

New on-line payment system

On 4 April, the requirement for on-line payment in advance of disposal of asbestos, asbestos containing material, plasterboard and plaster went live.

On-line payment and safety advice can be found at

<http://www.somersetwaste.gov.uk>.

Only asbestos produced through construction, demolition or DIY activity is included in the new online system. Small amounts of asbestos from household sources, such as ironing boards or hotplates, are not charged for but must be sealed in plastic, and residents must contact a site licensed to accept asbestos in advance to check when the materials can be brought in.

Plasterboard brought in needs to have any wood, masonry or fixings removed so it can be recycled.

Taunton 'Cashless' Pilot

Following the successful trial at Chard Recycling Centre in February, and to fully test the impacts of a busy recycling centre avoiding cash handling, the Taunton (Priorswood) Recycling Centre will only be accepting card payments for paid-for transactions from 3 May.

Purchases of Revive compost, payment for the deposit of commercial waste and charges relating to hardcore, soil, tyres, gas bottles and vehicle parts will be "cashless" while the scheme is piloted.

The trial excludes purchases made at the [Taunton Reuse Shop](#), which will continue to accept cash payments.

New home composting scheme

SWP is continuing the successful partnership with recycling and compost bin manufacturers Straights Ltd to provide competitively priced home-composting equipment to local residents via on-line, telephone or mail ordering. Home composting is the best option for garden waste.

The price remains £17.98 (RRP £39.00) for the 220l bin and at £19.98 (RRP £49.00) for the 330l bin remains. We also continue with the "buy one get one half price" offer, which offers a great saving if residents decide to buy bins with friends or family members. For full details see www.getcomposting.com

SWP conference success

SWP held a Community Waste Action Conference on 19 March at North Petherton to showcase the wide variety of community led waste prevention initiatives across the county. The feedback was excellent and the opportunity to share experience, ideas and contacts was widely appreciated.

The day featured short showcase presentations of local waste reduction, reuse and repair initiatives, and themed workshops to share practical tips to get the local community involved.

SWP is now planning how to take community initiatives forward to support development of more community led schemes across the county.

May Bank Holidays collections

Collections in the week following both May bank holiday Mondays (May 2 and 30) will, as usual, be one day later, from Monday on Tuesday through to Friday's collections on the Saturday.

All recycling sites will be open as usual on Mondays and the rest of each week.

For full details, see our collection days and bank holidays page.

<http://www.somersetwaste.gov.uk/collections/>

Latest media releases

Media releases from SWP in the last month included:

- [Grab a great value bargain bin now for your garden](#)
- [Revised Easter Waste Collections](#)
- [Payment for asbestos and plasterboard](#)

Somerset Waste Board

SWP is the executive arm of SWB, which consists of two members nominated by each of the six partner councils in Somerset, one of which must be the portfolio holder for waste and/or the environment.

The Chair and Vice-Chair are elected at the AGM from the Board's membership.

The next Board meeting will be held on 17 June 2016.

For details of SWP, SWB and our services: www.somersetwaste.gov.uk.

SWB membership by council is:

- **Mendip** – Cllrs Nigel Woollcombe-Adams (Vice Chair), Terry Napper
- **Sedgemoor** – Cllrs Dawn Hill, Gill Slocombe
- **Somerset County** – Cllrs Derek Yeomans (Chair), David Hall
- **South Somerset** – Cllrs Jo Roundell Greene, Angie Singleton
- **Taunton Deane Borough** – Cllr Patrick Berry, Steve Ross
- **West Somerset** – Cllrs Martin Dewdney, Brenda Maitland-Walker

Agenda, papers and reports for SWB meetings are available [online](#).

Information on SWP services

The main source of advice and information on SWP services is www.somersetwaste.gov.uk.

Customer service helplines for all partner authorities can assist with service enquiries.

SWP publishes a monthly e-zine (sign-up on our website) and posts on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

