



Reduce Before Recycling

We all know the mantra: Reduce. Reuse. Recycle. But many forget that this is a hierarchy. Reducing your consumption is better for the environment than recycling. Here are three easy ways you can reduce your footprint.

- ✓ Use a reusable water bottle. Plastic bottles, even when recycled, have a large environmental impact. Buy a water bottle you love, and use it instead of a disposable one.
- ✓ Eat your leftovers. American households throw out \$3 of every \$10 spent on food¹. That adds up quickly! According to the Environmental Protection Agency, food production, transportation and decomposition are huge contributors to greenhouse gas emissions.
- ✓ Shun “fast fashion” and buy secondhand or clothes that last. The world’s annual textile production uses 79 trillion liters of water per year². That’s more than 4 times the water in all of Crater Lake! It also generates more than 92 million tons of waste, equal to 1,440 Yaquina Bay bridges.



Visit bit.ly/repsrv-cor or scan the QR code to find more ways you can reduce waste, what you can and can't recycle, and your recycling calendar.

¹Food Waste Research | US EPA
[Epa.gov/land-research/food-waste-research](https://epa.gov/land-research/food-waste-research)

²The environmental price of fast fashion,
Nature Reviews Earth & Environment,
[Nature.com/articles/s43017-020-0039-9](https://nature.com/articles/s43017-020-0039-9)



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