

WASTE MANAGEMENT AND SORTING BINS IN VESTURBYGGÐ AND TÁLKNAFJÖRÐUR





FOREWORD

Following a public procurement procedure, the municipalities of Vesturbyggð and Tálknafjörður have entered into an agreement with Kubbur ehf. to handle the collection of waste from households in the municipalities. Waste treatment is an environmental issue of major importance and an important element in the general increase in environmental awareness that is taking place in society.

The municipalities decided to make ambitious changes to their waste management system, as follows: **Barðaströnd:** A 240-litre bin has been added for collecting mixed recyclables. There is no provision for a bin for organic waste for the time being. **Patreksfjörður and Bildudalur:** A 120-litre bin has been added for organic household waste, and an inner compartment for plastic has been added to the bin for recyclables. **Tálknafjörður:** A 120-litre bin has been added for organic household waste, as well as a 240-litre bin with a 55-litre inner compartment for separating paper/cardboard from plastic.

Co-operation with residents is very important, and everybody must feel the need to be part of efforts to reduce waste and increase recycling. In so doing, residents are showing that they want to live in an environmentally friendly community that will improve their quality of life and reduce the carbon footprint of the municipalities.

GENERAL INFORMATION

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Kubbur ehf. is a contractor and waste management company operating in Ísafjörður, the Westman Islands, Hafnarfjörður, Ölfus, Bolungarvík and now in Vesturbyggð and Tálknafjörður. The company has been in operation since it began managing waste in Ísafjörður in 2011, subsequently expanding to the Westman Islands, Hafnarfjörður, Bolungarvík, and now present in Vesturbyggð and Tálknafjörður.



**VESTURBYGGÐ
TÁLKNAFJÖRÐUR
ÖLFUS MUNICIPALITY
ÍSAFJÖRÐUR
BOLUNGARVÍK
WESTMAN ISLANDS
HAFNARFJÖRÐUR**



BINS IN VESTURBYGGÐ AND TÁLKNAFJÖRÐUR

ACCESSIBILITY

Bins should be placed outside each house in a location as close as possible for them to be emptied. They should always be as accessible to remove as possible. Residents are responsible for removing snow from, on and around bins. Any attachments holding bins down should be easy to undo and replace.

Bins should be properly looked after in wintertime so that rubbish does not blow out of them.

EXCESSIVELY FULL BINS

Bins should not be filled so much that they cannot be closed. Excessively full bins can cause problems and mess when they are removed for emptying. Excessively full bins will not be removed for emptying, and residents will be informed of the location of refuse collection centres.

FURTHER INFORMATION

There is various information on waste and environmental issues on the Kubbur website (www.kubbur.is), and we shall endeavour to keep adding to this information.

There are also several other useful websites with information on waste recycling and treatment:

Environment Agency of Iceland - www.ust.is

Icelandic Recycling Fund - www.urvinnslusjodur.is

Landvernd - www.landvernd.is

Fenúr Professional Council on Recycling and Waste - www.fenur.is

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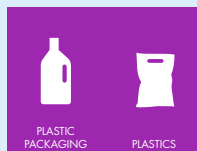
GREY BIN



BROWN BIN



GREEN/BLUE BIN



INNER COMPARTMENT

These municipalities mostly operate a three-bin system for four types of waste, with one bin having an extra compartment.

1. **The grey bin (240 litres)** is for non-recyclable waste.
2. **The brown bin (120 litres)** is for organic waste, such as food leftovers, coffee filters, egg shells.
3. **The blue/green bin (240 litres)** is for paper and cardboard.
4. **The 55-litre inner compartment in the blue/green bin** is for plastic and metal.

General waste is collected every four weeks, while organic waste and the blue/green bin is collected every two weeks. In Barðaströnd, waste is collected every three weeks, and the grey and blue/green bins are emptied at the same time. Otherwise, waste is collected according to the waste collection timetable for Vesturbyggð and Tálknafjörður.

Residents must ensure that their bins are easily accessible, e.g. by removing snow from, on and around bins so that they can be removed. Collection times and the opening times of waste collection centres / rubbish tips are published on the municipal websites (vesturbyggd.is and talknafjordur.is) and on the Kubbur website (kubbur.is).

WASTE IS VALUABLE

There are various ways we can reduce the amount of waste we generate, but reducing waste begins at home. A large proportion of our purchases end up as waste – both recyclable and non-recyclable. Think before you buy, and think again before you throw away. Once we have rubbish, it is very important to sort it into the available categories. Recycling used packaging is greener than producing new packaging. Collecting and composting organic waste stops the formation of methane from landfilled organic waste, and the by-product can also be used as a soil improver. It is a good idea to reduce the volume of packaging by tearing it up or folding it in order to prevent bins from overflowing. Reducing volumes is important for all types of recycling and reduces the carbon footprint linked to waste transport. Let's be responsible for our environment and help increase recycling. Every kilogram of waste costs a great deal of money. By reducing waste and sorting more, the money saved can be put back into the pockets of the public and businesses.