



Dispose
of all
litter
carefully

Recycle your rubbish

Reducing the amount of waste you create and disposing of it responsibly is the most effective way of preventing animals being harmed by your rubbish. Avoid products with unnecessary packaging and recycle as much rubbish as possible.

Your local authority has a responsibility to reduce litter. Tell them about any area where litter has built up – it can be a hazard to both humans and animals – and they should clear it up.

Many local authority websites provide detailed information on recycling facilities and other waste services, as well as useful numbers to call if you have a waste-related query or complaint.

www.encams.org

Keep Britain Tidy 



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Your litter can kill



Keep Britain Tidy 

www.rspca.org.uk



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The RSPCA regularly rescues animals that are trapped or hurt by discarded rubbish. This leaflet explains how everyday objects can become hazards, and gives tips on how to make your rubbish safer.

Protecting pets, farm animals and wildlife from harmful rubbish is straightforward – simply dispose of your waste responsibly.



Recycle



Put it in a bin



Take it home

Balloons



HAZARD: Once balloons burst, animals may mistake them for food and can choke.



SOLUTION: Avoid balloon releases, as the balloons can land anywhere and pose a threat to animals. Cut any used balloons into small pieces before putting in the bin.

Glass



HAZARD: Glass bottles and jars break easily, leaving sharp pieces which can cause serious injury to animals.



SOLUTION: Take all used bottles and jars to a bottle bank – they should never be left lying around.



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Plastic bags



HAZARD: Animals may climb inside plastic bags and suffocate, or eat them and choke. Unfortunately, these bags can remain intact after being swallowed, which means that a single bag can cause the death of more than one animal.



SOLUTION: Tie a knot in all plastic bags before disposing of them. Re-use your bags – UK residents take home about 12 billion plastic bags every year and each one takes hundreds of years to decompose.

Fishing tackle



HAZARD: Fishing line can get caught around a bird's wings, neck and beak. Hooks can pierce skin and muscle.



SOLUTION: Take unwanted fishing line home with you and cut it into small pieces before putting it in the bin. Wrap discarded fishing hooks in newspaper before putting them in the bin.

Small containers



HAZARD: Attracted by leftovers, animals will forage inside food containers and can get trapped.



SOLUTION: Remember to completely remove the lid from small containers and as an extra precaution cut the container in half. Try to recycle your plastics.

Plastic can holders



HAZARD: Animals can get entangled in discarded plastic can holders, which can cause sores or choking.



SOLUTION: Always cut open the loops on a plastic can holder before putting in the bin.

Cans



HAZARD: Small animals such as hedgehogs may get their heads trapped inside cans – and a half-open lid can cut.



SOLUTION: Completely remove the lid of the can, drop it inside, and then pinch the top shut. Recycle cans in a can bank – aluminium cans never disintegrate so each one may be a hazard to animals for many years to come.



COLIN SEDDON/RSPCA PHOTO LIBRARY

Elastic bands



HAZARD: Elastic bands can get caught around the necks of small animals and the beaks of birds. They can also be swallowed, causing the animal to choke.



SOLUTION: Whenever possible re-use elastic bands. Remember to cut them open before putting in the bin.



DISPOSE OF YOUR RUBBISH RESPONSIBLY

REMEMBER LITTER CAN KILL