

GET YOUR WASTE TOGETHER

Waste happens but it doesn't have to. Follow the ranks below and see what you can do to avoid producing excess waste.



1

RETHINK

The U.S. produces 30% of the world's waste but is only 4% of the world population. It's time to rethink your role in the story of waste. Each of us is responsible for the waste we create and where it ends up. It all starts with you and a new mindset.

REFUSE

2 Prevent making waste in the first place and avoid things you don't need. Say "no, thank you" to single-use items, impractical promotional freebies, overly packaged products and other short-lived non-necessities.



REDUCE

3 Adopt new habits to minimize resources used everyday. Identify items in your life that produce the most waste and swap them for reusable ones. Using and caring for reusable items long-term will consistently help you reduce waste.

REUSE

4 Get crafty! Repurpose items for other uses; this includes repairing things you already own in order to lessen consumption of new materials and natural resources. Donating also gives items a new life for reuse.



ROT

5 Roughly around 40-50% of your waste is currently compostable. Through the accelerated decomposition process of composting food scraps, yard waste, and select organics, you can make nutrient-rich soil amendment.

RECYCLE

6 Help turn existing items into new products and reduce the need for additional natural raw resources like fiber (trees), fossil fuels, metals, and glass. Don't forget to buy recycled products in order to close the loop.



RECOVER

7 Garbage that is not recyclable or compostable still has potential. Some recovery processes include anaerobic digestion, gasification, pyrolysis, and incineration *with* energy recovery which generate fuels, heat, and power from waste.

DISPOSE

8 This is our last resort when it comes to waste in its story. Garbage at this level can either go to a landfill or be incinerated *without* energy recovery.

