

Somerset Waste Board

The next meeting of Somerset Waste Board (SWB) on Friday 17 June will consider measures aimed at reducing queues and congestion at recycling sites, and tackling trade waste abuse, by improving controls over access based on the size of vehicles from late 2016.

Glastonbury Festival

To enable recycling and refuse collections to continue as usual despite the congestion and road controls around the Glastonbury Festival, collection vehicles will be given official vehicle passes. Local residents will be reminded to present their waste for collection **by 7am** on their usual day. Extra traffic or obstructions may delay collection times. Missed collections should be reported to [Mendip District Council's Customer Services](#).

Community waste activities

Following the community waste action conference in March, SWP is currently developing a new section for its website suggesting themed waste reduction activities and signposting related community initiatives. This aims to enable greater involvement and connection among community groups with particular activity interests. The community waste action pages will be published in the [More You Can Do](#) section of the website later this summer.

Seeking local Food Champions

Somerset's all new [Food Champions scheme](#) is looking to expand its network of volunteers who help residents save

money by wasting less food. On average, UK households each throw away the equivalent of six meals every week – an average of £200 of food and drink per person discarded each year, rising to £290 for people who live on their own.

You do not need to be an expert in food or cooking to be a Food Champion. You just need to be keen to waste less, recycle more, save cash – and help others do the same.

Two more training sessions are being organised for the autumn in Taunton and the Mendip area. The training is free but volunteers must undertake to champion the cause in their community.

How volunteers pass on advice is up to them, from chatting with neighbours and friends to running workshops, giving talks or having displays at events. It can even fit alongside existing work within the community. Resources are provided to support this, including reasonable travel expenses.

If you would like information on the training opportunities available, please email recycle@somersetwaste.gov.uk and quote Food Champions in the subject line or contact Beth Prince on 01823 625700.

Latest media releases

Media releases from SWP in the last month included:

- [Bank holiday means one day later collections all week](#)

- [We pledge to recycle Ma'am](#)
- [All kerbside waste collections back to usual timetable.](#)

Somerset Waste Board

SWP is the executive arm of SWB, which consists of two members nominated by each of the six partner councils in Somerset, one of which must be the portfolio holder for waste and/or the environment.

The Chair and Vice-Chair are elected at the annual general meeting from the Board's membership.

The next Board meeting will be held on Friday 17 June.

For details of SWP, SWB and waste services: www.somersetwaste.gov.uk.

SWB membership by council is:

- **Mendip** – Cllrs Nigel Woolcombe-Adams (Vice Chair), Terry Napper
- **Sedgemoor** – Cllrs Dawn Hill, Gill Slocombe
- **Somerset County** – Cllrs Derek Yeomans (Chair), David Hall
- **South Somerset** – Cllrs Jo Roundell Greene, Angie Singleton
- **Taunton Deane Borough** – Cllr Patrick Berry, Steve Ross
- **West Somerset** – Cllrs Martin Dewdney, Brenda Maitland-Walker

Agenda, papers and reports for SWB meetings are available [online](#).

Information on SWP services

The main source of advice and information on SWP services is www.somersetwaste.gov.uk.

Customer service helplines for all partner authorities can assist with service enquiries.

SWP publishes the Sorted monthly e-zine (sign-up on the website) and posts on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

