

## **Repak Recycling Week Tips:**

### **1. Organise Household Bins.**

Put three bins in the kitchen: one for recyclables; one for compostable vegetable waste; one for general waste. Organise a dedicated storage space in your backgarden or kitchen. Most hardware stores like Woodies or B&Q sell a range of special recycling bins and, if you have space, it's worth investing and installing these into this dedicated area.

### **2. Composting.**

Put a small compost bin beside your general waste bin or if you've space build a compost pile in your garden for kitchen vegetable waste and garden waste. As well as your brown and green food waste, wormeries can break down cooked meats that other conventional garden composters cannot deal with. After a few months the compost should become dark and crumbly and you can then start using it as top-soil or fertilizer to make your garden greener than ever.

### **3. Packaging Thrift.**

Check for products with less packaging and use re-usable plates, cups and bags. Buy vegetables loose. Put leftover turkey and ham into reusable lunch boxes or containers with lids instead of using non-recyclable aluminium foil or plastic film. A lot of companies have made great strides in reducing the amount of packaging they use in product. For example, did you know the steel in baked bean cans now weigh today only 53% of what it did on the 1970's dinner table (210g versus 113g for the same amount of beans).

### **4. Find your nearest Recycling Centre or Bring Bank.**

You may be surprised at the wide variety of materials they can accept and most have extended opening hours over Christmas. Visit [www.repak.ie](http://www.repak.ie) or check your local paper or for further details.

## **5. Be Clean.**

Wash 'n' squash Tetra Pak containers. Rinse out bottle and cans, remove lids and squash plastic containers to save space. Remember don't litter at bring banks. Take home any boxes or containers you used to bring materials to your local bring bank in.

## **6. Use Re-usable Bags.**

Make sure to use reusable bags when visiting your Recycling Centre or Bring Bank, especially if you're wash 'n' squash your used packaging container. Often people use cardboard boxes, which can get soggy and unusable. Without realising, unfortunately, some people leave these beside Bring Bank and at Recycling Centres – this is littering and makes everyone's job harder.

## **7. Morning After Parties.**

Gather up all glass bottles and aluminium cans in separate bags or bins. Remember plastic bottles (PET and HDPE bottles) can also be recycled at most Recycling Centres – look for 3 chasing arrows with either a number 1 or number 2 inside – this means it can be recycled in Ireland.

## **8. Recycle used batteries.**

Collect up all the used batteries. Consider purchasing a battery re-charger and rechargeable batteries for battery operated toys and gadgets. Look up [www.repak.ie](http://www.repak.ie) to find your nearest recycling centre that accept batteries.

## **Packaging Recycling – an example of a few items to help us break the record**

### **Glass From the Kitchen**

Baby Food Jars

Wine Bottles

Jam Jars

Sauce jars (Glass)

## **Cardboard**

Cereal boxes  
Tissue Boxes  
Kitchen paper cores  
Milk cartons  
Juice Cartons  
Multipack sleeves  
Ready meals cardboard sleeves  
Washing up powder boxes

## **Plastic drink bottles**

Washing up liquid bottles  
Fabric softener bottles  
Sauce bottles  
Water bottles  
Plastic Milk Bottles

**Note: Please ensure all food containers are fully rinsed  
Thus reducing attraction of flies**

## **From the Livingroom**

Newspapers  
Magazines  
Tissue boxes  
Beer bottles or Cans

## **From the Bathroom**

Shampoo/Conditioner bottles  
Talc bottle  
Shower gel bottles  
Toilet roll cores  
Tissue box  
Toiletry outer sleeves and boxes, eg. Razors and soap  
Hand soap bottles

**Note: Please ensure all toiletry containers are fully rinsed  
Ensuring limited product waste and maximum recyclability**

## **Bedroom**

Books  
Magazines  
Tissue box  
Wall posters  
Perfume boxes/packages  
Clothes packaging, socks, underwear, etc.

Clothes shopping bags (paper based)

**From the Utility Room**

Washing detergent boxes

Fabric conditioner bottles

Pet food cans

***Note: Please ensure all utility containers are fully rinsed  
Ensuring limited product waste and maximum recyclability***