

# Advice on maggots

Maggots are produced due to flies laying their eggs on any organic material that will provide suitable food for the maggots when they emerge. In the summer during warmer weather these eggs can hatch into maggots in just 8 to 20 hours. Flies are attracted by smells, and need to be able to gain access to organic material in order to lay eggs.

## How to prevent maggots

- Double bag any food waste, particularly meat and bones before placing into your wheeled bin to reduce the smell and to stop flies laying their eggs on the food waste.
- Rinse any food packaging that cannot be recycled before placing into the bin to reduce smell. The ideal time to do this would be using your washing up water so as not to waste water.
- Store the bin away from direct sunlight.
- Ensure that the bin lid remains shut and sealed at all times. If the bin lid is not closed or the bin has any splits in, this will be a way in for flies to lay their eggs.
- In the kitchen do not store food waste and unrinsed food containers in your kitchen bin. Bag the waste and empty it as soon as possible into your wheeled bin.
- Avoid preparing too much food, ultimately reducing the amount you have to throw away.

## How to deal with maggots

If you do have maggots in your bin or boxes the only effective way to get rid of them is to remove them along with the contents of the bin.

- Householders may prefer to clean and disinfect the bin after it has been emptied.
- Additional refuse should be bagged and sealed and the bin lid kept shut. If the bags remain sealed the maggots will **NOT** be able to escape.

## Kerbside Boxes

Householders should rinse all glass, cans and tins before placing them in the boxes. If this is done they should not attract flies.

Lids for boxes can be purchased but should be removed on the day of collection.