WHAT HAPPENS TO WASTE FROM CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY?
Mick George Ltd is committed to helping the Environment and our customers by diverting waste away from landfill with the aim of reducing, reusing or recycling waste.

**Paper and Cardboard**
National Paper Recycling
Pilot Road
Corby
NN17 5YH
Waste Exemption: EPR/FF0234JF/A001
Waste Carriers Licence: CB/NP3412JW

**Plastics**
Plastic Experts
1 Friary
Temple Quay
Bristol
BS1 6EA
Waste Carriers Licence: CB/PE5502HY

**Wood, MDF and Chipboard**
Mick George Ltd
Woodhatch Farm
Thrapston Road
Ellington
Cambridgeshire
England
PE28 0AE
Waste Carriers Licence: CB/BN5911QW

**WEEE**
Wiser
11 Caxton Road
St Ives
Cambridgeshire
PE27 3LS
Permit Number: WEE/YH00067TATF

**Residual Waste - Fuel Supply**
Sita Ltd
Port of Tilbury
Tilbury
Essex
RM18 7LA

**Metals**
European Metal Recycling Ltd
Fordham Road
Snailwell
Newmarket
CB8 7ND
Waste Carriers Licence: CB/ZE5607KJ

**Food Waste**
AD Plant
Local Generation
Wisbech Road
March
Cambs
PE15 0BA
Permit Number: YP3430KS

**Green Waste**
Material Change Ltd
Lowick Compost Site
Aldwincle Road Lowick
Northants
NN14 3BL
Permit Number: WML: 73302

**St Ives Material Recycling Facility (MRF)**
Mick George Ltd
Meadow Lane
St. Ives
Cambridgeshire
PE27 4YQ
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All waste is collected in either blue or green-lidded wheelee bins and bulked at our Cowley Road site in Cambridge. When there is a large enough volume to make transport efficient, it is taken by Bulker to our St Ives Material Recycling Facility (MRF). Here, the waste goes through numerous separation and recovery processes to generate recoverable and recyclable streams. A very small percentage of waste that cannot be recovered or recycled is sent for incineration where the energy produced is recovered as power (electricity).

**Wood**
We sort, process and chip the wood we receive to be used in panel board manufacture and biomass burners. In this way we ensure we are following the waste hierarchy by recycling the wood for reuse in the creation of a new product or fuel source. Panel board manufacturers combine the wood chip with resin and heat to create a man made wood product; using different specifications they are able to create panels which can be used in various products from furniture to the construction of apartment buildings. Biomass burners use processed wood to generate heat and electricity with less effect on the environment than fossil fuels.

**Rigid Plastics**
Mixed rigid plastics are separated, baled and sent to plastic reprocessors. The waste is first put through a shredder where large contaminants including metal will be removed. The material is then washed in a two-stage process in which paper and other contaminants are removed. The plastic granulate is then sold on to plastic production companies, particularly in the automotive sector for the production of bumpers and dashboards.

**Polythene**
Polythene is sent for washing to remove contaminants such as labels, dust and mud, then they are segregated into different colours/grades for reprocessing.

**Food Waste**
All food waste is taken to an Anaerobic Digestion process. The process is conducted within a sealed environment devoid of oxygen where anaerobic bacteria breakdown the wastes and generate biogas as a by-product. This biogas is captured and utilised as an energy source generating 0.2 mega watt per tonne of waste. Additionally a seed routing sludge is made from the residual process wastes.

**Green Waste**
Trees, bushes, grass cutting etc are segregated and sent to a licensed compost facility where the material is shredded and placed in Windrows. The natural process of composting is carried out by the thousands of micro-organisms which live naturally in waste. These organisms, like all living things, need food, air and water. They feed on the organic waste materials, converting it into compost. This process generates sufficient heat to keep the organisms alive as well as killing off most harmful bacteria and weed seeds. Turning or stirring the pile frequently puts more oxygen into the pile which helps the organisms, speeding the process along.

**Cardboard and Paper**
This material is separated, baled and sent to cardboard and paper reprocessors. The material is soaked in water and made into a pulp, cleaned, pressed into sheets and dried. Recycled card and paper is used to make boxes and packaging as well toilet roll, stationary and animal bedding.

**Ferrous and non-ferrous metals**
These materials are bulked up and sent to licensed scrap metal reprocessors. Up until recently the majority of scrap metal was being exported to developing countries such as China and India.

**Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE)**
The WEEE material is broken down into its individual components manually and recycled as either metal or plastics.

**Batteries**
Battery boxes are used to store a variety of batteries that are sent to recover the precious metals they contain such as lead, mercury, cadmium, zinc, manganese and lithium.

**Glass**
Glass is crushed and its contaminants removed. A mechanised colour sorting process is undertaken then mixed with raw materials. The melted glass is either moulded or blown into new jars or bottles.

**Carpets**
Mixed carpet and underlay waste is inspected to remove contaminants before being sorted by the fibre type of its pile and backing using near infra-red spectroscopy. As standard, various fibre streams are shredded, baled and supplied as feedstock material onto either the International plastics recycling market, equestrian or the horticultural market.

**Textiles**
All used textiles are hand sorted and graded to specific customer requirements by highly skilled workers who are able to recognise the large variety of fibre types.

Once graded the clothes are then weighed and pressed packed into bales using the most up-to-date weighing and pressing equipment.

**Unrecyclables**
Unrecyclable or residual waste is sent for incineration at a waste-to-energy plant, and the intrinsic energy contained in the material is recovered. Modern waste-to-energy plants use the waste itself as fuel to efficiently produce electricity and or heat while producing very low emissions. There are very strict regulations that the operator of such a site must adhere with, which helps to minimise the environmental impact.