


# Waste Reduction Facts and Tips





There is no such thing as away.  
When you throw something  
away, it must go somewhere.

Annie Leonard



## All litter eventually leads to the ocean

**Any discarded item will eventually be washed into a waterway if not collected.**

Locally litter is washed into local streams. It then travels into the Cumberland River where it eventually meets the Mississippi River and discharged into the Gulf of Mexico.







## Even waste in landfills is not gone

Landfills must be monitored for 30 years after closure to ensure waste does not pose a threat to the local environment.

Regulators can request additional years of monitoring if a need arises.



# 184,123,740 lbs.

The amount of waste brought to Bi-County's main landfill in 2018  
Approximately 970 lbs. of waste per person



# 90,000

Additional residents expected by 2040

# 87,300,300 lbs.

Additional yearly waste by 2040

# 271,423,740 lbs.

Total projected waste to Bi-County in 2040



**271,423,740 lbs. is the same as...**

**659**



**590**



**2**





## Waste Reduction



### Food Purchasing

- Plan meals in advance
- Use apps to meal plan and create shopping lists
- Only buy what is on your list
- Shop local
- Freeze before it goes bad

### Keep Instead of Throwing Away

- Ask if something can be used again before throwing away
- Search online for ways to upcycle

### Perform a Waste Audit

- Look at a day's or week's worth of waste to see what items it contains
- Waste audit details can be found online or email [cmsommers@mcgtn.net](mailto:cmsommers@mcgtn.net) for step-by-step instructions
- Challenge yourself to reduce your waste





## Waste Reduction



### Purchase Reusable

- Buy items that can be used multiple times or could be used for another purpose
- Avoid single-use packaging and bags, especially plastic

### Community & Thrift Shops

- Look for items that you need that are used
- Furniture, clothing, home décor and toys are all items that you can find locally (Clarksville Recyclers Facebook)
- Donate your own items that are in good condition instead of throwing away

### Smart Shopping

- When you do need to make a purchase buy an item that has been recycled.
- Combine deliveries
- Buy local
- Ask yourself if you really need the item before every purchase



## Reduction and Reuse Ideas



**Replaces paper towels**

**Caps to keep fruit fresh longer**



**Reusable coffee filters**



**Washable makeup remover pads**

**Reusable sandwich bags**



**Washable pet pads**



## Reduction and Reuse Ideas



**Keep butter wrappers and use to butter pans to keep food from sticking**



**Keep cereal bags and use as piping bags**

**Beeswax covering to replace plastic wrap**



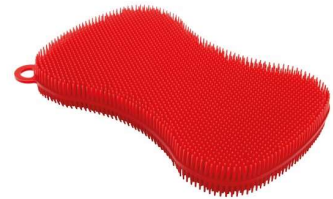
**Egg cartons make great organizers**



**Single socks are great for dusting**



**Dryer balls replace dryer sheets**



**Silicone sponges last longer and do not trap bacteria or odors**