

In partnership with:



“Zero Food Waste: Actions for Edmonds”

Sustainable Cities Partnership
Project for Fall Quarter 2016

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Executive Summary

The City of Edmonds has adopted a long-term Zero Waste goal. As a preliminary step toward this goal, Edmonds has chosen to focus on the issue of food waste at public events. We propose to implement a Zero Waste Agreement and create educational tools for the public to encourage proper disposal of food waste at public events and to help Edmonds achieve their Zero Waste goal.

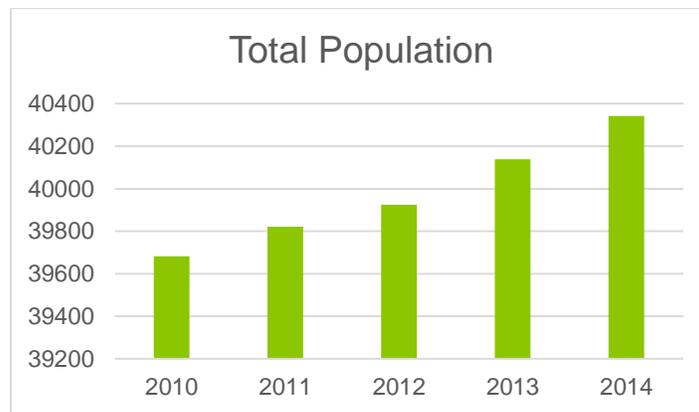
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Overview

Waste is an expanding global problem caused by a growing population and increasing consumption. Now (2016) in a world with 7.5 billion people, we generate 7-10 billion tons of waste each year. By the end of the century, global population is predicted to rise up to 11 billion people. This means more waste generation in the future.

The U.S. is not exempt from this problem. Our national economy is based on extracting resources, manufacturing and distributing products, using and discarding products and disposing them in landfills, or even worse, in the oceans. This system encourages excessive waste and does not take into account the full environmental and social costs of this activity. The result is increasing depletion of natural resources, increasing greenhouse gas emissions, and deteriorating air and water pollution - all of which are environmentally unsustainable and costly to society.



Graph 1 Total Population in Edmonds 2010-2014

The amount of waste generated per person each day in Edmonds, coupled with an increasing population, illustrated at graph 1¹, puts pressure on our already strained regional waste management system. Graph 2 shows the total waste generation in the U.S. and the average per capita generation, that is about 4.38 lbs/day. In 2009, each person in Snohomish County generated 3.53 lbs/day. The Edmonds community can help solve these problems through a variety of regional and local actions that seek to reduce the amount of waste generated, and increase the amount recycled, recovered for reuse and composted.

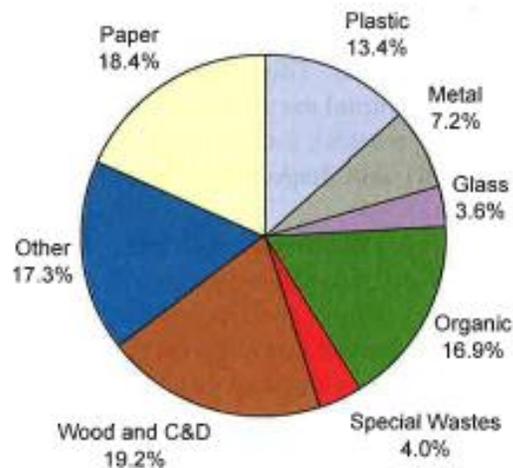
¹ Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey

Statement of Need

"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, where all discarded materials are designed to become resources for others to use. ...Implementing Zero Waste will eliminate all discharges to land, water or air that are a threat to planetary, human, animal or plant health." (Zero Waste International Alliance)

In April of 2016, the City Council of Edmonds adopted Zero Waste and Beyond Waste as long-term goals to prevent and eliminate waste and pollution in the extraction, manufacture, transportation, storage, use, reuse and recycling of materials.

To achieve this goal, the city needs first to identify quantitative metrics and establish dependable baseline measurements. The most recent data that we can use to make a baseline is from 2009, when a Waste Composition Study was made for Snohomish County. The study used transfer station records and information provided by the garbage haulers to determine the amount of waste disposed by different sources. Waste composition data was gathered by sorting randomly selected samples at the County's transfer stations. They classified waste into one of the five waste



Graph 2 Snohomish County Waste Composition Results

generator categories. The results and conclusion for waste quantities was that residential sources in Snohomish County disposed more waste (57.7%) than non-residential sources (42.3 %). The total amount in 2009 was 460,700 tons of waste. Waste composition results are shown in the graph 3. One of the recommendations of this study is that diversion of food waste should be considered because it was the largest single recyclable item remaining in the waste stream and it is feasible to transform food waste into composted material.

The study also shows us that Edmonds needs strategies that significantly prevent and reduce waste pollution. A strategy to achieve Zero Waste will include encouraging residents, business and agencies to use, reuse and recycle materials judiciously. Additionally, manufacturers will be encouraged to produce less toxic products and instead create durable, repairable, recycled and recyclable products. The strategy that Edmonds wants to start is to introduce an organic waste reduction program, focusing initially on public events that take place at City facilities. The higher value of the program focuses on the educational aspects, rather than the actual diversion rate potential. In the venue of public events, it is possible to get citizens engaged with the idea that food waste is not waste anymore; food waste has a potential value if we transform it into compost. Educating the public on this topic is a crucial step for Edmonds to successfully achieve the Zero Waste and Beyond Waste goals.

Project Description

The organic waste reduction program at public events in Edmonds needs to take in consideration all the stakeholders involved. For this reason, we are going to use a waste management plan approach. This is a simple and effective means to minimizing waste generation at an event. The process can bring together all the necessary information or establishing a coordinated approach to waste management including planning, doing, checking and taking corrective action, when and where necessary. (Zero Waste South Australia).

These are the goals for each event in Edmonds:

Goal 1: Reduce the amount of waste generated at Zero Waste public events.

Goal 2: Increase the amount of waste recycled and composted at Zero Waste public events.

Zero Waste Agreement

For waste to be reduced at events and venues, all associated key individuals and groups need to set goals and develop actions for waste minimization. The Zero Waste Agreement is a document that will be added to the Event Organizer Contract which will be drafted beginning of 2017. The goal of this document is to clearly outline the responsibilities of the Event Organizers and to create a standard of operations at public events regarding recycling and compost diversion and disposal.

The document is broken down in different sections. The first one talks about the roles and responsibilities of the main stakeholders, which are outlined in the table 1.

Who	Responsibilities (Proposed)
Event organizer (i.e, Chamber of Commerce)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide the on-site and final collection of compostable and recyclable materials, using designated and color-coded containers. All collection containers will feature specific signage. • Ensure that on-site containers are serviced properly and continually during the event. • Ensure that food vendors provide compostable products at the event
Commercial Food and Beverage Vendors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide compostable and recyclable food ware items during the event.
Edmonds City Recycling Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide a detailed list of the acceptable food ware items, and a list of local suppliers for the compostable items. • Optional: Provide volunteers for on-site education during the event to help patrons use the 3-container system (compost, recycle, and garbage). • Optional: Provide additional designated containers to use during the event.

Table 1 Roles and proposed responsibilities

The document also includes the accepted and unaccepted materials list, which clarifies to Event Organizers and Food Vendors what items can continue to be used at public events and which items are, or will be, no longer acceptable. This list has been created based on Cedar Grove commercially accepted materials for composting in conjunction with Edmonds Recycling Coordinator.

The agreement explains the infrastructure and educational materials available to the event organizers should they desire to use them. The Event Organizer is required to have a sufficient number of recycle and compost bins at their event. They may choose to use their own bins or they can request the use of the city’s supply of bins. Additionally, Event Organizers must provide a prominent space for a Zero Waste Booth at each event. Event Organizers can also choose to make use of Educational materials for themselves and their vendors upon request.

We ask the event organizers to specify if they will be requesting the use of the city’s supply of bins and education materials, and for them to sign an agreement form in which they plan to adhere to the guidelines of the Zero Waste Agreement. You can find the final document in Annex 2.

Education

As previously stated, the higher value of the program focuses on the educational aspects, rather than the actual diversion rate potential. Providing infrastructure (bins and signage) is necessary to create a Zero Waste event. They will help people to segregate recyclable and compostable items. But it is not enough to really educate them and generate change besides the events. We want to create environmental awareness and to teach people why is this important. We propose three more strategies to communicate and educate people in an effective way:

Zero Waste
Volunteers

Informational
Brochures

Zero Waste
Booth

Zero Waste Volunteers

Volunteers in the Zero Waste events are a key stakeholder for success. We propose two categories of volunteers: Eco Representatives (Eco Rep) and Eco Volunteers. The Eco Representatives is a long term position. They oversee, as well as run, the Zero Waste Booth. The Eco Volunteers are the short term positions that work at the Zero Waste Station to help the community sort the waste into the correct bin.

Who	Responsibilities
Eco Reps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A group of reliable volunteers that are “pros” (2-3 EcoReps per event) • These volunteers will be responsible for operating the Zero Waste interactive booth at each event • Running interactive games • Handing out prizes • Answering the public’s questions regarding Zero Waste at the event and at home • Will be a resource for the Eco Volunteers throughout the event
Eco Volunteers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will manage the Zero Waste Stations (should have at least one person per Zero Waste Station) • Will be responsible for getting trained prior to the event (must show up early to event to get trained)

Table 2 Responsibilities of Volunteers

Differences between training volunteers

	Eco Reps	Eco Volunteers
Who provides the training:	It is provided by the City Recycling Coordinator.	It is provided by the Eco Reps.
When training will happen:	Prior to the start of the volunteer position.	30 minutes early to regular arrival time to be trained on their responsibilities for the day
How much time is required:	Long-term volunteer position.	At least one event.

Table 3 Training Differences

How to Gather Volunteers

Eco Reps	Eco Volunteers
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Past volunteers who know the material well already• University students looking for an internship<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ WSU Extension, Edmonds Community College Green Team• Dedicated community members looking for a long term volunteer position	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• High school classes that require students to have a certain number of service hours a year (Science courses, ASB classes, students looking to build up their resume)<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ Make contact with high schools in Edmonds through contacting department heads, principal, ASB advisors, Career Center Advisor• Willing community members (sought out through Facebook advertising, newsletters, targeted e-mail lists, city website, and word of mouth)

Informational Brochure

“Promotion can largely affect the success of waste minimization measures implemented. If people don’t know what you are trying to achieve and why, they won’t change their behavior. If they don’t understand the different bin systems in place, how can they use them correctly?” (Zero Waste South Australia)

To communicate with the vendors and the community in an effective way, we propose at least two different brochures:

Food Vendors Brochure

Food vendors are the ones that are required to change their purchasing behavior, from cheap disposable supplies to compostable service ware. They need to know what products are available to purchase and accepted for composting, as well as why is this important. A brochure draft can be found in Annex 2.

Public Brochure

An information brochure can also be created specifically catering to the public. These will be given out at the Zero Waste Booth, our next proposal. Included in the brochure is information that will further guide the public to be sustainable consumers at public events and in their own homes. Information in the public informational brochure will include answers to questions such as:

- What is Zero Waste?
- Why Zero Waste?
- What is a compostable item?

- Where is your waste going?
- What can you do?

Zero Waste Booth

The Zero Waste Booths are the space where we put all the previous actions to work. At each event it will be mandatory to have a Zero Waste Booth to provide information to the public about composting at the event and at home. The Zero Waste Booth will be an important tool in diverting waste from the landfill and educating the public. There will be three different sources of information.

1. **Eco Reps.** These volunteers are the experts in the field of waste management and sustainability. People who want to know more about sustainable waste management past the knowledge given by the volunteers at the Zero Waste Stations will be able to ask question to the Eco Reps at the Zero Waste Booth. The Eco Reps will be able to answer question about composting and recycling from the public, as well as give information such as what is compostable, why it is important, where their waste ends up, what the Zero Waste goal is for Edmonds, etc.
2. **Packets, brochures, and flyers.** If interested, the public will be able to take home the information given by the Eco Reps in the form of a brochure, similar to the one given to the vendors. It will be information that is more specific to the public and how they can be sustainable consumers in their own home. It can explain what the Zero Waste Goal is for public events and how that can affect the community at home.
3. Information will also be given in the form of flyers or small posters that the public will be able to use at home. Food Waste Flyer (located in Annex 3) is an example of a educational tool that can be taken home and used to explain how to properly dispose of waste in a sustainable manner. [The Seven Generations Ahead](#) website has good example of a Zero Waste Booth and the type of information that should be given. There can be different flyers for children, single family home, multifamily homes, and singles who all produce different quantities of waste. Provided in Annex 4 is a portion of the Seven Generations Ahead “Zero Waste Event Planning Guide”. This type of information is important to give to not only the vendors but the public as well. It gives them an idea of what the goal is for Edmonds public events. It also informs them on different ways to reach that zero waste goal.

How will we draw people in?

Besides people with questions about waste management, the way in which we will have attraction to the Zero Waste Booth will be in the form of prizes/gifts and games. It is important to have the prizes follow the model of zero waste and are sustainable. Things such as reusable water bottles and totes, recyclable posters and coloring books for kids, tumblers, compostable bags, etc. If there are gift bags, let the people choose what they want from the bag so they don't throw away what they don't want at home.

Games are a very good way of drawing people in. Trivia with prizes, compost corn hole, fruit sticker card, and other games that would educate the public are good ways to make

sustainable waste management fun for the public as well as a good way to make sure they remember the information.

Annex 5 shows a fruit sticker trading card implemented by Waste Management in 2015. They offered a free bag of compost with every full fruit sticker card. Although this deal is no longer in effect, it is still a good example for a way that the public to form the habit of keeping non-compostable stickers out of the organic waste bin. These are the types of games and activities that could be given out at the Zero Waste Booth.

Visuals are also important when talking to the public. Having a backyard compost bin at the Zero Waste Booth is a good way to show that the community can compost in their own homes. It is also a good way to show what is compostable and what is not. Figure 1 is an example for the public that shows what goes inside a composting bin.

The overall goal for the Zero Waste Booth is to educate the public on proper composting and recycling not only at public events, but in their homes at well. It gives a chance for people to get involved in the community by working with and educating others. It also gives the opportunity for the public to learn about waste management in a new and more personable way. It is important to educate the community on waste management because it creates a more sustainably conscious Edmonds.



Figure 1 Example of compost bin (cutaway to show contents)

Measuring Success

“Reporting and evaluating your waste minimization actions and the success of your Waste Management Actions are vital for continued success. Unfortunately, it is one of the last steps and so often does not have enough time, effort or emphasis allocated to it. If information is only anecdotal and not clearly recorded how will you really know what you have achieved?” (Zero Waste South Australia)

To evaluate, we propose two types of measures:

- Quantitative
- Qualitative

The quantitative measure needs someone to track the waste generation and disposal. The stakeholders that can weigh the different sources of waste are the waste haulers. In the beginning of the program in January 2017 it will not be required yet, but this is an improvement that will be applied in the short term. The indicators that will be required (measured in pounds, kg, etc.) are:

- Total waste material generated at event
- Material recycled
- Material composted
- Total material diverted from landfill
- % diversion rate

In the other hand, qualitative measures should respond at least to the following questions: Has the event or venue achieved its goals? How effective were the Educational strategies? (how many people came to the booth, what was the popularity of the brochures and other take home tools). Were there things achieved that weren't planned for? How did these come about? It is suggested to document all the achievements for reporting, evaluation and continual improvement.

Waste Analysis Method

The National League of Cities Sustainable Cities Institute has developed an effective way to measure the various categories of waste in the waste stream. This method could prove effective for Edmonds to measure what their waste at public events is comprised of. A waste analysis of this variation provides a baseline for overall improved diversion rates at public events and for the City as a whole.



For a detailed description of this waste analysis method visit:

<http://www.sustainablecitiesinstitute.org/topics/materials-management/conducting-a-waste-characterization-study-overview>

Case Studies

To design our proposals, we used the case studies methodology.

Case study 1: CenturyLink Field



Actions:

- In 2010, they moved to **all-compostable service ware**. 100% of food containers are compostable and all plastic bottles are recyclable.
- They gave the fans **only two disposal options**: either recyclable (plastic, aluminum) or compostable.
- In 2012, FGI implemented a **single-stream recycling strategy** to further their goal of achieving an 80% landfill diversion rate.

Results:

- Last year (2015), **96% of waste generated was diverted from landfills**.
- Now, 614 recycle and compost bins are located throughout CenturyLink Field.

Learnings

- “We found that if you give fans the option of landfill bins, they usually choose landfill because it’s familiar, even when the signs say compost” says Darryl Benge, assistant general manager at First & Goal Inc., operator of CenturyLink Field.

Full case study in: <https://www.nrdc.org/sites/default/files/CenturyLink-Case-Study.pdf>

Case Study 2: Waste Management Phoenix Open



Actions:

- In 2012, Waste Management launched the **Zero Waste Challenge** to encourage the reuse of materials and to reduce the amount of waste sent to the landfill from the Phoenix Open.
- Participating businesses were required to fill out a **Zero Waste Agreement** which listed the material streams collected at the event and provided businesses with a list of products that would be accepted in the waste streams at the event
- **Color coded waste stations** were distributed throughout the event.

Results:

- **100% of waste and materials were diverted from the landfill** or reused for the following year's event.

Full case study: <https://www.uszwbc.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/Lee-Spivak-7-Days-568008-Fans-0-Waste.pdf>

Case Study 3: Seven Generations Ahead in Schools

Actions:

- **Partnership:** Seven Generations Ahead and Chicago Public Schools wrapped up a five-school commercial composting pilot program called "CPS Composts: Don't Throw Me Away!".



- **Operational changes were paired with student and teacher training** to make curriculum connections. From Earth Day assemblies to all-school sorting relay races, from classroom presentations to creative dumpster sign making, from hands-on teacher training to lunchroom waste assessments.

Results:

- **More than 2,400 students** from these five pilot schools learned about and participated in recycling and composting efforts.
- Zero Waste Ambassadors learned how to make good environmental choices, recover resources and help teach others about reducing waste.

Learnings:

- **Measuring the potential:** These five schools alone, in one school year, have the potential to keep 17,000 pounds of resources out of the landfill and potentially recycle 400,000, milk cartons.

Full case study in: <http://sevengenerationsahead.org/zero-waste-stories-from-the-field/cps-zero-waste-ambassadors-make-a-big-difference>

Case Study 4: Green Block Parties- River Forest District & PlanItGreen



Actions:

- The Chicago River Forest Park District adopted a Zero Waste Goal, but the public found it difficult to adapt. The PlanItGreen Core Team decided to take it one step at a time and start by making local block parties green. If the host chooses to have a Zero Waste block party, they are provided a “Green Block Party Kit”. This kit provides a series of documents that inform the hosts on zero waste and the planning process behind having a zero waste event.

Results:

- Half of the block parties that were held each year have been “green” block parties.

Learnings:

- Education is the biggest tool in having a Zero Waste goal. By providing education to the public, they were able to understand zero waste fully. This gives them incentive to work for a zero waste goal. By giving education, more residents are willing to be sustainable community members.

Full case study in: <http://www.river-forest.us/residents/block-party-permits>

Conclusions

We proposed to implement a Zero Waste Agreement and create educational tools to generate more participation in proper disposal of food waste at public events in Edmonds.

We believe the Zero Waste Agreement will help Edmonds achieve their Zero Waste and Beyond Waste goals. We also believe that Zero Waste events are a possibility in Edmond's future. We feel hopeful that the event organizers of one of Edmonds' largest public events, Taste of Edmonds, believes that these changes will be attainable for their vendors. Requiring the use of compostable products is becoming increasingly more common and is no longer seen as a hinderance to majority of vendors.

Furthermore, the underlying goal of this project is to encourage the public to practice Zero Waste measures in their own homes. Zero Waste education at public events will help to both inform and inspire the public to take part in the city's long term Zero Waste and Beyond Waste goals. This two-part solution for Edmonds will tackle the specific obstacles that are currently hindering the city's progress on the Zero Waste and Beyond Waste goals.

References

Olympia's Government. (n.d.) Comprehensive Plan, Utilities, Towards Zero Waste. Extracted from <http://www.codepublishing.com/WA/Olympia/?wr/OlympiaWRNT.html>

Government of South Australia, Zero Waste SA. (n.d.) Waste Minimization Plan. Events and Venues. Extracted from: http://www.zerowaste.sa.gov.au/upload/event-guidelines/Waste%20minimisation%20guide%20for%20events%20and%20venues_2.pdf

Snohomish County Solid Waste Division. (2009) Snohomish County Waste Composition Study. Executive Summary.

Annex Section

Annex 1: Edmonds Resolution Zero Waste and Beyond Waste

RESOLUTION NO. 1357

WHEREAS, the State of Washington's Waste Not Washington Act ESHB 1671 of 1989, is a comprehensive solid waste management bill that establishes the fundamental strategies of waste reduction and source separation of solid wastes; and

WHEREAS, the Waste Not Washington Act also established an aggressive state goal to achieve a fifty percent recycling rate by 1995, which included the efforts of local governments to help achieve this goal by including waste reduction and recycling elements in their own comprehensive solid waste management plans; and

WHEREAS, the Washington Department of Ecology issued in 2004 a state solid and hazardous waste plan titled "Beyond Waste Plan" as required under Chapter 70.95 and Chapter 70.105, Revised Code of Washington [RCW] to be developed and regularly updated (updated in 2009 and 2015), which is a 30 year plan for eliminating wastes and the use of toxic substances; and

WHEREAS, the Beyond Waste Plan is the state plan to support the waste management hierarchy established in the main solid and hazardous waste statutes which both identify waste reduction as the highest priority. The 30-year vision outlined in the Beyond Waste Plan seeks to eliminate most solid wastes and toxics and use any remaining waste products as resources; and

WHEREAS, the Beyond Waste Plan uses a sustainable materials management approach that looks at the full life cycle of materials from the design and manufacturing phase, through the use phase and to the end-of-life phase when the material is either disposed of or recycled, which is an approach also used by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; and

WHEREAS, the Snohomish County 2013 Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan embraces the State strategies and goals, including the Beyond Waste Plan, and has a vision that shifts to a more sustainable future, where people are generating less waste and handling wastes they do generate using environmentally sound and approaches; and

WHEREAS, the Snohomish County 2013 Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan includes waste prevention, reduction of waste and toxic materials pollution prevention, reuse, recycling, and equitable and efficient waste collection services for County residences and businesses, and supports product stewardship that acknowledges that not all products and packaging are suitable for reuse or recycling and that some products require special handling for disposal such as pharmaceuticals, pesticides and other hazardous

waste; and acknowledges that the reduction of waste and toxics, pollution prevention and reuse, make up the highest tier of the solid waste hierarchy; and

WHEREAS, the City of Edmonds is a signatory on the interlocal agreement to follow the County's Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan and indeed continually carries out waste reduction and recycling actions and activities as outlined in the Plan; and

WHEREAS, Zero Waste is a philosophy and visionary goal that supports the Beyond Waste Plan and is ethical, economical, and efficient and will guide people in changing their lifestyles and practices to emulate sustainable natural cycles, where all discarded materials are designed to become resources for others to use; and

WHEREAS, Zero Waste means designing and managing products and processes to systematically avoid and eliminate the volume and toxicity of waste and materials, conserve and recover all resources, and not dispose of them; and

WHEREAS, implementing Zero Waste strives to eliminate all discharges to land, water or air that are a threat to planetary, human, animal or plant health; and

WHEREAS, Edmonds 2015 Comprehensive Plan identifies Zero Waste as a strategic goal for consideration.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Edmonds hereby adopts both Zero Waste and Beyond Waste as long-term goals in order to prevent and eliminate waste and pollution in the extraction, manufacture, transportation, storage, use, reuse, and recycling of materials. These goals can be achieved through action plans and strategies that significantly prevent and reduce waste and pollution.

These strategies will include 1) encouraging residents, businesses and agencies to use, reuse, and recycle materials judiciously, in addition to encouraging manufacturers to produce and market less toxic and more durable, repairable, recycled, and recyclable products; 2) investigating mandatory waste collection in support of the Snohomish County Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan; and 3) investigating construction and demolition waste source separation strategies such as permit incentives, mandatory source separation and recycling, education and outreach.

In order to establish short- and long-term goals, and monitor city efforts, City staff will first identify quantitative metrics and establish dependable baseline measurements. Staff may collaborate with the Climate Protection Committee to assist in program evaluation. Data measures should mirror State and County measures when possible, and should include reasonably attainable local per capita rates, and other pertinent data. Quantitative

targets should strive to meet or exceed State and County targets and be updated accordingly.

RESOLVED this 19th day of April, 2016.

CITY OF EDMONDS



MAYOR, DAVE EARLING

ATTEST:



CITY CLERK, SCOTT PASSEY

FILED WITH THE CITY CLERK:
PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL:
RESOLUTION NO.

April 15, 2016
April 19, 2016
1357

Annex 2: Zero Waste Agreement

What Does Zero Waste Mean in Edmonds?

In April of 2016, the City Council of Edmonds adopted Zero Waste and Beyond Waste as long-term goals for the city. Targeting the disposal of food waste at public events as well as educating the public on such topics are crucial steps for Edmonds to successfully achieve the Zero Waste and Beyond Waste goals.

Material Streams Collected at Public Events in Edmonds

Accepted Recyclable Items	Accepted Compostable Items ¹	Unaccepted Items
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plastic bottles • Aluminum cans • Clear plastic cold cups (PET) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uncoated paper plates, bowls, and boats² • Napkins and paper towels • Paper portion cups • Paper food/ sandwich wraps and basket liners • Compostable hot cups • Compostable utensils • Compostable straws (PLA 7 or paper) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shiny-coated plates, etc. (Dixie, Hefty) • Styrofoam plates and cups • Plastic portion cups and lids • Plastic wrap and bags • Foil wraps • Candy wrappers

¹Costco and Cash N Carry along with food service suppliers all carry several brands of compostable items, such as Chinet, World Centric and Pactiv.

²Uncoated paper plates, etc. are very common. Also look for paper products that state “clay-coated” or “PLA-lined” which are usually acceptable as compostable products

Guidelines for Acceptable Materials

All organic materials must meet the standards of Cedar Grove Composting facilities. Accepted materials have been tested by Cedar Grove and have been proven to be commercially compostable. A list of acceptable brands is available at this link: <http://cedar-grove.com/compostable/accepted-items>

All recycle materials must meet the standards of hauling services in Edmonds (Sound Disposal, Republic Services, and Waste Management NW) A list of acceptable materials and an informational flyer are available at this link: <http://www.edmondswa.gov/pw-garbage-recycling-faq-menu-recycling-pickup-accepted.html>

Infrastructure and Educational Materials

Clear Stream recycle and compost bins are available to event organizers through the city of Edmonds. It is the responsibility of the event organizer to have a sufficient number of bins available at each event. Zero Waste educational materials are also available at your convenience. These materials include informational brochures for your selected food vendors as well as information for you, the Event Organizer. Please indicate below if you are interested in using the city’s supply of bins and educational materials for your event.

Zero Waste Participation Agreement

As an Event Organizer of a public event in the City of Edmonds, we have read the Acceptable Materials Guidelines and we will communicate these requirements with all food vendors that will participate in the event. We will also use the educational materials and assistance supplied to us by the City of Edmonds Waste Prevention and recycling program to make our event a Zero Waste event.

Yes, we would like to use the City’s supply of Compost and Recycling bins at our event

Yes, we would like to use the City's Zero Waste Educational materials at our event

Title of Event

Event Organizer (Print Name)

Signature Date

Please sign and return this form to the City of Edmonds Recycling Coordinator 60 days prior to the event date

Annex 2: Informational Brochure for Vendors



**ZERO WASTE
EDMONDS**

We want to eliminate all discharges to:



Water



Landfill



Air

For public events, we aim to have bins just for:



Recyclables



Compostables

Now each event has a **diversion rate goal**. Get more information with your event organizer.



We believe in people; we believe in you. If you change, everything changes.



**Compostable
Food Serviceware**

Things you need to know before purchasing.



Before purchasing, check first if the product is really **COMPOSTABLE!**

Bio-based plastics are made from:



Corn



Starch

Others

Not all bio-based plastics are biodegradable or compostable

In fact, many bio-based products are designed to behave like traditional petroleum-based plastic, and remain structurally intact for hundreds of years.



This certification is not enough to prove the products are compostable.

Biodegradable vs. Compostable

- The term "biodegradable" must be qualified by the environment and timeframe.
- Composting is one environment where biodegradation occurs.



**COMPOSTABLE
IN INDUSTRIAL FACILITIES**

Check locally, as these do not exist in many communities. Not suitable for backyard composting. CERT # 678320

Look for this type of certifications!

Composting business

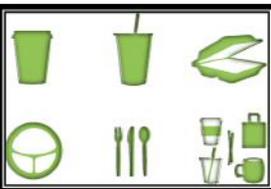
Cedar Grove supports the evolving use of compostable and recyclable products that replace materials that would otherwise end up in a landfill.



They accept certain items for composting. Check the list at: <http://cedar-grove.com/compostable/accepted-items>



- Products Available**
- Bags
 - Bowls
 - Clamshells
 - Coffee Sleeves
 - Cold Cups
 - Utensiles
 - Drink Carriers
 - Food trays
 - Hot Cups
 - Napkins
 - Plates
 - Straws
 - Etc.



"... compostable food service products stand up to perform just as well as their disposable counterparts". (Eco-cycle)

Annex 3: Food Waste Flyer

Love Food Not Waste



Eugene businesses
turn food scraps
into compost & crops.

REDUCE

Do you really need to purchase that much food?
Will all of the food you prepare reach your customers?

RESCUE

Consider local options for repurposing unused food.
Can the unused food be donated to feed people? Animals?

RECYCLE

Can the food go into composting bins?
Can the food be collected (e.g., yellow grease)?

All Food

Fruits, vegetables, meat, poultry, seafood, shellfish, bones, rice, beans, pasta, bakery items, cheese and eggshells



Toda la Comida

Frutas, verduras, carne, pescado, mariscos, huesos, arroz, frijoles, fideos, pasteles y panes, queso, y cáscara de huevo

Food-soiled Paper

Compostable Cups, Lids, Plates, napkins, paper towels, uncoated* paper plates, tea bags, coffee grounds/filters, wooden crates and greasy pizza boxes

* Uncoated food soiled paper does not have a shiny surface.



Papel Manchado por Comida

Orgánico Tazas, Tapas, Platos, de papel, platos de papel*, bolsas de té, posos/filtros para el café, cajas de madera y cajas grasientas de la pizza.

*Papel sin recubrimiento (no tiene una superficie brillante) manchado por comida

Plants

Floral trimmings, tree trimmings, leaves, grass, brush and weeds



Plantas

Recortes de plantas, podos de árbol, hojas, pasto, maleza y mala hierba



- Líquidos, grasa, aceite de cocinar
- Plástico o styrofoam
- Glass
- Metal

Food / Compostables ONLY

Containers must be on the curb, at a loading dock or otherwise accessible on collection day.



For more information on the Love Food Not Waste program, contact your hauler or the City of Eugene at:



- Líquidos, grasa, aceite de cocinar
- Plástico o styrofoam
- Vidrio
- Metales

¡Solamente alimentos y compostables!

Our Food Waste Hauler is:

Our Collection Schedule is:

541-682-5652
wasteprevention@ci.eugene.or.us

or visit online at:
www.eugenerecycles.org



Annex 4: Seven Generations Ahead Planning Guide

Why Zero Waste?

- Nearly half of all U.S. landfills are full or have been closed because of groundwater contamination.
- Establishing new landfills as a long-term strategy is not sustainable due to pollution (methane emissions, other greenhouse gas leaks, groundwater pollution, etc.), high landfill siting and maintenance costs, inadequate landfill closing accountability, and lack of interest among residents to live near sites.
- To achieve a sustainable system of managing our resources, communities must incorporate nature's law, **waste = food**, and channel materials into reuse and new production.
- The linear model of consumerism (extracting virgin resources for products and packaging, then discarding these resources to landfills or incinerators) is a primary cause of global resource depletion and associated environmental, climate, and social problems.

Key Components of Zero Waste

- **Source reduction:** Eliminates waste at its source. This includes choosing products that come with little or no packaging, such as beer kegs instead of bottles, or other types of bulk items. Source reduction also eliminates unnecessary items like frilly toothpicks, paper doilies, and inedible garnishes. Product stewardship is an important part of source reduction and emphasizes selecting materials with their best end use in mind (i.e. if materials cannot be reused, recycled, or composted, then these materials should not be purchased or used).
- **Recycling:** Processes used materials into new products to divert waste from the landfill. Recycling helps to conserve natural resources, reduce air and water pollution, generate less solid waste, and reduce the year-to-year costs of extracting and manufacturing new products.
- **Composting:** Turns organics such as food scraps, yard waste, and paper back into soil that can be used to grow new plants and crops. Organics account for a *significant* component of solid waste. Furthermore, the mixing of organics with traditional waste at landfills generates an immediate combustion of methane, a greenhouse gas that is 110 times more potent in the near term (over a 20-year period) than carbon dioxide, making food residual diversion an important global warming mitigation strategy.
- **Liquid diversion:** Diverts liquid from the landfill by collecting it beforehand. This helps to prevent groundwater contamination by chemical leachates and also keeps pests out of dumpsters.

Common Terms

- **Garbage Landfill:** Replace the word garbage with landfill. Garbage implies a mix of everything hidden in a large black can. Zero waste asks you to think of what is in that can that should/could be somewhere else.
- **Upstream/Downstream:**
 - **Upstream:** Preventing waste creation at its source (the best scenario).
 - **Downstream:** Once waste has been created, handling it in an environmentally responsible way by re-channeling materials into reuse and new production.



Annex 5: Sticker Bingo



FRUIT & VEGGIE STICKER CARD

Sticker images below are examples only.

You do not need to match the exact sticker—any fruit or veggie sticker will do.



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THINK GREEN.®