence remains at £30 for yet another year.

"Even though we will be moving from weekly to fortnightly collections on 4 November, this still represents good value for money with a fortnightly service costing an average of over £40 across the County. I should also add that we will be improving our free kerbside waste recycling service from 4 November, enabling residents to recycle used textiles, household batteries, electrical and electronic equipment, and Tetrapak cartons.

"Additionally, when the change to fortnightly rounds comes into effect on 4 November, the waste service provider will be able to deploy some of the garden waste crews to other collection rounds, reducing the reliance on agency staff at crunch periods."

ENDS

NOTES

Householders choosing not to renew their subscription service can have their bin collected. More information is on the Council website.

The annual charge runs from 1 April until 31 March each year. Anyone signing up part way through the year will be charged the full amount (£30) until the end of March 2020.

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