



## Quick and Easy Tips for Reducing Waste

*Throwing things away when we are done with them wastes valuable materials and energy causes pollution and contributes to climate change. Creating less waste can save you money and is better for the environment.*

### **1. Smart Shopping**

Avoid disposable products and choose durable products that can be repaired, reused and recycled.

### **2. Recycle**

Check with local government for materials that can be recycled, which usually includes paper/cardboard, aluminum cans, glass, scrap metals, oil, batteries, and plastic bottles.

### **3. Re-chargeable Batteries**

Invest in a set of rechargeable batteries and a charger; you'll reduce waste, save resources like steel, and save money in the long run.

### **4. Say no to bottled water!**

Using water purification at home, and buying reusable water bottles rather than disposable plastic bottles helps reduce waste to landfill in your community.

### **5. Cooking with local organic foods**

Choosing locally produced foods, instead of packaged ones reduces waste and is more nutritious.

### **6. Donating your used items**

Send used items which are still in good condition to second-hand stores or flea markets or donate them to charity.

### **7. Bring your own cutlery!**

Bring your own cutlery and refuse disposable chopsticks, forks, plates and mugs.

### **8. Fruits and Vegetables**

Buy loose/bulk fruits and vegetables from a local market or grocer store rather than highly packaged goods.

### **9. No Plastic Bags!**

Plastic bags make up a large portion of landfill waste. Bring your own reusable cloth bags.

### **10. Smart Print**

Print only if you need to print, and use both sides of the paper.

## 11. Compost Your Organic Food Waste

Instead of throwing out uneaten food, save it and turn it into compost, which can be used to fertilize your flowers and vegetables.

## 12. Minimize Packaging

The simplest way to reduce packing is to buy less; choose items with the least amount of packaging possible. Tell stores you want less packaging.

## 13. E-Billing

Set up automatic payments with your bank for monthly payments for gas, electricity, water, even insurance, and ask the bank to send your statements through email.

## 14. Public Education

Educate people at work and school and in your community about local waste management issues and solutions.

## 15. Volunteer with Cleanup

Volunteer to clean up roads and parks, even just picking up one piece of trash from the ground helps.

## 16. Computers and Electronics

Rather than buying a new computer to keep up with the times, buy new parts to upgrade your current computer. Safely dispose of all electronic waste, computers, cell phones etc.

## 17. Reduce Toxic Waste

Replace toxic housekeeping products with natural, healthy products.

## 18. Break the paper towel/napkin habit

Use clothes and sponges instead of paper towel and napkins.

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