



The Department of the Environment's 'Rethink Waste' campaign aims to raise awareness of and encourage best practice in waste management.

Targeting households and businesses as well as the community and education sectors, the campaign encourages simple steps towards better waste prevention and resource management.

By making some small changes we can improve our environment for future generations, help reduce the amount of waste sent to landfill and save on household bills.

For active or aspiring gardeners there are many ways you can 'Rethink Waste' in your garden by reducing, reusing and recycling your household and garden waste. We have provided some helpful tips and ideas to give you some inspiration to get started.

You will find more advice on our website - www.rethinkwasteni.org



rethink
waste in
your
garden

For more helpful hints and tips about rethinking waste in your garden and at home visit:
www.rethinkwasteni.org



rethink food and garden waste

Home composting is a simple way to prevent unavoidable food waste, such as peelings, cores and teabags, ending up in landfill. Along with your garden cuttings you can make fantastic compost which will do wonders for your plants and flowers. Take the work out of turning the compost with a fork or spade by investing in a compost tumbler.

Another great composting method is to install a wormery, which not only creates compost but a superior liquid fertiliser too. The kids will also have lots of fun looking after the wriggly worms.



rethink woodland gardens

Shredding branches at home can be used to create mulch or compost additive.

Consider reusing industrial pallets as a substitute for railway sleepers.

rethink outdoor living

Reuse empty bottles to create attractive features in planters or in garden walls.

Save hassle by installing low maintenance colourfast decking made from locally recycled plastics.

Recycled tyres, in the form of tyre crumb, can be used as an alternative to gravel for paths or children's play areas.

Reuse interesting household items such as washing machine tubs or old wellies as planters.



rethink potting and planting

Seedlings can be planted in empty yoghurt pots, egg cartons or cardboard toilet roll tubes. Why not create biodegradable pots using old newspaper?

String old CDs together to discourage the birds from picking at your fruit and vegetables.

rethink lawns and borders

Why not reduce garden waste by replacing parts of your lawn with planted borders and in the process you will add a splash of colour whilst encouraging wildlife in your garden.

Consider planting low maintenance and low waste hedging such as Escallonia or Photinia 'Red Robin', which will also provide year-round colour.



rethink flowerbeds

Recycled tyres, in the form of tyre crumb, can act as an attractive mulch and come in a variety of colours.

Consider using weed barriers made from recycled plastic bottles.