

(EASI) EARLEY LITTER PICKERS (EASI)

Earley Adopt-a-Street Initiative

Spring 2026 Newsletter

Earley's Litter and Recycling Group

Welcome to EASI's Spring 2026 Newsletter. Earley Town Council's Spring Litter Pick will take place on Sunday 22nd March. This is a big event in Earley's litter-picking year, so please support the litter pick if you can. Details are given below. This edition also includes advice on what to do if you find Nitrous Oxide canisters when litter picking. With spring coming, the lighter evenings and mornings will provide more opportunity to pick litter and help keep our streets litter-free. Even with the improvement in the weather, however, don't forget to keep an eye on the traffic when crossing roads, and to wear strong gloves and sturdy shoes.

Litter Picking News

EASI Volunteers

The number of EASI volunteers currently stands at 314. There are now only a few streets that need a volunteer; **Barbel Close, Shepherds Avenue, Rosedale Crescent, London Road** from the Aldi roundabout to the 334 bus stop, **Church Road** from Eastcourt Ave to Pitts Lane, and **Oldfield Close**. In addition, we have a street section that desperately needs a permanent volunteer – the **north side of Wokingham Road** between the Co-op at the Three Tuns crossroads and Mays Lane. This can be a litter hotspot as it includes the stretch outside the shops as well as the route for school pupils to access Sol Joel Park. Ideally it would be beneficial to have this stretch covered by more than one volunteer, so if you could add this to your patch, or know someone who might be willing to pick it, please let us know at our usual email address: easilittergroup@gmail.com Details of the streets that require a volunteer can be found at the following link: <http://www.earleyenvironmentalgroup.co.uk/EASI/VacantStreets.asp>

Earley Town Council's Spring Litter Pick (HELP)

Earley Town Council will hold its annual Huge Earley Litter Pick, known as 'HELP', on Sunday 22nd March. This annual event collects litter from many of Earley's streets, footpaths and parks that are not normally covered by our volunteers; and is well worth joining. The litter pick start points, timings and routes will be as follows:



The Interpretation Centre, Instow Road:

- 10.00- 12.30- Route heading south from Interpretation Centre
- 10.00- 12.30- Route heading east from Interpretation Centre
- 14.00- 16.30- Route heading north from Interpretation Centre to Sol Joel
- 14.00- 16.30- Route heading west from interpretation Centre

Junction of London Rd/The Drive

- 10.00- 12.30- Route along London Road

Maiden Place Community Centre Car Park

- 10.00- 12.30- Route heading east from Maiden Place Community Centre

Chalfont Park Car Park

- 10.00 – 12.30- Route around the park

All EASI members and their families and friends are welcome to join any of the litter pick locations and times. You don't need to book a place. Litter picking equipment will be provided, but please bring your own if you prefer. Wear stout shoes and gloves and be prepared for wet and cold weather conditions.

Recycling and Waste Collection News

Nitrous Oxide Cannisters as Litter



A growing number of our volunteers have reported finding small and large nitrous oxide cannisters at a range of sites across Earley when litter picking. This is becoming a growing issue nationally and Richard Tredgett from the EASI team was recently interviewed on BBC Radio Berkshire about the issue as a part of a wider BBC investigation. The photo to the left shows an example of a larger cannister, although they are usually found without a balloon still attached. The cannisters are about 30 cm long and weigh about 1.5 kg empty. Nitrous oxide is now a Class C drug because of the serious health problems that inhaling the gas can cause. The cannisters also pose a risk to refuse collectors and their equipment if they explode in the vehicle or at a waste plant.

If you find a nitrous oxide cannister when out litter picking, please do not pick it up. They should not be mixed with other litter in either your home or a street bin. To allow safe collection they should be reported to Wokingham Borough Council as fly tipping – this can be done using the fix my street app or using WBC's '**Report fly-tipping**' link given below. In addition, Thames Valley Police ask that the cannisters are reported on their non-emergency Website so they can monitor the sale and use of this drug, using the following link: [Contact us to report a crime, incident or suspicion | Thames Valley Police](#) and selecting "Something Else" for steps 1 and 2. There is further information on the Earley Environment Group Website here: [Earley Environmental Group - Nitrous oxide cannisters as litter](#)

Report fly-tipping

Wokingham Borough Council's guidance on fly-tipping can be found at: <https://www.wokingham.gov.uk/rubbish-and-recycling/waste-collection/fly-tipping> WBC's advice is that any items left in the street, including black bags of rubbish, is considered to be fly-tipping. Should you witness fly-tipping, do not

put yourself in any danger. Take note of what you see and report it to WBC so they can investigate further. The above link will take you to the 'Report fly-tipping' logo which will take you to a borough map on which you can indicate where the fly-tipping can be found. Every householder, business and landowner is responsible for the proper removal of waste from their property. This includes waste removed by any trader or contractor on your behalf. If you're having work done in your home, office or garden you should budget for responsible waste disposal, and check that your contractor is a registered waste carrier and will dispose of the waste properly. If you (or your waste carrier) are caught fly-tipping, you can be fined £300. A legitimate waste carrier will always:

- Be registered with the Environment Agency
- Have a waste carrier licence which can be verified on the Environment Agency website
- Provide a waste transfer note for removal of any waste on request (e.g. following building or garden work)
- Provide details of the site license where the waste is to be disposed
- Be able to provide proof of where it was taken in the form of an official weight ticket which will identify the disposal site.

Recycling Directory and Contacting EASI



The EASI Recycling database can be found on the **Earley Environment Group Website** under 'Environment' and 'Recycling in Earley – an updated guide'. The link is:

<http://www.earleyenvironmentalgroup.co.uk/Environment/NewRecyclingInEarley.asp>

The **EASI Committee members** are Chris Bassett, Tracy Collins, Bob Collis, Brian Hackett, Grahame Hawker, Brenda Hill, Stephen Kerry and Richard Tredgett. Contact us on EASI's **Email** address: easilittergroup@gmail.com, or visit the EASI **Facebook Page** 'EASI Litter Pickers – Earley'. Information about waste recycling and reporting substantial amounts of dumped rubbish or fly-tipping can be found, as follows:

- **general information** about rubbish and recycling at <https://www.wokingham.gov.uk/rubbish-and-recycling/>
- **report fly-tipping** <https://www.wokingham.gov.uk/rubbish-and-recycling/waste-collection/fly-tipping>

The '**Fix-My-Street**' App which can also be used to report excessive litter, fly-tipping, etc.