



Lower Carbon



Minimal Waste



Biodiverse
Campuses



Sustainable
Travel



Positive
Procurement



Wellbeing
and Health



Culture and
Community



Knowledge
and Skills

Sustainable Labs



Swansea University
Prifysgol Abertawe

Sustainability
Cynaliadwyedd

How can I increase my recycling and manage my waste efficiently in the lab?

We have more than 40 waste and recycling streams at the University. To manage them efficiently you need to identify what your main waste sources are and understand whether if it is safe to reuse or recycle.

Even in labs we can increase our levels of recycling and reuse. Below are some ideas on how you can achieve this.



- Contact your local Environment Officer for a review of the wastes in your lab and see if you can divert more to recycling
- Include [waste and recycling](#) on your lab induction so all lab users are familiar with the process
- Do not dispose of contaminated items to recycling unless you have decontaminated them appropriately, guidance available [here](#)
- Empty cardboard and plastic boxes and move outside the lab as soon as possible so they don't get contaminated
- Check out the [waste management guidance notes on the website](#)
- Purchase materials that can be recycled e.g. HDPE, PP, PET, PS
- Use our new [tip box and polystyrene recycling streams](#)
- Speak to suppliers about take back schemes they offer
- Include the wastes you will produce on your risk assessment ([general](#), [chemical](#) or [biological](#))
- [Sell lab equipment](#) you no longer require instead of throwing it away

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