



Hazardous Waste Collection and Disposal Service Guidance Document for Chemicals

The hazardous waste collection and disposal service is a charged but subsidised service provided by your local Waste Collection Authority & Suffolk County Council. The waste must originate from your own **domestic property** within Suffolk.

The collection may include up to a maximum of 100 Kgs of acceptable waste items. Any quantity in excess of 100 Kgs can be collected but will require a further request(s) which may be made at the same time as the original request.

You can arrange a 25-working day or a 10- working day collection request (note: 10-working day collection incurs an additional charge.)

Businesses: we can also provide a collection for your hazardous waste. Please e-mail waste.management@suffolk.gov.uk for a quote.

Safe handling of chemicals

- Wear disposable gloves and safety glasses if handling hazardous waste.
- Make sure you follow manufacturers safety advice on containers.
- Store chemicals in a safe dry place, secure and away from heat sources and away from children and pets.
- Leaking or unsound containers will not be collected unless placed in a compatible leak proof container – handle any leaking container with care.
- Do not dispose of any hazardous waste by pouring it down the sink/ toilet/ drain or putting it in your bin as it may be dangerous to the environment.
- Do not burn any hazardous waste on a garden bonfire as it can be dangerous, and harm the environment.

The following items are accepted for collection requests:

- Paint & varnishes,
- Solvents, such as white spirit, paraffin, wood stain & paint stripper;
- Garden chemicals or pesticides, such as weed killers or insect killers;
- Household cleaning products and chemicals, such as toilet cleaners, drain cleaners or bleach;
- Water or air reactive chemicals such as sodium/potassium metal and carbides;
- Motoring products, such as antifreeze, brake/clutch fluid, petrol or diesel;
- Poisons, such as rat or mouse poisons;
- Items containing Mercury;
- Small non-returnable gas cartridges of the Camping Gaz variety;
- Aerosols.
- Unknowns (this will need to be identified before collection) could incur extra cost for this

Waste not accepted in a hazardous waste collection request:

- Clinical waste;
- Explosives;
- Fibrous asbestos;
- Flammable film stock (cellulose acetate);
- Fluorescent tubes;
- Oil tanks (oil can be collected if it's drained and put into containers)
- Fireworks or yacht flares;
- Helium gas cylinders;
- Radioactive waste (including low level);
- Returnable gas cylinders;
- Water or dry powder fire extinguishers.

Safe packing of chemicals

- Please make sure you pack the items upright in a strong cardboard boxes or plastic containers. Failure to package waste may result in it not being collected. (Please note that boxes/containers will be taken and cannot be returned)
- If packing glass bottles together use packaging material such as vermiculite to prevent the glass bottles from breaking.
- Segregate oxidising materials (e.g. peroxides and nitrates) from flammable materials (e.g. thinners, solvent based paint, white spirit and petrol)
- Segregate acidic materials (e.g. battery acid and acid-based cleaning agents) from alkaline materials (e.g. ammonia, hydroxides and both solid and liquid bleaches)
- Segregate corrosive materials (e.g. acid or alkali) from flammable, oxidising or toxic materials.
- Any highly toxic or reactive chemicals (e.g. cyanides and sodium or potassium metal) should be kept separate from all other materials and marked accordingly.

Raising a hazardous waste collection request

To request a collection please visit [Suffolk Recycles](#), [hazardous waste](#) and then visit your local waste collection authority page to raise a collection. You will need to list the waste, which is to include: the items listed separately, the container size and the approximate percentage of material within the container, as in the examples below:

- Bleach - 1 x 1 litre – 25%
- Solvent based paint - 10 x 5 litre – average 50%
- Water based paint - 5 x 10 litre – average 75%
- Antifreeze - 1 x 500 ml – 25%

Please list any unknown substances, as above, providing as much information as you can. For example:

- Size of container, % full of container, state if solid or liquid, any features on the container which would help identify it. Please provide a photograph if possible. You will then be contacted about your Unknowns as this will need to be identified before it can be collected

On the form please state if there are any special restrictions for access in your area that Biffa may need to be aware of to make sure they can attend on their schedule date, e.g. any height restrictions or max weights in the area.

On completion of the collection request form

The application will then be forwarded onto the contractor, Biffa, who will check the list. If there are any issues or further information is required, they will inform your local waste collection authority accordingly. The selected working day collection timescale (25 or 10) starts on the working day following receipt of any fully completed collection request form by Biffa. If additional information is needed your collection will be put on hold and the working days (25 or 10) will commence once the additional information has been received.

For a 25-working day timescale Biffa should contact you within 10-working days with a scheduled collection date (within 5-working days for a 10-working day collection). Biffa should also contact you again 5 to 2-working days in advance of collection to confirm the collection date. If you miss Biffa's call, then please feel free to call them back to confirm your collection date or it may be re-scheduled for another date if they can't get hold of you to confirm.

Collection of waste

When Biffa contacts you to confirm the collection, they will also agree location of where the waste will be placed for collection. To this end:

- The waste must be stored safely and securely (e.g. boxed and properly segregated) at ground level and close to the boundary of the property (e.g. front garden or car port) in an area easily accessible for a van. Failure to box up the waste may result in the waste not being collected.
- You should not leave out corrosive liquids (acids, ammonia and bleach), cyanides, petrol, paraffin, white spirit, chlorates and peroxides. These should be handed over by you or your representative.
- You should not leave chemicals outside if your front door opens directly onto the pavement.
- If any chemicals are left out they should be covered up if the weather is bad. This avoids chemicals getting wet and the possibility of wet cardboard boxes disintegrating when picked up.

In the event Biffa is unable to collect the waste on the scheduled collection date or fails to collect (e.g. due to a lack of time) then you should be contacted within 2-working days to arrange a new collection date.

The driver will give you a waste transfer note and you should ensure that the details are correct. It is a legal requirement that the transfer note is kept for two years as proof of proper disposal.

For further advice on storage, handling and packaging chemicals, contact Biffa on 01438 759 850.

For Further information visit - www.suffolkrecycling.org.uk/where-to-recycle/hazardous-waste

To raise a hazardous waste collection, you will need to do this with your local collection authority please visit their hazardous waste page or use the contact number on the page to raise a request.

[Babergh](#) - 0300 1234000 option 4

[Mid Suffolk](#) - 0300 1234000 option 4

[Ipswich](#) - 01473 433090

[West Suffolk](#) - 01284 757320

[East Suffolk](#) – 0333 0162000