



**PRESS
RELEASE**



For Immediate Release

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Severe weather warning for Bridgwater's waste

Somerset Waste Partnership (SWP) is this week warning residents in Bridgwater, Burnham-on-Sea and surrounding villages to be prepared for severe weather this winter and the effect it could have on rubbish and recycling collections.

SWP is distributing advice cards to Sedgemoor homes via recycling boxes to remind them of the procedure if severe weather disrupts services, and it is urging households to keep them for reference.

Safety of the public and collection crews is the key issue that will decide if services need to be suspended but efforts will be made to complete collections when conditions improve, says SWP.

Its advice includes what services may be suspended, when crews will be working to catch up after delays, when to put out materials for collection, and how extra waste will be accepted.

The card information states: "In severe weather, recycling and refuse crews will try to keep collecting if it is safe. If your collection is missed, please be patient; we will try to return once conditions improve, working late and on Saturdays to catch up.

"Please put out recycling and refuse by 7am for the next three working days; if we have not been back by then, please take it back in and put out by 7am on your next usual collection day.

"If your collection is delayed, extra amounts of regular waste will be accepted: please put rubbish in black sacks, recycling in carrier bags and food in covered buckets or in black sacks with other rubbish.

"In very bad conditions, we may have to suspend collecting garden and bulky waste to give priority to the main services. If our clinical waste service is interrupted, we will get back as soon as possible."

SWP Managing Director Steve Read said: "While we hope for the best, we must prepare for the worst the weather can do to disrupt collection services and recycling sites.

"We urge householders to keep the cards for reference. In the event of severe weather, the guidance and updates will be posted on our website at www.somersetwaste.gov.uk. Updates will also be provided on Facebook and Twitter, and to local radio and district council customer services."

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Notes to Editors

About Somerset Waste Partnership: Somerset Waste Partnership manages waste and recycling services on behalf of Mendip, Sedgemoor, South Somerset and West Somerset District Councils, Taunton Deane Borough Council and Somerset County Council.

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