a guide to Recycling Centres in the Borough of Croydon
The following is a compilation of 24 of the 30 available recycling sites located around the Borough of Croydon, London. Each site is complete with a photographic record, weekday of site visit, list of acceptable recyclables at that site, directions, and commentary.

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What materials can I take to which local recycling centre in Croydon?
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Ashburton Park
Car Park
Ashburton Park Car Park

Directions from East Croydon:
From Katharine Street take Bus 312 towards Norwood Junction to the Brockenhurst Road stop. Walk towards the Ashburton Park following the posted recycling centre signs. When approaching a T in the road, take a right (signs ended there). You will end at the recycling site.

Recommendations:
- More signs posted to direct to the site.
- Add rubbish bins.
- Paint for the containers to remove graffiti.
- Bigger and more explicit labels on paper containers.
- Uniform labels on containers.
Ashburton Park Car Park

Day Visited: Thursday  
Guests Present: 0  
Collected Materials:  
- Paper  
- Glass  
- Shoes  
- Clothes

- The location was difficult to find. After following several signs the road ends at a T-stop with no more directions.
- The site is open and handicap accessible.
- It appears that it receives some use. However, it is hard to tell if the fullness of the containers is due to lack of maintenance (i.e. clothing bank).
- Textiles seem to have the most content as the container was full and bags had been placed outside the container.
- The labels on the containers were covered in graffiti and several were worn away.
- The containers themselves were in good condition minus the excessive graffiti.
- There was a lot of rubbish around the site. The majority being of clothes left in bags that had been ripped open and sorted through.
Central Parade Car Park
Central Parade Car Park

Directions from East Croydon:
Take the tram going towards New Addington to the last stop. Central Parade Car Park is directly across the street from the tram station. Walk to the far end of the car park for the recycling centre.

Recommendations:
- Add rubbish bins.
- New paint; primarily for the paper containers.
- Bigger, more explicit labels for the paper containers.
The centre was easily found given the close proximity to the tram stop.
The centre itself was easy to use and was handicap accessible.
Through several observations and reviewing of the photographs the site appears to be used on a regular basis.
Paper appears to be the most recycled material based on volume in the bins.
The labels on the bins appeared to be new and were in good condition.
Several of the bins were contaminated. There was cardboard placed in several of the paper bins.
The site was fairly clean, although there was some trash seen primarily around the paper bins, especially when revisiting the site for interviews.
It appears that you need to pay to be in the parking lot where the recycling site is located—may be a deterrence.

Day Visited: Tuesday
Users Present: 1
Collected Materials:
- Paper
- Glass
- Cans
- Shoes
Co-op Car Park
Co-op Car Park

Directions from East Croydon:
Take Bus 312 from Katharine Street towards Norwood Junction to the Park View Road stop. The recycling site is located in the back of the Co-op in the car park.

Recommendations:
- Add rubbish bins.
- Paint for the containers to cover graffiti.
- New labels for the containers, possibly containing pictures of allowed materials.
- Labels for the paper containers.
Day Visited: Thursday
Users Present: 0
Collected Materials:
• Paper
• Glass
• Shoes
• Clothes

- The site was easy to locate because of sign placement.
- The area is not handicap accessible due to the large amount of litter in the area and the close proximity of the containers.
- It appears that the site gets a lot of use because the containers were full.
- Both glass and paper seemed to have the same amount of content.
- The labels on the containers were hard to read due to the large amount of graffiti on all of the containers covering their signs.
- The containers were contaminated with several different non-recyclable materials.
- The area itself contained a lot of rubbish and was not well maintained.
- Ample non-recyclable material was left behind, such as cardboard.
- Car park closes and is locked when store is closed. The hours of operation of the store make it so the recycling site is not always accessible.
Dingwall Road Car Park
Dingwall Car Park

Directions from East Croydon:
From the East Croydon Station, walk out the side door onto George Street. Turn onto the first street on the right, Dingwall Road. Continue walking down this street to the circle. The recycling centre is located outside of the Dingwall Road Car Park.

Recommendations:
- Add a rubbish bin.
- New paint for the containers.
- Label for the paper containers.
- Pictures of what can and cannot be recycled in each container.
The centre is easy to find using road maps and the one posted sign.
It appears the centre gets little use since there was little to no material in any of the containers.
There is a lot of rubbish on the ground and the site was very unsanitary.
Of the two materials collected, paper had the most overall content.
The labels on the containers were new and in fairly good condition as were the containers.
Several of the containers appeared to be contaminated with many different forms of rubbish.
Fairfield Car Park
Fairfield Car Park

Directions from East Croydon:
The recycling site is located directly behind Fairfield Hall off of Park Lane and Barclay Road in the entrance of the car park.

Recommendations:
- Signs in the area to help direct to site location.
- Paint for the containers.
- New and uniform labels for several of the containers.
- Label for the paper containers.
- Add rubbish bin.
Fairfield Car Park

Day Visited: Monday
Users Present: 0
Collected Materials:
- Paper
- Glass
- Cans
- Shoes
- Clothes
- Books

- Fairly difficult to find due to the lack of signs and another car park near this one. Confusing if you do not know the car parks names.
- The site is handicap accessible and also easy to use.
- It appears that the site only receives a moderate amount of use. There is not one material that appears to get the most use at this location.
- The labels on the containers are in average condition as are the containers other than some rust on several.
- There was some contamination in a few of the containers.
- The site seems to be fairly well maintained since there was almost no litter around the containers.
Forestdale Shopping Centre Car Park
Forestdale Shopping Center Car Park

Directions from East Croydon:
Take Bus 64 from the East Croydon Station towards New Addington.
Get off at the Gravel Hill stop and walk across the street.
The recycling centre is behind Planet Spice in the Forestdale Shopping Centre Car Park.

Recommendations:
• Signs around the location to help direct people to the site.
• Add rubbish bin.
• Paint for several of the containers.
• New and uniform labels for many of the containers.
• Addition of more collection containers or more frequent collection.
Forestdale Shopping Center Car Park

- This centre was easy to find with directions and knowledge it exists. There are no signs indicating its location, and it is hidden behind a fence from view of the main road.
- The site is handicap accessible only if arriving by car since the Planet Spice entrance would be too small for a wheelchair or other handicap device.
- Through observations the centre appears to be used very often and many people were observed visiting the site.
- The paper bins had the most content in them.
- The signs on the bins were fairly new and were only in average condition. There is also graffiti on one of the bins.
- The containers did not appear to be contaminated.
- The site was sanitary and appeared to be well maintained.

Day Visited: Thursday
Users Present: 10
Collected Materials:
- Paper
- Glass
- Cans
- Shoes
- Clothes
- Books and Music
Granville Gardens Car Park
Granville Gardens Car Park

Directions from East Croydon:
Take Bus 250 from Katharine Street towards Brixton to the Hermitage Lane stop. Walk up the street across from the stop to the end. The recycling centre is on the left side of the car park.

Recommendations:
- Posted signs of the location of the site.
- Add rubbish bin.
- Paint for some of the containers.
- New and uniform labels for several of the containers.
Granville Gardens Car Park

Day Visited: Tuesday
Users Present: 2
Collected Materials:
- Paper
- Glass
- Cans
- Shoes
- Clothes

- The site was fairly difficult to find due to no posted signs.
  - It is approximately 100 yards away from the Norbury Park Entrance Recycling Centre.
- It seems to get little use although the area is very littered and unsanitary.
- Almost all of the containers were contaminated.
- The can and glass containers had the most content.
- The labels on the containers were in average condition and the containers themselves were in fairly good condition.
- The area surrounding the site was really dirty and there were many plastic bags and rubbish.
- Cardboard was left to be picked up; however it is not collected at this site.
Hamsey Green

Directions from East Croydon:
Take Bus 403 from Park Lane in East Croydon towards Sanderstead or Warlingham. Get off at the bus stop labeled Hamsey Green.

Recommendations:
- Add rubbish bin.
- New uniform labels for the containers.
- Paint for several of the containers.
Hamsey Green

Day Visited: Thursday
Users Present: 3
Collected Materials:
- Paper
- Glass
- Shoes
- Clothes

- The site was easy to find due to signs and its visibility from the street.
- Due to the location, the area was handicap accessible and would be easy for anyone to use.
- It appeared that the site is used on a regular basis because several people were observed using it.
- Glass and paper had the most content in the bins and there was little to no contamination.
- The containers were clearly labeled and were in good condition as were the containers.
- The site appeared to be well maintained, although there was some litter around the area.
High Street

Directions from East Croydon:
From High Street take Bus 407 to the Purley High Street stop.

Recommendations:
- Add more rubbish bins.
- Paint for almost all of the containers.
- New labels on every container.
The site was not difficult to find due to its location by the road on a meridian; thus seen from traffic in both directions easily.

- It is handicap accessible and easy to use.
- The use of the site was not clear, although it appeared that the location gets moderate use due to recyclable volume.
- Paper is the most recycled material as the bin was nearly full when observed the day before it was scheduled for emptying.
- The labels on some of the containers were old and difficult to read.
- Containers were in average condition with only minimal graffiti.
- The site was fairly clean and it was noted that there is a rubbish container present at the site.
- Parking sign could be misleading: “bottle bank” - advertises only bottle deposits.
Lion Green Road Car Park
Lion Green Road Car Park

Directions from East Croydon:
From the East Croydon Station take the train to Reedham Station.
Walk to Brighton Road and find a bus stop with Bus 60 heading towards Old Coulsdon.
Take this bus until the Lion Green Road stop.
Once in the Lion Green Car Park, walk to the back lot to find the recycling centre on the left.

Recommendations:
• More signs around the area, especially once in the car park (large car park).
• Add rubbish bin.
• New paint for the containers to remove graffiti.
• Uniform and new labels for most of the containers, possibly with pictures of accepted recyclable materials.
Day Visited: Tuesday
Users Present: 0
Collected Materials:
- Paper
- Glass
- Cans
- Shoes
- Clothes
- Books and Music

- The site was difficult to find because there were no signs and the site is located in the back of a large car park off a side street.
- Once to the location the site is easy to use and handicap accessible.
- It appears that it gets a lot of use since most of the containers were partially or completely full.
- There was some contamination between containers.
- Glass was the most recycled material based on observation of the site.
- The labels on the container were new although many had been vandalized.
- The containers were in fair condition due to the graffiti, dirt, and rust.
- There was a lot of litter around the area, mostly in the form of plastic bags left behind. This site is not well maintained.
Monks Orchard Green
Monks Orchard Green

Directions from East Croydon:
Take Bus 119 from the East Croydon Station or from Katharine Street towards Shirley.
Get off at the West Wickham stop.
The recycling centre is located within walking distance from this stop.

Recommendations:
- Add rubbish bins.
- New paint on many of the containers.
- Uniform labels on some containers.
- Paper container needs a bigger label.
Monks Orchard Green

Day Visited: Tuesday
Users Present: 0
Materials Collected:
• Paper
• Glass
• Cans
• Shoes
• Clothes

- The site was easy to find due to posted recycling centre signs.
- The area is handicap accessible and also easy to maneuver between the containers.
- Based on the amount of material in the containers it seems that the site gets moderate use.
- The paper containers had the most content, although all of the containers had some contamination.
- The labels on the containers were in average condition as were the containers themselves other than extensive rust on the clothing bank.
- The site was fairly clean with minimal litter in the surrounding area.
Norbury Park Entrance

Directions from East Croydon:
Take the train from the East Croydon Station to the Norbury Station.
Walk out the main entrance of the station and the recycling centre is across the street in front of the park entrance on Norbury Avenue.

Recommendations:
• Possible removal of this site due to close proximity to larger site.
• Add rubbish bin.
• Paint for the containers.
• Labels for the paper container and new labels for the glass container.
Norbury Park Entrance

Day Visited: Tuesday
Users Present: 1
Materials Collected:
- Paper
- Glass
- Shoes

- The site was very easy to find due to its location right outside the station.
- It is handicap accessible and easy to use.
- The site seems to get little use since the containers were near empty when observed.
- Paper appeared to have the most content.
- The labels were in fairly good condition and so were the containers.
- They also appeared to have little to no contamination.
- The site was relatively clean upon first observations, but when it was revisited there was much litter and the site was very unsanitary (refer to two pictures near bottom).
Old Lodge Lane
Old Lodge Lane

Directions from East Croydon:
From the East Croydon Station take the train to Reedham Station.
From the Reedham Station take Bus 455 to the last stop which is called Canon Hill.
The recycling centre is located across the street from the Wattenden School at the end of the road.

Recommendations:
- Add rubbish bin.
- Paint for the containers.
- New labels for all of the bins, along with pictures of allowable materials.
Old Lodge Lane

Day Visited: Thursday
Users Present: 0
Collected Materials:
- Paper
- Cans

- The site was easy to find and there were several signs to indicate its location.
- It appears that the site gets a lot of use or is just not well maintained. The containers were full and from given information the containers should have been emptied the day prior to the observations.
- The labels on the containers are not in good condition although they are legible.
- The containers themselves are in average condition.
- All of the containers were contaminated with several different materials.
- The site itself had a lot of litter surrounding the area. Being next to a school, this is an unsanitary representation of a recycling site.
Purley Way Sainsbury Car Park
Purley Way Sainsbury Car Park

Directions from East Croydon:
Accessible by car: Located in the Sainsbury Car Park at the Purely Way Centre. Enter car park. Take first right and recycling centre is located to your immediate right.

Recommendations:
- Add rubbish bin.
- Either more paper bins or more frequent emptying.
- New labels for all of the bins, along with pictures of allowable materials to avoid contamination.
Day Visited: Friday  
Users Present: 1  
Collected Materials:  
- Paper  
- Glass  
- Cans  
- Shoes  
- Books and Music  

- The site is reachable by car only due to the location close to a large highway.  
- The area is handicap accessible and easy to maneuver around.  
- It appears to get a lot of use since most of the containers were over half full.  
- Many of the paper containers were overflowing.  
- The labels on the containers were new and in average condition as were the containers.  
- Many of the containers were contaminated and people were seen placing plastic bottles in the can containers.  
- The site is very dirty and unsanitary. There is rubbish all around the site.
Reedham Railway Station Car Park
Reedham Railway Station Car Park

Directions from East Croydon:
From East Croydon Station take the train to the Reedham Station. The recycling centre is located in the car park.

Recommendations:
- Add up-to-date containers.
- Labels on the containers.
- Replace faded recycling centre signs.
Reedham Railway Station Car Park

Day Visited: Thursday  
Users Present: 0  
Materials Collected:  
• Glass

- There were many signs for recycling centres when approaching the car park, but once in the lot there were no more signs and the collection site was not obvious.
Sainsbury’s Car Park—Selsdon

Directions from East Croydon:
Take the train from the East Croydon Station to the South Croydon Station. From the station walk to a bus stop containing Bus 412. Take Bus 412 until the Selsdon Park Hotel Stop. The recycling centre is located across the street in the Sainsbury Car Park on the meridian.

Recommendations:
- More signs posted directing to site.
- Add rubbish bins.
- Paint for the containers to remove graffiti.
- Bigger more explicit labels on paper containers.
- Uniform labels on containers.
Sainsbury’s Car Park—Selsdon

Day Visited: Thursday
Users Present: 0
Collected Materials:
- Paper
- Glass
- Cans
- Shoes
- Clothes
- Books and Music
- Inkjets

- The site was very easy to find due to the description found on the map given to residents by the council.
- It is very easy to use but is not handicap accessible due to the raised platform the receptacles are situated on. They would be difficult to reach from a wheelchair.
- From looking at the contents of the bins, the site appears to be used often.
- The most popular material found at this location is glass and paper.
- The labels were consistent with the newer signs and are in good condition.
- The containers are also in good condition and the site is sanitary and well maintained.
Staples - Whitehorse Road
Staples Car Park

**Recommendations:**

- Add posted signs to the location.
- Add rubbish bins.
- Paint for all of the containers.
- New and uniform labels for the containers.

**Directions from East Croydon:**

Take Bus 75 from Park Lane heading towards Selhurst.
Get off on Whitehorse Road.
The Staples is located within walking distance from this stop.
Staples Car Park

Day Visited: Monday
Users Present: 0
Collected Materials:
- Paper
- Glass
- Cans
- Shoes
- Inkjets

- The site was fairly easy to find even though there were no posted signs.
- The site is very open and handicap accessible.
- It appeared that the site gets some use due to the levels of materials in the containers.
- Glass had the most material.
- The labels on the containers are in good condition.
- The containers were in average condition, many of them contain rust and loss of paint.
- Many of the containers were contaminated, especially plastics.
- The site was sanitary and fairly clean.
St. Helens Crescent
St. Helens Crescent

**Directions from East Croydon:**
Take the train from the East Croydon Station to the Thornton Heath Station. From this station take Bus 50 towards Streatham Commons and get off at the St. Helen’s Road stop. Walk around the crescent to the recycling centre location near the point of the crescent.

**Recommendations:**
- Post signs pointing out the location.
- Add rubbish bin.
- Paint the containers.
- Labels on the paper containers.
- Pictures of what can be recycled at this site.
St. Helens Crescent

Day Visited: Tuesday
Guests Present: 0
Materials Collected:
- Paper
- Glass

- The site was easy to find, but there were no signs posted for the location.
- The site is handicap accessible for the most part. There is one paper container that would be hard to get to, but there is another that can be used as well.
- The site appears to get little use since the containers were not very full, although there was some use of the site during the observation time.
- Paper had the most content in the containers.
- The labels on the containers were legible, although there was some graffiti.
- The containers were in semi-good condition, but there was rust and paint loss.
- Items not collected at this recycling site were left to be recycled.
- The site was not clean and there was a lot of broken glass in the area, which produces a large safety risk.
- When revisiting the site, previous rubbish was picked up. However new rubbish was present.
Tesco - Brighton Road
Tesco Car Park

Directions from East Croydon:
From Park Lane take Bus 455 towards Purley to the Purley Tesco stop. The recycling centre is located in the far end of the car park near the gas station.

Recommendations:
- More posted signs in the area due to the large size of the car park.
- Add rubbish bins.
- New paint for several of the containers.
- Labels to replace several old or hard to read current labels.
- Pictures showing what can be recycled in each container.
Tesco Car Park

Day Visited: Tuesday
Users Present: 3
Collected Materials:
- Paper
- Glass
- Cans
- Shoes
- Clothes
- Inkjets

- The site was easy to find after a close look at the car park.
- The site is handicap accessible and easy to use.
- It appears that the site receives a lot of use due to observations of people using the site and the amount of materials seen in the containers.
- Glass and paper had the most content in the containers.
- All the containers are clearly labeled and in average condition.
- Several containers have rust and chipped paint, but they are otherwise in average condition.
- Several of the containers were contaminated with non-recyclable materials.
- The site was fairly clean and but had litter around the area.
- There was also a lot of broken glass in the area that is a safety risk.
Thornton Heath Clocktower
Thornton Heath Clocktower

**Directions from East Croydon:**
Take the train from the East Croydon Station to the Thornton Heath Station. The clocktower is located at the end of the street with the recycling centre several yards past it.

**Recommendations:**
- Add rubbish bin.
- Paint several of the containers.
Thornton Heath Clocktower

- The site was very easy to find due to sign placement.
- The site is easy to use and handicap accessible.
- There appears to be some use of the site being mostly glass.
- The signs were in very good condition as were the containers.
- There seemed to be little to no contamination of the containers.
- The area around the site was very littered, especially with plastic bags. Being in a high traffic area may be a factor.
Tudor Rose Public House Car Park
Tudor Rose Public House Car Park

Directions from East Croydon:
From High Street take Bus 466 to the Old Coulsdon Tudor Rose stop.

Recommendations:
- Add rubbish bin.
- Paint for several of the containers.
- New uniform labels for containers.
Tudor Rose Public House Car Park

Day Visited: Thursday
Users Present: 0
Materials Collected:
- Paper
- Glass
- Clothes

- The location was easy to find due to a sign that led directly to the site.
- The location was enclosed and the containers were arranged so that the area would not be handicap accessible.
- It appears that the site receives some use and glass had the most overall content.
- The labels on the containers were old and fairly worn down.
- The containers were in decent condition other than the loss of paint on several areas.
- There did not appear to be much contamination between the containers.
- The site was very dirty and unsanitary. There was litter and plastic bags all over the entire area.
Waitrose Car Park
Waitrose Car Park

Directions from East Croydon:
Take Bus 403 from Park Lane in East Croydon towards Warlingham or Sanderstead to the Sanderstead Recreation Ground stop.
This stop is at the front end of the Waitrose; the recycling centre can be found across the entrance in the car park towards the left.

Recommendations:
• Add rubbish bin.
• Paint for some of the containers.
• Labels for the paper containers.
• Move the containers located in front of the shoe container blocking its access.
Waitrose Car Park

Day Visited: Tuesday
Users Present: 0
Collected Materials:
- Paper
- Glass
- Cans
- Shoes
- Clothes

- The site is easy to find and is clearly labeled as a recycling centre in the car park.
- It is accessible for the handicapped and also easy to use.
  - One of the shoe containers was blocked and unable to be used.
- There appeared to be some usage of the site and paper had the most overall content.
- The containers are labeled with signs in average condition.
- Containers themselves are in fairly good condition.
- They all contained only materials accepted by the council.
- There was some litter around the containers, but overall the site was kept in good condition.
Sainsbury Car Park - Westow Street
Sainsbury Car Park—Westow Street

**Directions from East Croydon:**
Take the train from the East Croydon Station to Streatham Station.
From the station and take Bus 249 towards Crystal Palace to the Westow Park stop.
Walk from this stop to the Sainsbury’s up the street.
The recycling centre can be found in car park (outside, not in the garage).

**Recommendations:**
- Add another rubbish bin to the site.
- New paint for some of the containers.
- Labels for the paper containers.
This location was very easy to find because there were several posted signs.

The area where the site is located is too compact for handicap accessibility.

The site appears to receive a lot of use.

Glass and paper were the most recycled materials observed.

The labels on the bins were in fairly good condition.

The bins were also in good condition.

The containers did not appear to be contaminated.

The site had some broken glass and litter around the area making it unsafe and not well maintained.
Sainsbury Car Park - Whitehorse Lane
Sainsbury Car Park—Whitehorse Lane

Directions from East Croydon:
Take Bus 468 towards Elephant and Castle until the Park Road stop. The recycling centre is located at the far end of the car park.

Recommendations:
- Replace faded posted sign and post a few more.
- Add rubbish bin.
- Paint for many of the bins.
- Return the paper containers to the usual green color (they were green and painted over in blue).
- New labels for several of the containers.

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Sainsbury Car Park—Whitehorse Lane

Day Visited: Tuesday
Users Present: 8
Materials Collected:
- Paper
- Glass
- Cans
- Shoes
- Clothes
- Inkjets

- The site was easy to locate, although the posted sign is worn away and bent.
- The site was easy to use and handicap accessible.
- From observation of container content and actual use of the site, it appears that this site gets moderate use.
- Glass had the most content out of all of the containers on site.
- The labels on the containers are in average condition as were the containers themselves.
- There was some contamination of the containers.
- The site had a lot of litter in the surrounding area and many people had just left bags full of recyclables outside of the containers.
- This was one of few sites seen with a “facts” sheet on bin.