



Think Globally. Act Locally

Remember that the first tier of the environmentally sustainable waste management hierarchy is reduction. Shop with the environment in mind. Buy in bulk and look for recyclable containers. Avoid Hazardous products like petroleum based bug or weed killers. Make purchases with the goal to repair and reuse rather than consuming and trashing.

- Be sure to close the recycling loop every time the opportunity presents itself. Plastic lumber and building materials, tissues and paper towels, recycled paper and many office products are now available with recycled content. Ask for them if you can't find them.
- Don't forget to reduce your organic waste, too! Utilize your communities yard waste collection program. Compost your yard clippings and food waste in your backyard and "grasscycle" or let your lawn clippings lay rather than bagging them.
- Extra address labels can be used for labeling CD's, movies, books, videos, or any of your other personal belongings.
- Use wire hangers from the dry cleaners to remove static from clothing. This can be done by running the long side over your pants, or other articles of clothing.
- Use empty matchbooks to secure threaded needles for a convenient portable sewing kit.
- Reuse carrier bags when shopping or as bin bags or trash can liners around the house.
- Scrap paper can be used for notes and sketches; reuse as much as possible. Make sure to recycle when finished using it.
- Newspaper, cardboard, and bubble wrap make useful packing materials when moving, or to store fragile items.
- Use empty food containers (butter, cool whip) for everyday storage purposes.
- Avoid buying items in single serve containers. Bulk packaging is much more cost effective.
- Reuse fabric softener sheets until there is no longer a scent to them.

