

# Press Release



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**For Immediate Release**

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## **T'was the season to be jolly, t'is now the time to reuse or recycle your Christmas tree**

Householders are being urged to consider the future of their Christmas tree as South Northamptonshire Council (SNC) starts to resume its garden waste collections next week.

Whether you have a real or artificial tree, both have an environmental impact.

Taking into account manufacturing, growing, transportation and disposal, real trees have a much smaller impact on the environment over the short-term.

But given an artificial tree can be used several times over, the long-term environmental impact could be lower.

The American Christmas Tree Association has calculated that if you use your artificial tree for around nine years, it will have the same environmental impact as having a real tree every year.

Cllr Dermot Bambridge, SNC's portfolio holder for environmental services said:

"We've all been used to picking our Christmas tree depending on how it looks, or for how easy it is to use.

"We now live in a world where we must consider the environmental impact of our decisions. With Christmas trees it's simple. If you opt for artificial, use it for at least nine years. If you opt for a real tree, get one that's potted and will last a few years, or get a cut tree grown locally with little or no transportation costs. In 2015 I bought a potted one, which will be planted in the garden again for the second time, ready to use in the house next year.

"But if you must get rid of your artificial tree before the end of its useful life, give it a second chance by taking it to the Farthinghoe Recycling and Reuse Centre."

The Farthinghoe centre is open seven days a week from 9am to 5pm and will take a wide range of materials for recycling.

The reuse shop is also stocked with a wide range of furniture, sports equipment, books and electronic goods. For more information see [Farthinghoe Recycling and Reuse Centre](http://www.southnorthants.gov.uk/Farthinghoe.htm) - <http://www.southnorthants.gov.uk/Farthinghoe.htm>

The SNC green bin, garden waste collections resume the week commencing Monday, 9 January in the east area of the district. In the west, collections will resume during the week commencing Monday, 16 January.

Real Christmas trees, without decorations can be chopped up and left inside or beside the green bins for recycling.

To check you bin collection date, please visit [http://www.southnorthants.gov.uk/SNC-Collection-Calendar-2016\\_2017.pdf](http://www.southnorthants.gov.uk/SNC-Collection-Calendar-2016_2017.pdf)

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