

Summer Recycling Tips from North Tipperary County Council

It's time to get those barbeques and picnic sets ready for the summer months ahead. The Environment Section with North Tipperary County Council is urging everyone to 'Think Green this Summer' and ensure those extra drinks cans and bottles are recycled and leftover barbeque food doesn't go to waste.

"As the days grow longer and the evenings get warmer, we all love to spend as much time outside as possible, but summer barbeques and picnics can often result in excess waste that is difficult to recycle and leftovers that can be tricky to store" says Áine Mc Carthy, Environmental Awareness Officer with North Tipperary County Council.

"With a few simple tips, we can all reduce our waste and be as environmentally friendly as possible."

- Be Prepared. When entertaining guests try and plan how many people you are cooking for. Remember to make a shopping list and only buy what you need!
- Less is More. Buy fruit and vegetables loose instead of pre packaged items. You will be able to choose the best items and reduce the amount of waste going into the bin.
- Why throw away when you can use again? Use your own plates and cutlery instead of one-use, disposable products. Invest in a barbeque instead of using lots of throw-away ones. You will save money in the long run and reduce the amount of rubbish that cannot be recycled.
- Reduce your waste and leave no trace. A full list of recycling facilities can be found on the Council's website by visiting www.tipperarynorth.ie/environment . If there are no recycling or rubbish facilities nearby, take your waste home to recycle it. You are responsible for your litter and it should not be left around the lake shore, parks, forests and other amenity areas in North Tipperary.
- Recycle as you go. Have a designated recycling bin for glass and cans at your picnics and barbeques. Have it next to the cool box

so as you grab your next drink you can recycle your old can or bottle at the same time.

- Recycle completely at home. Composting kitchen and garden waste is the only method of recycling that can be done completely at home, and up to a third of what we throw away could easily be turned into compost. Compost bins are available from the County Council for €35 and you will receive a composting guide & a kitchen caddy to help you get started.

Remember that everything you put in your recycling bin should be clean and dry. Bottles and cans should be washed out and dried before they are placed in the bin to ensure that no residues are mixed with recyclables. Plastics, paper and cardboard should be clean and dry. If residues such as the remnants of drink and food cans are found in the recycling bin it is possible that these could contaminate the whole bin. Taking some extra steps will ensure that the quality of your recycling remains high and that all of your bin can be recycled once it is transferred to the material recycling facility by your service provider.

For any questions in relation to recycling please contact the Environment Section on 067 44786 or email environment@northtippcoco.ie

Think Green This Summer!