

23rd – 30th - November European Week for Waste Reduction

Allotments as pioneers of sustainability

The **European Week for Waste Reduction** is an initiative that takes place every year in November and raises awareness of the responsible use of resources. The aim is to prevent waste before it is created – through smart everyday decisions, sustainable consumption habits and creative solutions.

Allotments play a key role in this. They are not only places of relaxation but also centres for environmentally conscious action. Here, the circular economy is put into practice:

- **Composting instead of waste – garden waste is turned into valuable humus that nourishes the soil and replaces chemical fertilisers.**
- **Home-grown produce instead of packaging waste** – fruit and vegetables from your own garden reduce plastic packaging and transport distances.
- **Upcycling and reuse** – old materials are turned into new beds, climbing aids or decorative elements.

In addition, allotment gardens promote **biodiversity** and contribute to **climate protection**: every square metre of green space binds CO₂, provides habitat for insects and supports local biodiversity.

European Waste Reduction Week invites all allotment gardeners to showcase their ideas:

- **Compost workshops**
- **Plant and seed exchanges**
- **Campaigns to reduce plastic in the garden**

This is how a small garden can make a big contribution to a sustainable future.

