

# Waste (Scotland) Regulations

**Waste (Scotland) Regulations were passed by the Scottish Parliament on 9 May 2012. They represent the most significant development in recycling that Scotland has ever seen and are designed to help us realise the true value of resources we currently throw away. This has the potential to boost our economy and create green jobs in the process.**

The new Regulations will also play a key role in helping Scotland reach its ambitious target of 70% recycling of all waste by 2025.

The key points outlined in the new Waste (Scotland) Regulations are as follows:

- All businesses and organisations to present key recyclable material for collection from 1 January 2014
- Food waste businesses producing over 50kg of food waste per week to present it for separate collection from 1 January 2014
- Food waste businesses producing over 5kg of food waste per week to present it for separate collection from 1 January 2016
- A ban on the use of macerators to discharge food waste into the public sewer from 1 January 2016
- Local authorities to provide a basic recycling service to all households by 1 January 2014
- Local Authorities to offer a food waste recycling service in non-rural areas from 1 January 2016
- A ban on material collected for recycling going to landfill or incineration
- A ban on municipal biodegradable waste going to landfill by 1 January 2021

While household recycling rates have leapt to over 40% in the past ten years, household waste accounts for just over 16% of all waste produced in Scotland so the new Waste (Scotland) Regulations turn attention to the waste produced by businesses. Research has shown that achieving 70% recycling by 2025 could benefit Scotland's economy overall by £175million - mitigating against rising landfill costs and enabling revenue to be generated from the sale of high quality recyclable materials.

## What is changing?

Waste (Scotland) Regulations effective from 1 January 2014



Key materials need to be separated for recycling



Food waste must be separated by food businesses operating in non-rural areas



Disposing food waste into public drains or sewers will be illegal



Diverting food waste from landfill reduces emissions and can generate energy



We are paying to throw away valuable resources



To avoid unnecessary costs and potential fines

It's better for the economy, the environment and your business

## Why should I change?

## What should I do?

You can comply with simple, achievable steps



Speak to your waste collector for advice on the new services



Consider joining forces with other businesses



Get your staff 'Regs Ready'



Use our FAQs and resources



Postcode finder and local waste collection services



Look at our case studies for practical advice

Your waste contractor can offer advice and you'll find lots more on our website

## Who can help?

