



How can I make less trash to begin with?

Let's Call it Garbage In/Garbage Out

Drive or walk through your neighborhood on trash pick-up day and take a good look at how much people throw away. Where did it all come from?

If you bring less into your house in the first place, you'll find that you end up having less to throw away.

Less garbage in means less garbage out.



**RHODE ISLAND
RESOURCE RECOVERY
CORPORATION**

Recycling Department

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The Rhode Island Resource Recovery Corporation (RIRRC) is a non-profit, quasi-public agency that was created by the General Assembly in 1974 to serve the solid waste management needs of the state. RIRRC is dedicated to reducing reliance on landfilling through resource conservation programs such as waste reduction, recycling and composting.

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Here's some news you can use.

How to reduce waste



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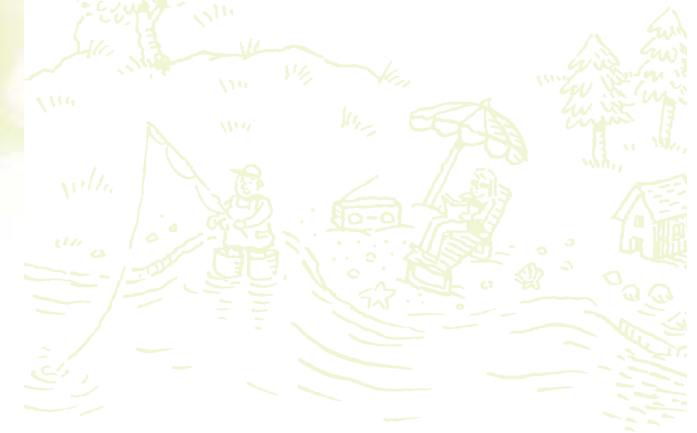
You can make a mountain into a molehill.

The Good News

By reducing waste and participating in your local Recycling Program, you keep valuable materials out of the landfill.

The Bad News

As good as this sounds on average, residents still throw out 45 pounds of trash per person every week. Rhode Island is a small state with a big landfill – and it's growing bigger. When a landfill is full, there is not much else that land can be used for, and it will be there forever! Recycling is a good first step, but it doesn't solve the entire problem.



So where can you begin?

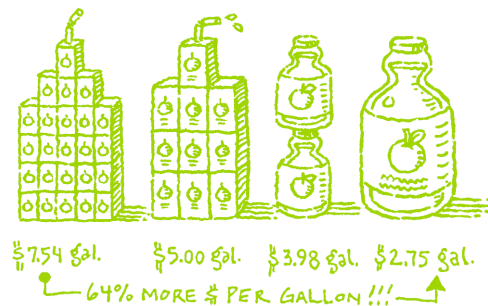
With smart shopping! Most of your trash comes from the supermarket. Packaging and food waste account for more than 40% of household trash! So by shopping differently:

1. You bring less stuff into your house that becomes garbage and
2. You actually save money!

Here's how:

1. Smaller is not always better

Most people shop for cost and convenience. Usually, convenience wins out. Let's take apple juice...



Little sizes are popular but they're also the most wasteful. Larger packages are more efficient than smaller ones because as the packages get bigger, you get more product and less packaging.

Of course, you don't want to buy more than you can eat, but the idea is to buy the largest size without wasting food. Over-packaged products are environmentally and economically wasteful.

2. Impulse buying is wasteful

Beware of catchy ads and "special sales." It's no bargain if you don't really need it! So before you go shopping, plan ahead, make a list and stick to it!

**BUY 1
GET 1
FREE!**

3. Buy for the long haul

When you choose to buy more durable products, you may pay more initially, but you will be saving in the long run. A longer-lasting product prevents trash because you will not buy a replacement as quickly.

4. Disposable products aren't really so convenient for the environment

Paper napkins, paper plates and plastic utensils are just a few examples of products that use a lot of natural resources and end up in the landfill after just one use. Using durable and reusable products and containers means less trash. Plus, durables save precious natural resources.



5. Keep the earth in mind

Think about where your purchases ultimately come from and where they will end up. At first, it may not be easy to remember to cut down on your waste. But if you just take the first step, soon you'll see that it's easy to make trash prevention an everyday part of your life!

What's in a paper cup?

When we make too much trash, we don't use natural resources efficiently. By using less stuff, we become better at getting the same value from fewer resources. The result will save materials, energy and money – and reduce pollution associated with manufacturing, transporting and disposing of all that stuff. Think about a paper cup. Quick and easy to use, even quicker and easier to throw away. But here's the behind the scenes look at the paper cup:

And you thought it was just a cup you were throwing away!

