

Making a Conference a Zero-Waste Event

Turning Waste into Resources

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Projects

- Education
- Zero Waste Community Roadmap
- B Impact Assessment
- Good Company Training
- Waste Assessments/Audits
- Energy Star Portfolio Manager
- Water Audits
- C & D Waste Management
- Green Team Development
- Green Team Roundtables

When did it become OK to Waste?

"People throw all sorts of good stuff away and I thought no point in having that in a landfill when I can do something with it."

~ Jerry Rawles



Zero Waste Is...

- A goal that is ethical, economical, efficient and visionary to guide people in changing their lifestyles and practices to emulate sustainable natural cycles, and...
- Where all discarded materials are designed to become resources for others to use
- A Journey, NOT a destination

“A picture is worth a thousand words...”



How many products do you use...



In one day?



In one month?



In one year?



Why Zero Waste?

**The average American throws away
1,600 pounds of trash each year
That means by age 25 you've thrown
away 40,000 pounds**



Why Zero Waste?

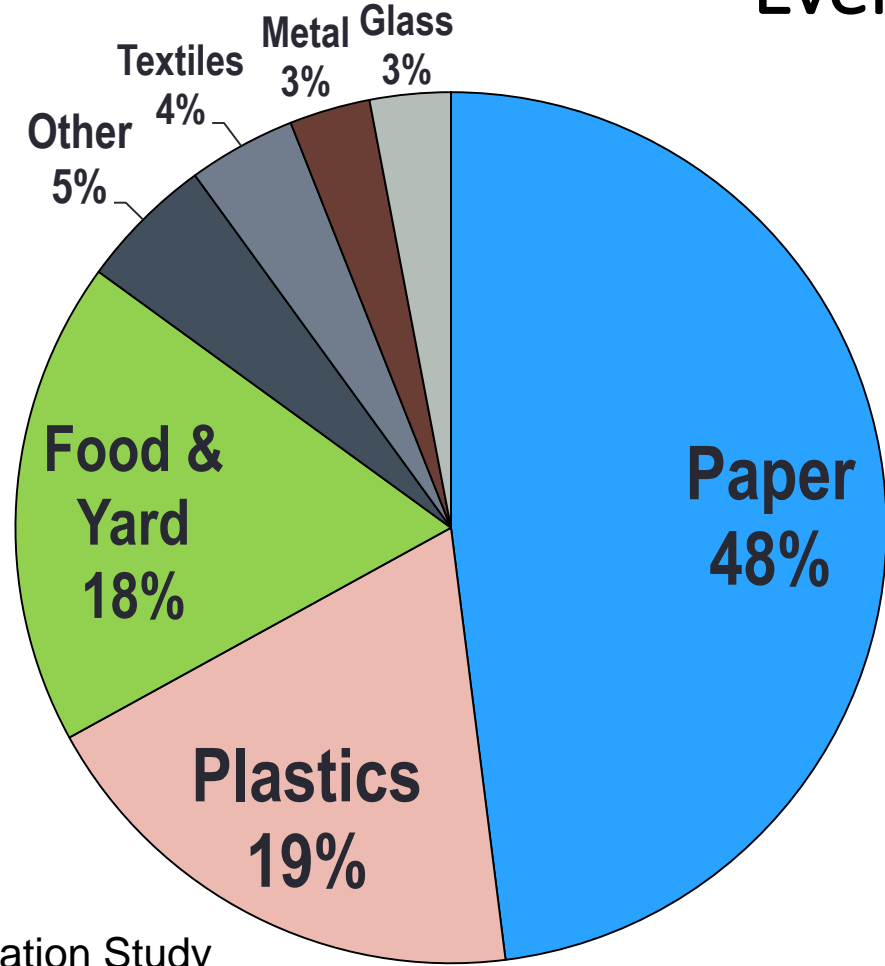
By the time you're 50 you've thrown away
80,000 pounds

– or the weight of a Boeing 737



And that's just one person!

Nebraskans Throw Away \$137 Million Worth of Resources Every Year!



Key Components

- Source reduction
- Product stewardship
- Reusable
- Recyclable or compostable
- Liquid diversion
- Landfill as a last resort



The Event Planning Stage

- Create a green RFP for the venue
- Vendor and caterer requirements

Pre-Event Publicity

- Registration
- Invitations

During the Event

- Check-in and stage announcements
- Have volunteers!



Create Event Requirements

Create a ZW information packet & contract

- List of acceptable items
- List of banned items
- Food guidelines
- Use of sorting cans



Areas to evaluate

- Destination
- Event venue
- Food and beverage
- Exhibition production
- Transportation
- Accommodations
- Marketing and communications
- Office procedures



STEP 2: DRAG AND DROP ITEMS ON THE LEFT
TO THE SIGN ON THE RIGHT

Drag item to the sign on the right



Empty

Empty

Empty

Empty

Empty

Empty

Empty

Empty

Empty

Empty

Empty

Empty

RECYCLE

可回收的 **PAPEL, BOTELLAS Y LATAS**

Insert optional text here

CUSTOMIZE YOUR OWN SIGN:
SfEnvironment.org/signmaker



SAVE AS PDF OOPS! START OVER NEED A DIFFERENT ITEM? HAVING TROUBLE?




<http://www.sfenvironment.org/signmaker>

STEP 3: YOU'VE JUST CREATED AND SAVED YOUR OWN
RECYCLE SIGN (Look in your downloads folder or desktop)



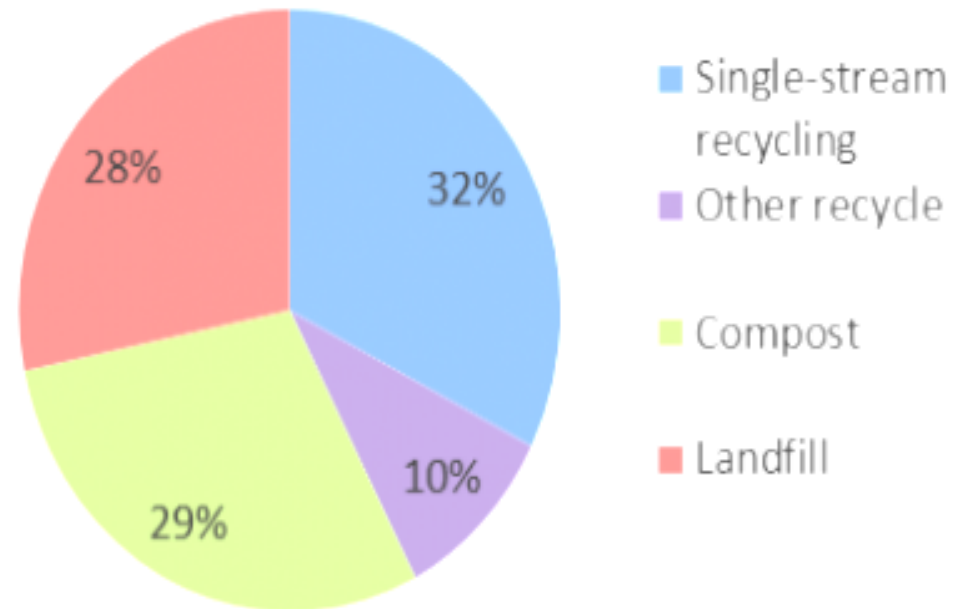
CLICK HERE FOR MORE RECYCLING
HELP



SHARE YOUR SIGN:   

Measure What Matters

- Paper used or conserved.
- Waste/ by-products – landfilled, reused, composted or recycled.
- Water used or avoided.
- Food sourced locally and/or organic foods
- Travel modes/distance by attendees, vendors and presenters.
- GHG emissions produced or avoided.



Develop a Plan Well in Advance

**Make it easy
for Attendees**

**Volunteers make
a big difference**

Utilize good signage

Measure your results





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