Fenland
CAMBRIDGESHIRE
Fenland District Council

Press Release

25 November 2026

Fenland residents help recycle 500 tonnes of food waste into energy and fertiliser

Residents have recycled over 500 tonnes of food waste in the first 10 weeks of Fenland District Council's food waste collection service.

Instead of being sent to landfill or energy from waste facilities, food waste collected in Fenland is recycled through anaerobic digestion – a process that transforms it into biogas and electricity and a nutrient-rich fertiliser.

The 500 tonnes collected so far generates enough energy to power 88 homes for a whole year, and produced around 450,000 litres of fertiliser, which is used by local farmers.

And with Christmas approaching, when more than quarter of homes are expected to waste more food than usual*, there's no better time to start thinking about reducing food waste – and turning unavoidable leftovers into something useful.

Cllr Steve Tierney, the Council's Portfolio Holder for Environmental Services, said: "Reaching 500 tonnes of food waste in 10 weeks shows just how committed Fenland residents are to recycling their waste and I'd like to thank everyone taking part for embracing the new service.

"Every food caddy collected helps turns something that would otherwise be thrown away into fantastic things, and it's processed locally at the anaerobic digestion facility in March which I think is brilliant. Recycling food waste also reduces the amount of waste sent to landfill and energy from waste, which is better for the environment, and frees up space in residents' bins too.

"As we head into the festive season, I'd encourage everyone to keep making full use of the service."

All food waste can be recycled in food waste caddies, both cooked and uncooked, including fruit and vegetables, plate scrapings, meat and fish (including bones), dairy products, bread, pasta, eggshells, tea bags and coffee grounds. You can use them for pet food too.

Residents who find their food waste caddy fills up quickly, particularly over the festive period, can order an additional outdoor food waste caddy for a subsidised £5 delivery charge.

For more information about food waste recycling, including how to order an additional caddy, visit: www.fenland.gov.uk/foodwaste

Ends

Notes to Editors

* New research from WRAP shows more than a quarter (27%) of UK households report having more food waste than usual at Christmas. More info: The festive food opportunity — WRAP

For media enquiries, please contact the Fenland District Council press office on 01354 622226 or email: communications@fenland.gov.uk