

Editorial for newsletters
6th April 2011

Bargain compost bins and water butts offer 2011 – 12. Buy one, get second one half price

This year we have some great offers for residents on compost bins and water butts, to help you garden more sustainably, both in your garden and on your allotment.

Composting is not just for gardeners - it helps the environment too. And it can help you save money. Every year thousands of tonnes of kitchen and garden waste are thrown in the dustbin. If this organic waste is sent to landfill it produces methane, a powerful greenhouse gas which contributes to global warming.

Up to 35% of household waste is organic and suitable for home composting. Simply put it in a compost bin, mix it a bit and leave it to breakdown for a few months. The end result is a rich nutritious crumbly compost which can be dug into the garden to improve soil structure. It can also be used as a mulch to suppress weeds and improve drainage.

Composting is an entirely natural process carried out by worms and a variety of tiny creatures, many of them too small to be seen by the naked eye.

Raw vegetable peelings, fruit scraps, tea bags and coffee grounds from your kitchen as well as old vegetable plants, prunings, old bedding plants, annual weeds and grass cuttings from your garden or allotment can all go in your compost bin. Don't forget, you can now recycle any **cooked** food waste in your weekly food waste recycling collection.

You need a 50/50 mix of **green, wetter things**, such as vegetable peelings and grass cuttings, and **brown drier things** such as cardboard, woody clippings, and shredded paper to make a really good mix. Then, with a bit of mixing to add air, you can expect some great compost at the bottom of your bin in about a year. And it's free food for your vegetables and flowers!

Compost converter bins start at **£15 for a 220 litre bin or £18 for a 330 litre bin***. Other types of compost bins and compost accessories are available on the website below.

Taking advantage of free rainwater by using a water butt, will provide water for your garden or for washing your car and can help you reduce your bills if you have a water meter. Two sizes of water butt kits are available at **£28.95 for a 100 litre butt and £38.95 for a 190 litre butt***. Kits include the water butt, stand and diverter kit.

* plus delivery charge of £5.49 per order.

And this year, if you buy a compost converter bin or a water butt, you can buy a second for half price (on the same product).

Order your bin online now at www.getcomposting.com or call the Order Helpline on 0844 571 4444

For more general information and advice on composting visit

www.recyclenow.com/compost

or visit us at one of our road shows across Bath and North East Somerset, where you can view the compost bins and water butts on offer and get advice. For events dates please see our website www.bathnes.gov.uk/wasteservices