

Waste Reduction Facts and Tips





There is no such thing as away.
When you throw something
away, it must go somewhere.

Annie Leonard

quartzfancy



All litter eventually leads to the ocean

Any discarded item will eventually be washed into a waterway if not collected.

Locally litter is washed into local streams. It then travels into the Cumberland River where it eventually meets the Mississippi River and discharged into the Gulf of Mexico.





Even waste in landfills is not gone

Landfills must be monitored for 30 years after closure to ensure waste does not pose a threat to the local environment.

Regulators can request additional years of monitoring if a need arises.



184,123,740 lbs.

The amount of waste brought to Bi-County's main landfill in 2018
Approximately 970 lbs. of waste per person



90,000

Additional residents expected by 2040

87,300,300 lbs.

Additional yearly waste by 2040

271,423,740 lbs.

Total projected waste to Bi-County in 2040



271,423,740 lbs. is the same as...

659



590



2





Waste Reduction



Food Purchasing

- Plan meals in advance
- Use apps to meal plan and create shopping lists
- Only buy what is on your list
- Shop local
- Freeze before it goes bad

Keep Instead of Throwing Away

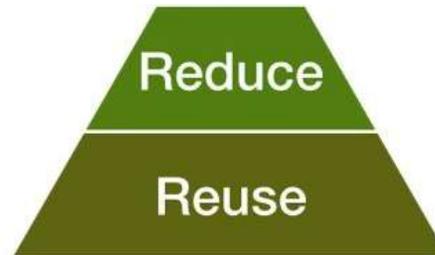
- Ask if something can be used again before throwing away
- Search online for ways to upcycle

Perform a Waste Audit

- Look at a day's or week's worth of waste to see what items it contains
- Waste audit details can be found online or email cmsommers@mcgtn.net for step-by-step instructions
- Challenge yourself to reduce your waste



Waste Reduction



Purchase Reusable

- Buy items that can be used multiple times or could be used for another purpose
- Avoid single-use packaging and bags, especially plastic

Community & Thrift Shops

- Look for items that you need that are used
- Furniture, clothing, home décor and toys are all items that you can find locally (Clarksville Recyclers Facebook)
- Donate your own items that are in good condition instead of throwing away

Smart Shopping

- When you do need to make a purchase buy an item that has been recycled.
- Combine deliveries
- Buy local
- Ask yourself if you really need the item before every purchase



Reduction and Reuse Ideas



Replaces paper towels

Caps to keep fruit fresh longer



Reusable coffee filters



Washable makeup remover pads



Reusable sandwich bags



Washable pet pads



Reduction and Reuse Ideas



Keep butter wrappers and use to butter pans to keep food from sticking



Keep cereal bags and use as piping bags

Beeswax covering to replace plastic wrap



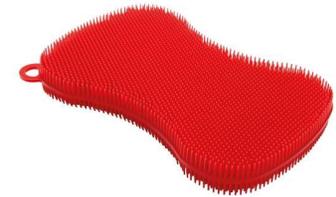
Egg cartons make great organizers



Single socks are great for dusting



Dryer balls replace dryer sheets



Silicone sponges last longer and do not trap bacteria or odors