

Recycle for Shropshire



**Be inspired!
Re-use and recycling
in your community**

Ideas collected from people in the Rea Valley
doing their bit to save waste



Our thanks to all the Rea Valley people who so enthusiastically gave and shared the ideas for re-use and recycling gathered together in this booklet they were:-

Pontesbury Scouts

Snailbeach and Pontesbury W.I's

Pontesbury Walking group

Pontesbury and Minsterley Sure start drop in groups.

Worthen, Minsterley and Hanwood Primery Schools.

Visitors to Hope Village Show

Recycle for Shropshire

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RECYCLING AT HOME—THINK BEFORE YOU THROW

HOW MANY USES DOES A PLASTIC MILK BOTTLE HAVE?

Cut up to make plant labels

Use as a template for patchwork

Scoop with handles left on

Bottom half used with plastic bag inside for freezing produce—makes freezer stacking easier

Bottom cut off to form individual plant cloche. Use cane or stick to stabilize

Bird feeder

Funnel

See pots

Deep watering carpet protector

Water container when washing dog

Dog toy



PLASTIC TUB
Make a bird feeder
Make a pencil pot
Keep toys in it

PLASTIC BOTTLE
Cut top off insert into base
to make a rain gauge



OLD CD's
Use pieces of CD on a paper
mache ball to make a bird
scarer



PLASTIC CARTONS

Sowing seeds

Storing small amounts in the freezer

Mixing paint or glue for children's activities

Flower arrangers could use it to put oasis in

Paint it and fill with sweets, small cakes as a present

Children to use for craft or play ideas



OLD CLOTHES

Patchwork pieces

Dusters

Cut into strips and knit

Rag rug

Sew up sleeves to make a bag

Liner for hanging basket

Compost

Wear for grubby jobs

Scarecrow body

A hat

Cushion cover

Wall hanging if nice picture on front

Bandage



GLASS BOTTLES AND JARS

Unusual or nice shaped bottles and jars could be used for decoration by filling with marbles, glass beads, sea shells, stripes of coloured sand

Or used for presents filled with sweets, pickles, slow gin, cranberries.

Guess the number of sweets competition

Wasp catcher with jam or sweets in the bottom

Slug trap with beer in

Bonfire night for candles

Small drink for picnic

Button, nail or screw store



RECYCLE YOUR WASTE IN THE GARDEN

Sowing seeds

- Milk bottles cut up to make plant labels.
- Cut a small milk bottle in half at an angle to include the handle to make a compost scoop.
- Use supermarket food trays to sow seeds.
- Put twigs over seedlings to protect them.
- Use toilet rolls as individual root trainers that can be planted with the young plant and compost in the soil. Particularly good for runner beans.
- Egg boxes for chitting potatoes.
- Old plastic bags that once contained potting compost or animal feed can be half-filled with soil/compost and potatoes planted in; 'earthing-up' is then done by adding more soil/compost (this is much cheaper than the bags currently on sale for this purpose!)



Young plants

- Plant protector. Cut off bottom of milk bottle and place over young plants. Stabilize with a stick stuck through the bottle top and into the ground beside the plant.
- Something that you may see on many allotments—old windows used to make cold frames, or even small greenhouses.
- Grow your leeks up through toilet rolls. Keep them clean.
- Use jars filled with beer to trap slugs.
- Pill bottles or similar over cane ends to protect your eyes.



Watering

- Other plastic bottles such as water or cordial, with their bottoms cut off and set upside down into the ground at a slight angle towards the plants roots is an excellent way of deep watering. Particularly good for tomatoes and hanging baskets.
- Mulch your shrubs, trees and potatoes with grass cutting to keep water from evaporating
- Coffee jar lids for plant drip trays.
- Use washing up water to water garden..



Composting—the ultimate recycling box

- Make compost bins from used pallets.
- Compost kitchen waste and small bits of cardboard.
- Use compost bags for making leaf mould.
- Opened up compost bags can also be used as a weed suppressant or a box liner when transporting plants.



Feeding

- Soak sheep or other droppings in a bucket to produce a fertilizer.
- Soak comfrey or/and nettles for the same. See over the page for a less smelly version.

Harvesting

- C.D.'s make excellent bird scarers strung out over fruit.
- Freeze excess in margarine tubs—stack easily in freezer.



General

- Ash on paths in icy weather.
- Upturned wine bottles to edge your beds.
- Last year's raspberry canes can be used as plant supports, and after that shredded up to add to compost, or burnt and the wood ash placed around the base of fruit bushes as a potash source to promote fruiting. Any wood ash is good for this.
- Old net curtains to protect plants.

DIRECTIONS FOR MAKING YOUR OWN FERTILISER

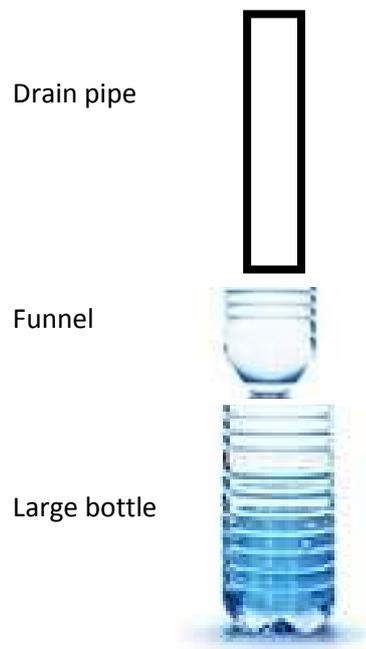
YOU NEED

1. About a metre of drain or outlet pipe, wide enough to stuff the comfrey leaves into
2. Top half of lemonade bottle, old funnel or flower pot
3. A big bottle, 5 litres is ideal, but you could use 1 half litre. You would just need to find a way of stabilizing it
4. Strong tape of some kind, insulating, duct or gaffer tape

METHOD

1. First grow your comfrey
2. Tape the top of the funnel or alternative to one end of the pipe, so that the spout is pointing away from the pipe
3. You will need to find some way of stabilizing this unit. You could use a drain pipe bracket and fasten it to the side of a building or simply tie it to a fence. But before doing this you need to position your big container underneath, so that the funnel lies directly above the top of the bottle. If you are making this a permanent structure, make sure you will be able to remove the full bottle to use your fertilizer.
4. Stuff comfrey leaves down the pipe and ram with a stick. Then cover top to keep water out. Top up as often as you have comfrey leaves to fit in.

This makes an excellent tomato feed.



RECYCLING IDEAS FOR CHILDREN



OLD T-SHIRT

Sell it

Give to someone smaller

Send to a charity shop

Cut off arms and make a vest

Stuff it and make into pillow or cushion

Tear up and use as rag

Make clothes for a teddy E.g. a hoody

Sew up arms and make a bag

Use as a toy for a pet

Doll's blanket or towel

Doll's house curtains

Make it into a puppet

PRINGLES TUB



Keep pencils in it

Make into a bird feeder

Rolling pin

Storing hair bobbles in

Storing small toys in

Put rice in to make a shaker

Playing in sand

Use lid as a mini Frisbee

Play air hockey with the lid

Tennis ball holder



OLD BOOKS

Give to someone else

Give to charity shop

Give to jumble or table
top sale

Take to recycling centre

OLD BOARD GAME

Pass on to someone else

Give to charity shop

Keep dice for another game

Use playing pieces for cake
decorations or homemade crackers



COMPOST OR ANIMAL FEED BAGS

Use for sledging in the snow



ROUND PLASTIC TUBS

Hamster wheel

Paint pot. Use a big one for graffiti



Water toy

Sand toy

Money box

Shaker

Use 2 yogurt pots and string for
telephone

Jelly moulds

Stacking toy

Dice shaker

Bug collector



SQUARE PLASTIC TUBS

Add rubber bands to make a guitar

Drum

Sand castle mould

Jelly mould

Storage box

Chicken feeder

Desk tidy





TOILET ROLLS

- Hair roller
- Part of a dalek outfit
- Puppet on a stick
- Toy telescope
- Multi fingered splint!
- Ear trumpet
- Megaphone
- Toy grenade
- Toy gun
- Wrist cast
- Telescope
- Pretend hearing aid



EGG BOX

- Use again for eggs
- Small Easter egg holder
- Chocolate holder
- Stone or jewellery box
- Growing seeds
- Model making e.g. 6 seat cinema
- Plastic egg box could be used as a paint holder, especially for mixing
- Plastic - small animal food
- Silly glasses
- Jelly bean sorter
- Money sorter
- Mini hot air balloon baskets

CD's

- Smiley and sad faces
- Rolling games/competitions
- Mats



WATER OR POP BOTTLE



- Water play
- Cut top off for funnel
- Rain gauge
- Interlocking tops to make a drain pipe



AEROSOL TOPS

- Play cups
- Making models
- Paint pots
- Pencil sharpening
- Alien costume
- Golf hole

RECYCLING FOR FAMILIES WITH YOUNG CHILDREN

STEPS IN RECYCLING

Home recycling. Using the boxes and bins provided by the council.

Using local recycling venues such as the containers in the car park.

Passing out grown clothes and toys to neighbours and friends.

Offering outgrown toys, clothes, equipment on Freecycle: www.freecycle.org.uk

Taking books/clothes/bric a brac to charity shops or jumble sales.

Using the Recycling centre at Battlefield in Shrewsbury.

Can you get your young children to help with recycling chores?
This will help them to become adult recyclers.

SOME IDEAS FOR PLAY MATERIAL

Water play - An old bowl of water in the garden.

Plastic tubs and bottles.

Make a funnel by cutting a bottle in half.

A spare bit of plumbing pipe or fitment.

Sand play - Old tyre in the garden filled with sand

Any plastic containers or cardboard ones.

Painting - Unrecyclable plastic containers for paint (no washing)

Bottle tops, cotton reels for printing (again no washing)

Left over wall paper, the reverse side of throw away

documents. Old adult shirts for all round protection.

Cardboard boxes - before recycling the cardboard, use your imagination to help start your children to use theirs.

- A cereal box could be a mask, a crown,
- A shoe box could be a bed, a bath, a drawer, a garage, a chair, a table
- A bigger box could be a dolls house, a car, a train. Several could make a bus.

A huge box such as one that a new washing machine comes in could be a house, a tunnel, a cave, a den, a rocket.

You do all this? Brilliant

The next step is thinking about waste before you buy. Such as using Freecycle for free toys, clothes and equipment.

Charity shops for toys, clothes and books.

Look out for less packaging.

Use terry nappies instead of disposable ones.

THE REASON FOR RECYCLING? OUR CHILDREN'S FUTURE

Here are just a few ideas taken from the 'How can I recycle this' website: www.recyclethis.co.uk

Recycling old tyres

- Use as planters for growing vegetables - a single tyre makes a raised bed for lettuce or herbs or a few stacked on top of each other will make deep bins for potatoes.
- Stacked ones could be used for a compost heap.
- Loop a rope through and attach to a branch to make a swing.
- Tractor Tyre— can be used to make a sandpit.



Old household keys

- Dip in metallic paint or spray on gold or silver, put key on a necklace.
- Small ones used with other items make a charm bracelet.
- Stick to a picture frame to make it more interesting.
- Used in artwork.
- Shine them up and use as Christmas decorations.
- Wind chimes.
- Fill a pretty jar with them and use as a paperweight.
- Outline the keys on a piece of paper, fun for children to match the keys to the picture.
- Hang on corners of tablecloth when eating outside to weigh it down.
- Glue them together to make the name of your house.
- Donate to the 'Keys for Bees' project www.berewardred.co.uk postal address: Bee Rewarded, 8 Chestnut Avenue, Ellesmere Port, Cheshire CH66 2UQ they also take nuts and screws etc.
- Sterilise put on key ring and give to babies to play with



Beer bottle tops

- Make a beaded door drape.
- Thread on string, bend in half to make a necklace.
- Make a sculpture.
- Glue strong magnets on the back to make a great fridge magnet.
- Make two holes on each side of the bottle tops and weave a chain through the holes to make a belt.
- Make a mud scraper for boots. Nail bottle tops side by side with the flat smooth side down to cover the whole area of a piece of plywood.



Plastic bottle caps

- To hold small amount of glue and cleaning substances when repairing items.
- Place ant or rodent deterrent in it.
- Fill with sugar and feed the slugs to help attract them away from your favourite plants.
- Measure equal quantities of concentrated liquids.
- To hold small screws, buttons, pins etc when sewing .
- Turn upside down and glue to the bottom of houseplant pots to give them a little extra height when they are too low in the planter.
- An eco-friendly and handy tip to seal up our plastic bags and save money with a plastic top! 1. Collect a plastic bottle. 2. Cut around the neck of the bottle to cut it off. 3. Pull a plastic bag through the bottle top and screw the cap onto the bottle top. It is better than a ziplock bag!
- Use bottle caps and the screw part to reuse balloons. Put the end of the balloon through the screw part and blow up the balloon. Screw the cap on the other part and the balloon remains inflated. When the party is over, you can unscrew the cap and reuse the balloon another time.
- Use the bigger bottle caps and screw part to make a vacuum storage bag.
- Cat toys—cats can not resist batting a plastic lid across the floor.



Foil milk bottle tops

- Thread on string and use in garden to scare birds off the vegetable patch.
- Thread on string and use as a garland for Christmas.





RECYCLING POINTS IN THE REA VALLEY

Glass	Minsterley—Community Hall Hanwood—The Cock Inn Worthen—Village Hall Pontesbury—The Gardeners Club—Station Road
Tetra packs	Minsterley
Plastic	Minsterley Worthen Snailbeach
Tin Cans	Minsterley Hanwood Pontesbury Worthen
Paper	Minsterley Hanwood Hope—outside Primary School Pontesbury Worthen
Clothing and textiles	Snailbeach—outside gunsmiths Minsterley—Community Hall Hanwood Pontesbury
Shoes	Snailbeach—outside gunsmiths Minsterley—Community Hall Pontesbury
Books	Snailbeach—outside gunsmiths
CD's	Snailbeach—outside gunsmiths
Bric a brac	Snailbeach—outside gunsmiths

Further afield there is recycling at Battlefield Recycling Centre open 9am—7pm weekdays and 9am—6pm weekends.

- Timber/wood
- Scrap metal
- Plasterboard
- Garden waste
- Soil
- Hardcore and rubble
- Glass
- Paper
- Cans, tins, aerosols and tin foil
- Plastic bottles
- Fridges and freezers
- Electrical appliances
- TV and computer monitors
- Car oil
- Car batteries
- Textiles
- Shoes
- Furniture
- Books
- Bric a brac
- Cardboard
- Tetra Pak liquid food and drinks cartons
- Fluorescent tubes and low energy light bulbs
- Household batteries

Give away locally. Put out side your house for a few days with a big sign saying FREE TO GOOD HOME or ADVERTISE IN LOCAL SHOP or on FREEGLE <http://www.ilovefreegle.org> — a website for posting giveaways and wants.



FURNITURE SCHEMES IN SHROPSHIRE

There are also Furniture Schemes throughout Shropshire who are delighted to accept furniture for re- distribution, and will collect for free or for a small charge.

N.B. Soft furnishings do need to have the fire label still attached.

South Shropshire Furniture Scheme

Re-use Centre, Weeping Cross Lane, Ludlow SY8 1JH

Tel: 01584 877756 to arrange a FREE collection, or items can be dropped off at their re-use centre.

Email: info@furniturescheme.co.uk Website: www.furniturescheme.co.uk

Open: Tuesday—Friday 10am—4pm & Saturday 9am—1pm.

Reviive, Unit 4, Knight Park, Battlefield Enterprise Park, Shrewsbury SY1 3AB

Tel: 01743 588458 Email: sophie.black@reviive.co.uk Website: www.reviive.co.uk

Open: Monday—Friday 10am—5pm, Saturday & Sunday 10am—4pm

They are unable to collect furniture at present.

Shrewsbury Furniture Scheme (Home Essentials)

294 Monkmoor Road, Shrewsbury, Shropshire SY2 5TF

Open: Monday—Thursday 9am - 3pm & Friday 9am - 1pm

Tel: 01743 246668 Website: www.shrewsburyfurniturescheme.org.uk

Oswestry & District Furniture Scheme

Unit 2, Mile Oak Industrial Estate, Oswestry SY10 8GA

Opening: Monday—Friday 10am - 4pm & Saturday 10am—1pm

Tel: 01691 679817 Website: www.shalliance.org.uk

Market Drayton & North Shropshire Furniture Scheme

11 High Street, Market Drayton TF9 1PY

Opening hours: Monday to Thursday 9am - 1pm

Tel: 01630 695684 Website: www.shalliance.org.uk

Bridgnorth and District Furniture Scheme

Building 6, Unit 8, Stanmore Industrial Estate, Bridgnorth, Shropshire WV15 5HR

Telephone:01746 764494 Email:office@bdfs.org.uk Website: www.bdfs.org.uk

Open: Monday to Friday from 10am to 3pm and Saturday from 10am to 1pm.

Chairs and Spares (Telford)

Unit 2, St Georges Road Industrial Estate, Donnington, Telford TF2 7QZ

Telephone:01952 619197

Email:enquiries@chairsandspares.co.uk Website: www.chairsandspares.co.uk

Opening: Monday to Friday 9am to 4pm



YOUR IDEAS

The Rea Valley Environmental Network gratefully acknowledges the help and financial support received from Shropshire Community Recycling, which made the running of the workshops and the publication of this booklet possible.



SCRL exists to facilitate and support members to minimize waste in Shropshire and surrounding areas and to maximise the use of resources including materials, people and energy.



Rea Valley Environmental Network

Action on the local economy and environment

A local not-for-profit group run by volunteers

www.ReaVEN.org.uk Contact: reaven@live.co.uk

ReaVEN's current work priorities are:

Leisure path - 98% of local people surveyed are in support of making this a reality.

Energy- Have your own household energy survey carried out by trained volunteers. If you live in the Rea Valley area, borrow a Smart Meter to see how to reduce the energy you use.

Food Co-op - Club together to buy whole and organic food to feed your family

Recycling Toolkit – a handbook of ideas from local people on re-use.

Ideas needing more support:

- **Solar Club**
- **Allotments**