



Kildare County Council Environment Section

APPLICATION FOR REMOVAL OF LITTER AND WASTE FROM COMMUNITY CLEANUPS

Conditions of scheme

- **GREEN WASTE, (INCLUDING LEAVES, GRASS CLIPPINGS, SODS, SOIL & HEDGE CUTTINGS) CANNOT BE TAKEN AS THIS SCHEME IS ONLY FOR THE REMOVAL OF COLLECTED LITTER AND/OR ILLEGALLY DUMPED WASTE.**
- Advice on dealing with green waste is contained overleaf.
- Waste for landfill (non-recyclable) should be placed in black bags (i.e. litter, sweepings etc.).
- Recyclable materials should be placed in bags clearly marked "Recycling". Effectively, this means plastic drinks bottles and drinks cans.
- All waste must be bagged- loose waste will not be collected
- A secure location is required for temporarily storing the waste to prevent illegal dumping where waste is left for collection.

Groups are entitled to TWO cleanups a year (typically one in spring and one in autumn). This is to ensure all groups can avail of this scheme.

Contact Name: _____

Contact Telephone No. _____

Contact Address _____

Date of cleanup _____

Exact location where waste
will be stored _____

Please return to: Kildare County Council, Aras Cill Dara, Devoy Pk., Naas, Co. Kildare
Tel: 045-980588 email: environ@kildarecoco.ie
Fax: 045-980587 web: www.kildare.ie/countycouncil

Information on dealing with green waste

Community groups are finding that dealing with green waste can be a challenge. So what can be done?

Tree pruning

If your estate is a council estate or has been taken in charge by the council, Kildare County Council is responsible for the routine maintenance of trees in the common areas (not in your garden though!). If trees require pruning etc. please contact parks@kildarecoco.ie

Using shredded green waste and compost.

If you have shredded green waste, or you are composting green waste as below, the next question is what do you with the material? Essentially, this waste can be used as a mulch- mulch is used to improve soil structure, inhibit weed growth and aid water retention. So shredded waste can be added around the base of trees or in shrub beds to retain water and slow weed growth, while compost can be used this way and also dug into the soil to improve soil structure.

Grass Clippings

The first thing is to look at grass cutting- the simplest, most sustainable way is to mulch grass clippings on site and most modern ride on mowers have a mulching option. This essentially means that the clippings are cut twice and these smaller clippings can be left on the ground as they break down very quickly. This means that the nutrients are being returned directly to the soil- as well as reducing the need to deal with the grass clippings as waste. So if you are cutting the grass yourselves, look at replacing the mower with one with a mulching option. If you employ a contractor to cut the grass, you should specify that you want a mulching mower used- this should mean a reduction in costs if the contractor does not have to dispose of the grass clippings separately.

Leaves

Leaves sometimes take two years to break down, so should be composted separately to grass clippings etc. You can actually bag leaves and leave them out of the way. Leaf mould is one of the best types of compost and is really worth trying.

Community Composting

Residents associations should consider the possibility of developing a community composting area in the estate for green waste. Assistance and advice from the council is possible with this.

Essentially an area is chosen and a number of wooden bays are constructed (even just using wooden pallets). Grass clippings, hedge trimmings and similar green waste are then added over the course of the growing season on an ongoing basis. Once each bay is filled, the next bay is used and so on. As the material is turned to compost, it is then dug out and used a free source of mulch around the estate.

There are a number of factors in making a community composter successful:

- Adding the right material- only green waste and only material that will break down easily, so no big branches, no food waste and no artificial Christmas trees!
- Capacity. Community composters can be built as modules, so if you need more space this can be added as you progress.
- Deciding if you will deal with green waste from common areas or also include garden waste from residents. This can also be adapted over time.

If you would like to investigate community composting further, please contact environ@kildarecoco.ie or 045 980588.