

Waste Solutions



Keeping you up-to-date on your local waste management



in association with



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MAYOR OF LONDON

Why recycling is important

Londoners produce enough rubbish to fill the Canary Wharf tower every ten days. At the moment, most of the rubbish goes into holes in the ground called landfill sites, but these are filling up fast and we are running out of space to bury our rubbish. To deal with Londoners' growing rubbish problem, we all need to recycle more.

Where to recycle

Recycling is easier than you think, and with services being improved across London there's never been a better time to make recycling an integral part of your household routine. All London boroughs offer a range of recycling services, including collections from home, local recycling sites and Reuse and Recycling Centres. To find out more about the recycling services in your area, all you have to do is call the recycling helpline on **0845 3 31 31 31** or visit www.recycleforlondon.com and input your postcode.

How to recycle

Each council tends to recycle different materials using different systems, so it is important to check the details. Make sure your glass bottles, jars, cans, plastic containers and textiles are clean and dry when you put them in your recycling box, orange bag or local recycling bank. Tie pairs of shoes together.

Glass is mostly sorted according to the colour of the glass (blue bottles can go with green ones) although in Newham all colours are collected together. All types of paper and cardboard including newspapers, cereal boxes, magazines, junk mail and most directories go in the paper recycling banks. There are separate arrangements for recycling Yellow Pages.

About the campaign

The Recycle for London campaign aims to encourage Londoners to recycle as much waste as possible.

It was launched in 2003 and is funded by the London Recycling Fund. The campaign partners are the Mayor of London, the Association of London Government (ALG) and the London boroughs.

To find out more about recycling and how else you can help to reduce London's waste please visit: www.recycleforlondon.com or phone the helpline on **0845 3 31 31 31**.

Recycle for London – Local Heroes 2005 Calendar

The Recycle for London campaign is all about encouraging Londoners to recycle more. This year saw the launch of the first ever Local Recycling Heroes calendar, an exciting addition to the Recycle for London campaign. Having searched far and wide across all of London's boroughs to find London's very own 'recycling heroes', east London has two new heroes.

Rob Gayler from Barking & Dagenham and Michelle Barry from Newham were honoured to be chosen to appear in the calendar, which includes images shot across London boroughs, celebrating everyday people who do extraordinary things when it comes to recycling.

Twelve Londoners, nominated as the Capital's recycling heroes, were selected to appear in the calendar. Each hero was then photographed by celebrity photographer Terry O'Neill, who has also taken pictures of the Pope, Elizabeth Taylor, the Beatles and Tony and Cherie Blair.

All of the calendar's participants were nominated in celebration of their great personal efforts to improve recycling in their area. Michelle Barry is one of Newham's leading recycling heroes. Not only has she and her family at LM Barry worked hard at recycling and reusing textiles and shoes for

many years, Michelle also works hard at educating schools all across the area about how important and easy it is to recycle and reuse these items.

In Barking and Dagenham, Rob Gayler is one of the Capital's leading recycling heroes. As well as working hard at the Wellgate Community Farm looking after a full farmyard of animals, he is also instrumental in getting the borough to recycle many different things. Stray aluminium cans, old newspapers and magazines that have had their day and plastic and glass bottles that were once see-through now have nowhere to hide in Barking and Dagenham – thanks to Rob and his crack team of helpers.

By celebrating the achievements of people who recycle – and by showing they are everyday people, the calendar aims to show that all Londoners can recycle more than they think.



MAYOR OF LONDON



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Investment starts to pay off

At the start of its third year working with the East London Waste Authority (ELWA), Shanks East London is celebrating successes so far and heralding greater achievements to come.

Since taking over the contract to manage household waste in 2002 Shanks East London has invested £87 million in new facilities – and that's only the start. By the time all the new facilities are in place more than £100 million will have been

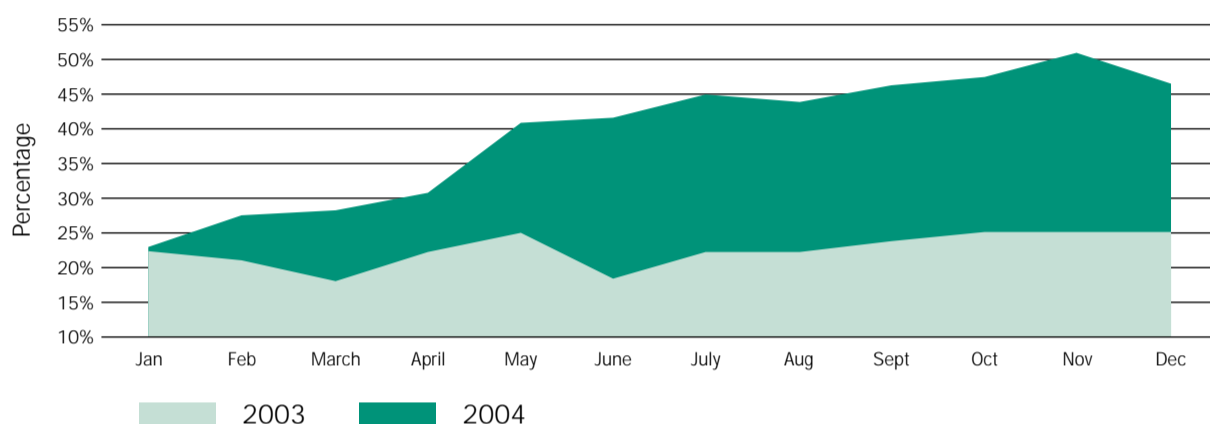
invested and over 100 new local jobs created.

All the hard work to date is starting to pay off. Recycling is increasing, new facilities are opening and environmental awareness is growing. This is

only the start of the partnership with ELWA. In the next two years more facilities will open, helping to reduce the amount of waste sent to landfill and assisting local councils to meet recycling targets.

Reuse and Recycling Centres

Recycling increases at the RRCs



There was great news for Shanks East London and ELWA last Autumn with the opening of the four new Reuse and Recycling Centres (RRCs). Commenting on the openings, which followed a £5 million investment programme, Shanks East London Managing Director, Allan Barton, said:

"The new RRCs are the next generation of recycling centres. The public can use each centre easily and safely and, with the help of site staff and effective education campaigns, we are aiming to recover as much as 50% of waste brought to the RRCs for recycling."

The RRCs can recycle a range of materials including:

- Cardboard
- Metals
- Used vehicle oil
- White goods (fridges and freezers)
- Plastics
- Wood
- Paper
- Car batteries
- Textiles and shoes
- Small quantities of rubble
- Glass
- Cans
- Garden waste



Each RRC also has a 'Media Bank' for small electrical goods such as mobile phones, along with old CDs, DVDs, videos and tapes.

Dignitaries from the four boroughs attended the opening ceremonies and all welcomed the improved facilities.

Materials recovery facilities

This year will see the opening of the first Materials Recovery Facility designed specifically to sort and recover materials for recycling from the four RRCs.

The RRC MRF, at Frog Island in Havering, will start

commissioning in the Spring. The MRF will take up to 100,000 tonnes of materials for recycling.

Work continues at Frog Island on developing the Biological Materials Recovery Facility

(Bio-MRF) which will sort, dry and stabilise waste after recycling. The work coincides with an increase in recycling in Havering from 10% to 15.4% over the last year.



Recycling rates increase

Recycling is increasing in east London. Kerbside schemes (where recycling is collected from homes), bring sites and the Reuse and Recycling Centres produced more materials for recycling than ever before last year – rising to a peak of around 12% in the Summer. Recycling at the RRCs increased by an average of 20% over the previous year. A survey showed that awareness of recycling facilities amongst local people rose from 62% to 83% between 2003 and 2004.

Commenting on the successes a spokesman for Shanks East London said:

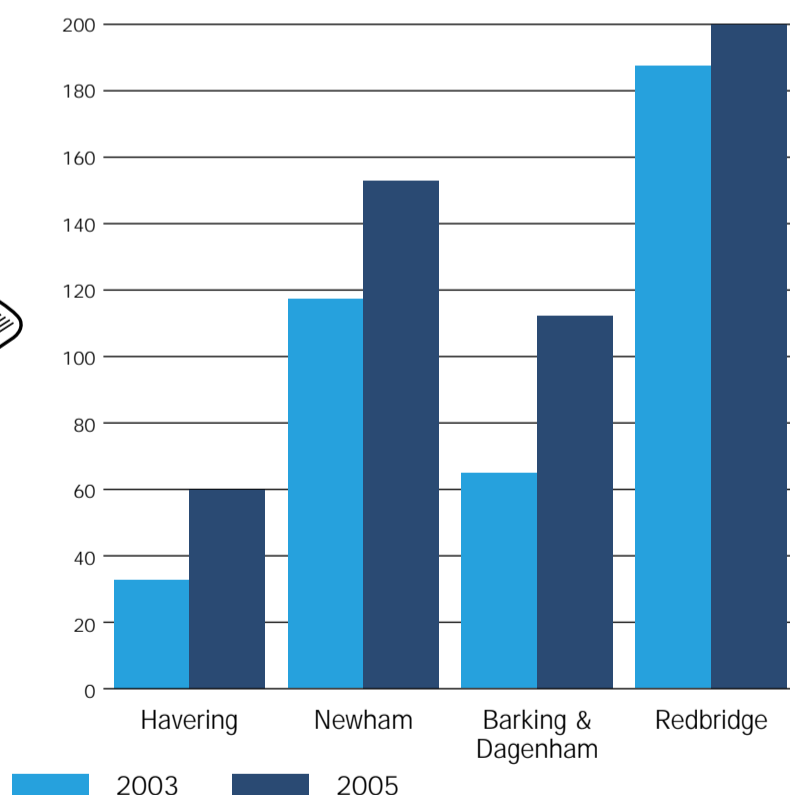
"This is great news. With ELWA and the boroughs we have worked really hard to provide new facilities and opportunities for recycling. It is very rewarding to see that local residents are getting involved and taking advantage of the new opportunities. We encourage everyone to renew their efforts to increase recycling in 2005. Thank you to all local people who have helped us to increase recycling in east London."

Bring sites

Since 2002 massive investment has been made in bring sites – the recycling bins and banks found in public areas and in schools. The number of sites has increased dramatically (see below) and most sites now accept a wide range of materials, including:

- Textiles and shoes
- Glass
- Steel and aluminium cans
- Paper

Increase in bring sites



As well as new sites, the tonnage of materials collected at bring sites for recycling has increased, by 570 tonnes (7%) over the last year.

For details of your nearest bring site, call Shanks East London freephone: 0800 389 9918.



Waste goes loco'

November 2004 saw a ceremony to welcome the East London Express Train to the recycling team. The train – a 66522 locomotive – takes waste (much of which will be treated in the Bio-MRFs in the future) to the Calvert landfill site in Buckinghamshire saving around 8,000 lorry journeys on local roads each year.

Knock, knock... who's there?

Residents in east London could expect a knock on their doors – from the recycling team.

Shanks East London, ELWA and the boroughs are working with Recycling for London on a £250,000 programme to talk to local people about recycling. In particular, the door knockers want to encourage people in selected areas to use the new orange recycling bag they receive from their council. The campaign is supported by local advertising, including posters on

buses, which recently won a design award.

During the first phase of the campaign nearly 140,000 homes received a knock on the door. In Newham the campaign coincided with a 25% increase in recycling. A further campaign covering all four boroughs will start in the spring.



Working with the local community

Community Liaison Officer for Shanks East London, Tracey Pearson, continues to spend time out and about with local people. She regularly visits a wide range of community groups and would be pleased to hear from anyone wanting more information or a visit.

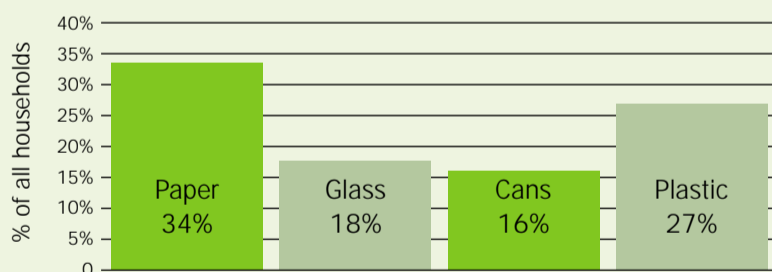
Contact Tracey on 01708 527 141 or email tracey.a.pearson@shanks.co.uk

Focus on Redbridge

Door step recycling

Recycling in Redbridge is improving – up from 12% in 2003 to 16% at present. Whilst the council and Shanks East London want to thank everyone for their efforts so far, there is still a lot more to do. Less than 50% of households in Redbridge are recycling and fewer still are recycling all the materials they could.

How many households recycle what?



Redbridge has a recycling target of 21% in 2005/6. This can easily be reached if everyone recycles as much as they can.

To get a recycling box call 020 8554 5000 or email customer.cc@redbridge.gov.uk. You can find more information about recycling in Redbridge by clicking on www.redbridge.gov.uk/housing/recycling.cfm



Garden waste

Gardeners in Redbridge have lots of options for doing something useful with their garden waste:

- Composting it. Home composting bins are available from the council.
- Have it collected. Redbridge will collect garden waste direct from local homes and use it to make soil improvers like compost. There is a small

charge for the collection (£4 for up to 20 bags, or just £2 if you are a senior citizen – this service must be booked in advance). The charge is made to people who use the service rather than increasing everyone's council tax.

- Sunday Garden Waste Service. From the spring, residents can take garden waste to three local collection

points between 9am and 3pm. The sites are: Fulwell Cross car park, Cricklefields car park (Ilford) and Wanstead Leisure Centre.

- Take it to the RRC. The Chigwell Road RRC will take garden waste and recover it for future use as a soil improver.
- Call **020 8554 5000** for further information.

Disposable nappies

A baby is a blessing, but the nappies aren't. If you use disposable nappies you will generate around one tonne of nappies by the time your child is potty trained – and disposable nappies take literally hundreds of years to break down in landfill sites. Redbridge spends over £1/4 million a year just getting rid of disposable nappies.

What's the alternative?

Use modern cotton nappies which are comfortable, reliable and reusable. Redbridge Council offers a 50% discount on the Number 1 for Nappies laundry service, which includes a weekly collection and delivery services. Call Number 1 for Nappies (**01992 713 665**) or the council for more information.

Recycling in flats

Lots of flats now have their own recycling facilities. Some even have special carrier bags for transporting materials for recycling. If your flats could use a recycling facility, please email recycling@redbridge.gov.uk

What is my recycling day?

To check when your next recycling collection is click on the council's web site. Around Easter time you will also be getting a leaflet with more details of recycling collections.

It's all about education

Spreading the message in local schools

Shanks East London Recycling Education Officer, Tina Goddard, had a busy year in 2004 – speaking to more than 16,000 local school children. She plans even more activity in 2005.

Tina visits schools throughout east London to deliver classes and assemblies promoting recycling and environmental awareness. If your child's

school is interested, contact Tina on **01708 527 143** or email tina.goddard@shanks.co.uk

Recycling bins for schools

Shanks East London offers free recycling bins to all local schools. So far more than 200 local schools are joining the recycling effort. If you would like bins for your school call Tina on **01708 527 143**.

School sponsorship

Shanks East London's Recycling Education Officer works closely with L M Barry, a textile recycling company. Barry's recycle, amongst other things, old shoes and will offer schools £5 for every 25kg bag of shoes collected for recycling. Supporting the scheme helps to raise funds and provide materials for children and schools in developing countries.

Secondary schools get to grips with recycling

A resource specifically designed for secondary schools is being promoted on line. London ReMade, the recycling champion, has established a free website aimed at young people with information on recycling and waste awareness. Student and teaching packs can be downloaded free from the site.

www.capitalwastelearning.com

For more information on the site, or to register a school into the programme, contact Sophie Easteal at London ReMade on **020 7061 6379** or email sophie@londonremade.com



Barking & Dagenham schools get tough on waste

- Year 9 students at all secondary schools in Barking & Dagenham will be competing in the Schools Environmental Competition in 2005. Each school will choose project work from a list of environmental topics (including waste and recycling) and will learn about making a positive difference to the local and global environment. The work will develop students'

research and presentation skills and schools will compete for prizes of £2,000, £1,000 and £500 to be spent on environmental improvements at school.

- Barking Abbey Secondary School is one of ten London schools participating in the Action on Waste programme in 2005. The programme, which is run by environmental champions Global Action Plan and London ReMade, aims to

reduce waste and increase recycling. A £1,000 investment in the school kick started the programme, which is supported by the United Nations Environment Programme. When the programme at Barking Abbey is well established teachers and pupils will act as ambassadors for the programme talking to other schools in the borough.

Green light for orange bags

Following the outright success of the 'orange bag' recycling project the scheme has been extended to cover a total of 60,000 homes in Newham.

The orange bag, which was originally introduced in Newham and Barking & Dagenham with the support of £300,000 from the London Recycling Fund, allows householders to put mixed materials for recycling out in one bag for collection at the same time as general waste. The first phase of the scheme has already generated hundreds of tonnes of additional materials for recycling. Commenting on the success of the scheme, Councillor June Leitch, Cabinet Member of the Public Realm at Newham Council said:

"The orange bags work really well and the materials recovered from them for recycling are clean and well preserved. Residents are positive and supportive of the scheme."

Now more orange bags are getting the green light as the scheme, is extended into new areas in Newham. Homes covered by the scheme receive a roll of 16 bags and can collect an additional roll from local libraries and council buildings.



Cllr June Leitch, Cabinet Member of the Public Realm and Cllr Pat Sheekey, Mayoral Advisor for Environmental Renewal at Newham Council.

Tips for recycling at the RRC



What to bring

- Car batteries
- Cans and tins
- Cardboard
- Glass bottles and jars (not Pyrex)
- Green (garden) waste
- Metal
- Paper
- Plastic bottles
- Small quantities of rubble
- Textiles and shoes
- Used vehicle oil
- White goods (fridges, freezers and washing machines)
- Wood

Sort materials out in advance

Until you get used to the order of your local RRC, we suggest you sort different materials (paper, plastics, cans, etc.) into different bags before you come. This will make it much easier and quicker for you to separate materials into the right recycling bins at the RRC.

Vehicle height

The entrance to each RRC has a height barrier at 5ft 9in. Drivers with larger vehicles will need to ask staff for help and can enter via a separate entrance.

Hazardous Waste

For household hazardous waste (including chemicals) please call the **Hazardous Waste Collection Service on 020 7332 3433**.
Local residents can bring asbestos sheeting, which must be dampened with water, tied securely inside two black bags and placed in the skips provided. Staff cannot help to move asbestos.

Tell us who you are

If you come to an RRC in a rented or commercial vehicle, you will need some form of identification to show that you live locally. A bill showing your address would be suitable.

Local householders only

The RRCs are for local householders. If our staff want to check your vehicle or load, they can. Staff make inspections to stop trade waste being disposed of at the facilities for householders. Disposal of trade waste must be paid for.

Ask us for help

If you have any difficulty unloading, carrying waste or deciding where to put materials for recycling, ask the staff. They are there to help you.

Monday - Friday
9.00am - 5.00pm



SWSN/05/4

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Planning ahead

Councils and householders in east London face multi-million pound fines if nothing more is done to reduce the amount of domestic waste going to landfill sites.

Talks are now underway with the community to hear its views on how to deal with the problem.

Every week your local council comes along and picks up your waste. In more recent years, a growing percentage of that waste is separated out for recycling and we are all doing our bit to reduce the amount that goes to landfill. This may sound straightforward but the planning needed to ensure it all goes smoothly is staggering.

For the four east London boroughs (Newham, Havering, Redbridge and Barking & Dagenham) this is done by the East London Waste Authority (ELWA). For the last two decades ELWA has successfully managed the job of making sure there was somewhere for all the boroughs' waste to go – a massive 550,000 tonnes a year.

UK and European law has specified that less waste should go to landfill. So, in 1996, ELWA devised a 25 year plan in consultation with the four councils and those environmental and community groups wishing to have a say. This plan included finding a private sector partner who would be able to build new facilities to help increase recycling rates and plants to treat much of the waste that was left. This would reduce the amount sent to landfill sites.

The chosen partner was Shanks Waste Services and a contract was signed in December 2002.

The contract agreed with Shanks tackles the issue by the following processes:

- education and awareness programmes
- bring sites for specific recyclable materials (e.g. bottle banks)

- doorstep separation of recyclable materials
- new Reuse and Recycling Centres which separate materials for recycling
- new treatment plants called Bio-MRFs (Biological Materials Recovery Facilities) which dry and stabilise waste before sorting out more materials for recycling and disposal.

All well and good – except already the goal posts have started to move.

Only two years into the new contract, ELWA is again talking and listening to the people of east London because two major changes (which were not known about when the 25-year plan was drawn up) are about to take place.

Change one: The current plan was designed to enable 67% of household waste to be recycled or processed so that the amount sent to landfill was only

33% of the total. This was the target given by the Government at the time the plan was written. Since then it has been announced that east London must now progressively reduce that percentage so it landfills less than 100,000 tonnes of biodegradable waste by 2020 (which will be about 15% of ELWA's total waste at that time, based on current estimates). So a lot less must be landfilled each year and new processes must be put in place to do that, otherwise ELWA will be fined £150 per tonne for anything over the new landfill limits. That fine would be passed on to councils and council taxpayers.

Change two: When the original plan was drawn up the population within the four boroughs was about 850,000. It is on this figure the amount of waste that would go to the facilities like landfill sites was calculated. However, since then extra Thames Gateway housing

development has been proposed. This could add between 60,000 and 90,000 new homes in the ELWA area. The chances are that on the current plan, ELWA will have to landfill more to help cope with the thousands of tonnes of extra waste all these new householders will make – even with high recycling rates.

ELWA has decided to review the plan drawn up in 1996 in order to avoid problems in the future. With the help of a Government grant it is looking at the options for changing the current plan. The options look at ways of reducing the amount of waste going to landfill and ways of coping with the waste arising from a population boom. It is being helped with this task by a specialist firm of environmental consultants called Environmental Resources Management.

Have your say

The key problem facing east London has been identified by the East London Waste Authority as being the need to reduce the amount of household waste to landfill.

ELWA's existing plan already:

- encourages people to reduce the amount of waste they produce in the first place
- increases recycling to the highest level possible with reasonably affordable costs for local taxpayers
- prefers that waste is dealt with locally to limit transport pollution.

ELWA is now planning ahead for the next 10 years and you are invited to express your opinion. This can be done by answering the key questions here or visiting the ELWA website www.eastlondonwaste.gov.uk

Q: How can people be encouraged to reduce the amount of biodegradable waste they produce in the first place?

Q: What can be done to further increase the amount of household waste separated out for recycling?

Q: What should happen to waste that cannot be recycled?

Q: If more facilities are required
i) what should they be?
ii) where should they be built?

You should send your answers to the following address:

Sarah Sanders Hewett, Environmental Resources Management, 8 Cavendish Square, London W1G 0ER

Email: sarah.sandershewett@erm.com

This newspaper is published jointly by Shanks East London and ELWA



To contact Shanks East London, please call **freephone 0800 389 9918**. Alternatively, visit www.shanks.co.uk/eastlondon. Both information sources can advise you about your local RRC and help with general recycling enquiries.



Visit www.eastlondonwaste.gov.uk

for information on ELWA, the organisation that contracts Shanks East London to dispose of east London's waste.

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