Beyond Recycling: The Other “R’s”

Thank you for joining us! The webinar will begin shortly.

Order of events:
The other "R's"
Sorting review
How to talk about waste reduction
Q&A

Please make sure your microphone is muted!
Questions should be submitted via the chat function
Beyond Recycling: The Other “R’s”

Joanna Rosales
RethinkWaste

Laura Wessberg
RethinkWaste

Michelle Sung
Recology

Juan Miranda
RethinkWaste

Heather Rockwood
Recology

Julia Au
RethinkWaste
Time to Change our Habits

WASTE ZERO HIERARCHY

REFUSE
REDUCE
REUSE & REPAIR
RECYCLE
ROT / COMPOST
Refuse the Norm

● Our current situation
  ○ Consumerism
  ○ Planned obsolescence
  ○ Hidden costs

● Going forward
  ○ Use the other “R’s”!
  ○ Do our research!
  ○ Empower ourselves!
Refuse

- It’s OK to say no
  - Giveaways, utensils, condiments, bags
- Vote with your dollar
Reduce - Shop Smart

- Question to ask before you buy
  - Do I already have this?
  - Do I need this?
  - Will I use this (more than once)?
  - Could I borrow this?
  - Could I rent this?

Pro tip: Make a list or a plan!
Reduce

Good places to start!

● Packaging
  ○ Less is more
  ○ Buy local
  ○ Collective shipping
● Conduct a home waste audit
● High quality goods
Reuse

- Safely shop secondhand
- Make reusables easily accessible
- Creative reuse
Repair

Barriers:
● Anxiety
● Lack of knowledge
● Lack of tools
● Lack of parts

Solutions:
→ Already broken/start small
→ The internet is your friend
→ Tools at your local library
→ Support Right to Repair
Repair

Virtual Fixit Clinic
• July 12, 12-3 PST

For more info:
Garbage/Landfill

Plastic film & Wrappers

Single-use items

Styrofoam & Black plastic

Mixed materials
How to Talk About Waste Reduction

- Easing people in
- Leading by example
- Try your best to not antagonize
- Align with their values
- Make it a game or chore for kids
Plastic Free July!

How will you celebrate?
Q & A Time

- If you haven’t already, please submit your questions via the chat function now.

- If you are calling in, please email your question to us at rethinker@rethinkwaste.org

- All questions and responses will be uploaded following this webinar to the RethinkWaste website for future reference.
Additional Resources

RethinkWaste → RethinkWaste.org

Recology SMC → recology.com/recology-san-mateo-county/

Zero Waste Blogs → wokenwasteless.com & trashisfortossers.com

Repair Info → ifixit.com & familyhandyman.com

Virtual Fix it Clinic → https://bit.ly/2VwrIlh

Refillable Soap by Reach & Teach → https://bit.ly/3dQKOyZ

Online Community Sharing → freecycle.org or NextDoor