



GREENWICH LAND TRUST

Zero Waste Solutions

The Zero Waste movement is focused on reducing the total amount of pre- and post-consumer waste sent to landfills, to incinerators, the surrounding environment or the oceans. Zero Waste refers to the prevention of waste: a whole system approach that aims to change the way society consumes and discards materials and goods.

A Zero Waste system is cyclical, like in nature, and does two fundamental things: It redesigns our systems and resource use—from product design to disposal—to prevent wasteful and polluting practices that lead to an abundance of waste. It then captures and uses them, instead of natural resources, to make new products, creating far less pollution while feeding the local economy.

A Zero Waste approach requires new rules and policies that take a responsible approach to using and conserving dwindling natural resources.

It also requires new manufacturing processes and smarter design where manufacturers are held responsible for the full lifecycle of their products, giving them the incentive to design for the environment, NOT the dump.

Zero waste solutions require resource recovery infrastructure to replace landfills and incinerators and recover 90% or more of our discards.

Zero waste promotes not only reuse and recycling but, more importantly, it promotes prevention and product designs that consider the entire product life cycle. Zero waste designs strive for reduced materials use, use of recycled materials, use of more benign materials, longer

product lives, reparability, and ease of disassembly at end of life.

Zero waste strongly supports sustainability by protecting the environment, reducing costs, and producing additional jobs in the management and handling of wastes back into the industrial cycle.

A Zero Waste strategy may be applied to businesses, communities, industrial sectors, schools and homes.

Source: wikipedia.org & ecocycle.org

