

Business Waste – Information and Advice

What is business waste?

The Environmental Protection Act 1990 defines business waste as waste from premises used for a trade or business or for the purposes of sport, recreation or entertainment. The Act introduces a “duty of care” which all businesses must comply with.

“Duty of Care” – what does it mean?

You must take all reasonable steps to keep waste safe and dispose of it properly. If you give your waste to someone else you must make sure that they are licensed to collect and dispose of it in accordance with the duty of care.

How should business waste be stored and disposed of?

You are responsible for and must control storage and disposal of your business waste.

You must ensure:

- All waste is kept safely and securely in a suitable container.
- Whoever you give your waste to has the authority to take it i.e. a registered waste carrier.
- When your waste is transferred a waste transfer note must accompany it.
- Waste Transfer Notes must be kept for two years and be made available to an authorised officer upon request.

What steps do I need to take to comply with my “duty of care”?

You should:

- Purchase or hire suitable bins to store your waste.
- Store your waste securely and safely – in a container so that the public, animals or vermin cannot gain access.
- Set up a contract with a registered waste carrier, to provide you with bins for storage, a collection service and the necessary paperwork.
- Inform all your staff how they should dispose of refuse legally – preferably in writing.

What am I not allowed to do with my business waste?

You are NOT allowed to:

- Take your business waste home with you and put it in your household bin.
- Take your business waste to the Council’s Household Waste Recycling Centre unless you declare it as business waste at the transfer station and pay the relevant disposal fee.
- Place your business waste in any public litter bin or public recycling bank.

Failure to comply may lead to prosecution and a fine.

How can I arrange a collection of my business waste?

The local authority provides a trade waste collection service but there are many other competitively priced local registered waste carriers that can provide you with a collection service. These can be found in telephone directories or online.

For further information visit www.carmarthenshire.gov.uk