

Environmental Programs

Solid Waste Regulations

What You Can Do To Reduce Garbage

Reducing the amount of garbage you produce is a simple and effective way of saving public money and contributing to a cleaner environment. Here's how you can do your part.

20 Tips for Reducing Waste

1. Buy only what you need to do the job.
2. Deliver household waste oil and used vehicle batteries to a facility that is permitted to collect special waste.
3. Exchange or give unwanted material to friends and neighbours who can use them.
4. Return for a refund all recyclable beverage containers such as aluminum cans, liquor containers, plastic bottles, and tetra-packs.
5. Take your recyclables to your nearest recycling centre (tin cans, milk jugs, glass jars and bottles, printing and writing paper, newspapers, magazines, old telephone books, corrugated cardboard).
6. Use re-refined motor oil in your vehicle.
7. Use rechargeable batteries.
8. Avoid buying over-packaged items such as products excessively wrapped in plastic.
9. Purchase goods such as cereal, rice, pasta, and nuts in bulk. Buy concentrated forms of items such as detergent.
10. Buy items in recyclable containers made of aluminum, steel, glass, paper or cardboard.
11. Use the backside of paper and envelopes for notes, or reuse the envelopes.
12. Borrow or rent seldom-used items rather than buying them.
13. Share magazines, newspapers, old toys, and other used items with friends and family, or donate them to a local hospital, senior citizen's home, or social service organization.
14. Keep a cloth towel next to the sink, instead of using paper towels.
15. Plan meals carefully so that leftovers are not thrown in the garbage.
16. Compost organic materials and use a soil conditioner.
17. Use cloth shopping bags instead of disposable plastic bags; reuse plastic grocery bags and cardboard boxes.
18. Try to fix and mend things first before replacing them.
19. Buy used items from second-hand stores and garage sales.
20. Use old newspaper to wrap your birthday and Christmas presents.

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