



**WEST OXFORDSHIRE
DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Bins and maggots

You will only have a problem with maggots if flies can get to your rubbish.

Flies are attracted to the smell of food and other rubbish. They lay their eggs on the rubbish and within 24 hours these eggs hatch into maggots.

The speed of this hatching means that we will never be able to collect your bins quickly enough to prevent maggots but you can limit their production:

Reduce the risk of maggots:

- Never leave food uncovered inside the home – this includes cat and dog food.
- Put your food waste into your kitchen caddy for recycling and ensure the lid closed properly to keep flies out.
- Make sure your kitchen bin has a close fitting lid and always keep the lid down on your rubbish bin.
- Everything put in your rubbish bin should be securely bagged.
- Flies can be attracted to dirty recycled items - rinsing your food cans, bottles and jars will help.
- Try using Citronella - this discourages flies as they don't like the smell.

I have maggots in my bin:

- Don't panic, although not desirable, maggots should not cause you any harm.
- Put your bin out for collection as normal on your next bin day.
- After it's been emptied, clean it out with hot water and disinfectant or white vinegar, an effective, environmentally friendly alternative.
- Follow our tips to reduce the risk of maggots in the future.

For more information on waste and recycling call 01993 861000 or visit www.westoxon.gov.uk/bins