



Maryland
Department of
the Environment

Waste Diversion: More than cardboard boxes and and compost

Presented by
Shannon McDonald & Christy Bujnovszky
Land & Materials Administration's Waste Diversion Department

February 3, 2023



Welcome & Agenda

- Introduction - Waste Diversion Division
- Application of recycling in education, schools and community
 - Green School Applicability
 - Food Diversion Law
- Recycling sculpture contest
- Questions



What is recycling?

Code of Maryland Regulations

“Recycling” means any process in which materials that would otherwise become solid waste are collected, separated, or processed and returned to the marketplace in the form of raw materials or products

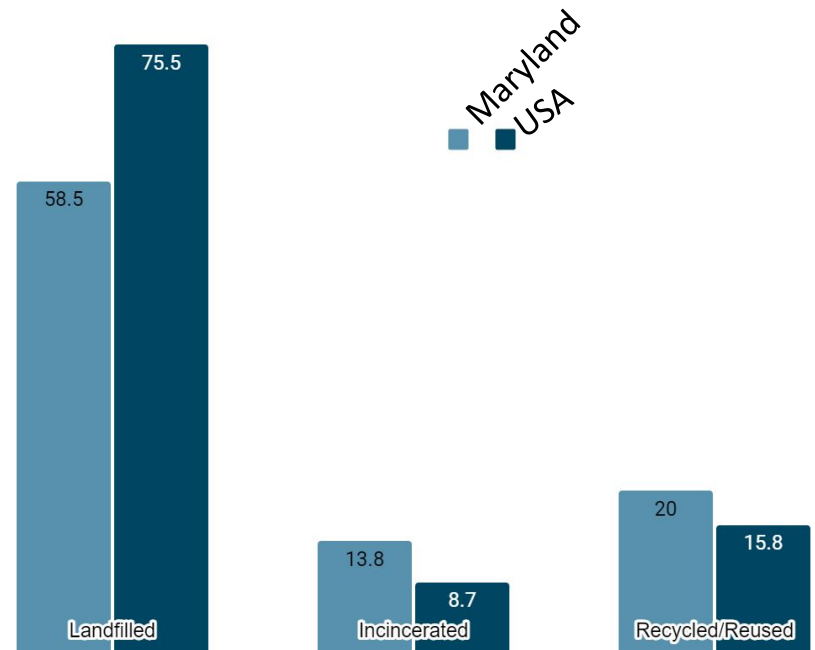


Source: [TerraCycle US](https://www.terra-cycle.com/)



Solid Waste

- Comparing Maryland to the National average, we are exceeding recycling rates.
- In 2020, Maryland recycled 1.8 Million tons
- The EPA estimates that 75% of the American waste stream is recyclable, but we only recycle about 30% of it.



Source: GAO analysis of 2018 US EPA data (GAO-21-105317)

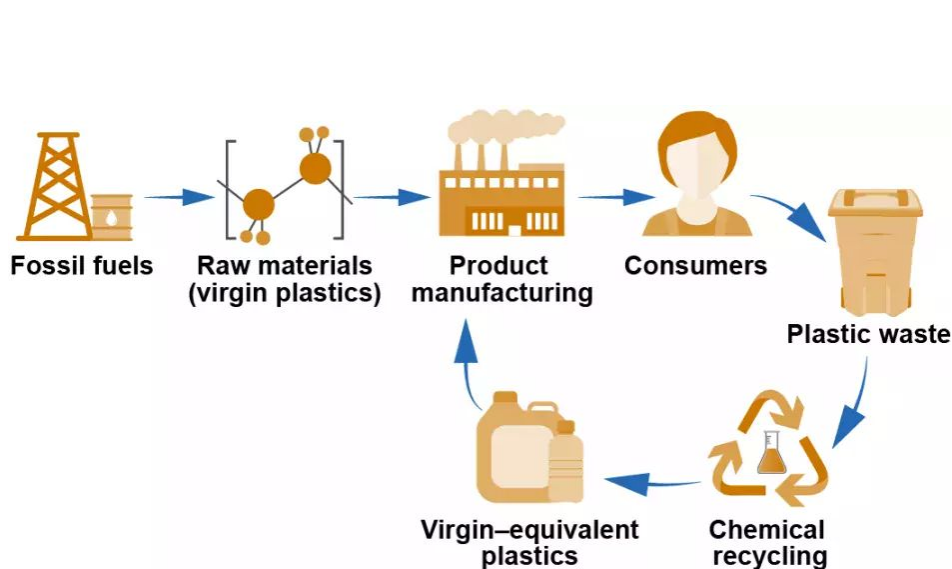
Source: [MDE Solid Waste Management and Diversion Report CY2020](#)

Source: Indiana University. "Waste & Recycling." Web Accessed April 25, 2015



How does diversion and recycling work?

Raw **Refine** **Construct**
Consume **Dispose** **Recycle**
Re-construct





Shift the Paradigm





GREEN SCHOOL OBJECTIVES AND APPLICABILITY



GS: OBJ 1 - Integrating into Instruction

Grade	Idea of Exploration	Educational Standards
K-2	K - Growing a plant - materials used, how do they breakdown overtime 1 - Measurement - performing waste audit and extrapolating impact 2 - Soils - Earth Science & Investigation - Harvesting materials (raw) and impact on earth - weathering, changing landscapes	K-2-ETS1-2 Engineering Design MP.2 - Reason abstractly and quantitatively MP.4 - Model with Mathematics 1.MD.C.4 - Organize, Represent & Interpret 2-PS1-1-4: Structure and Properties of Matter
3-5	3 - Improve on existing technology - write an opinion 4 - Energy - biogas, solar, petrochemical - how can existing and future systems impact environmental justice 5 - Quantification of materials and their impact on local economies	W.3.1 & W.3.7 - Writing Standards 3-ESS3 Earth and Human Activity 3-5-ETS1 Engineering Design 4-ESS3 Earth and Human Activity 5-ESS3 Earth and Human Activity MP.2 - Reason abstractly and quantitatively MP.4 - Model with Mathematics
6-8	Chemical composition of materials Environmental Impacts of Mining	MS.Chemical Reactions MS-PS1-2 Matter & its Interactions
9-12	Jobs and the roles we play *art - marketing *soil science - composting *chemistry - materials manufacturing *algebra - finance, analyst *literacy - author, educator	HS-LS4-6 Evidence



GS: School Wide (OBJ1.3.1+OBJ2)

School waste is up to 80% recyclable

Partner with national programs for funding

Create a challenge to visualize the results





GS: OBJ 3 - Partnership with Community



NexTrex
GRASSROOTS MOVEMENT
Our goal is to establish recycling outlets for consumer collection beyond traditional grocery store drop off by removing hurdles that prevent organic growth of local plastic bag/film recycling initiatives.

WHAT CAN BE RECYCLED?

Become a BATTERY FREE school

WINTER COAT DRIVE

HYGIENE FOOD FREE PANTRY

Source: <https://www.littlefreepantry.org/>

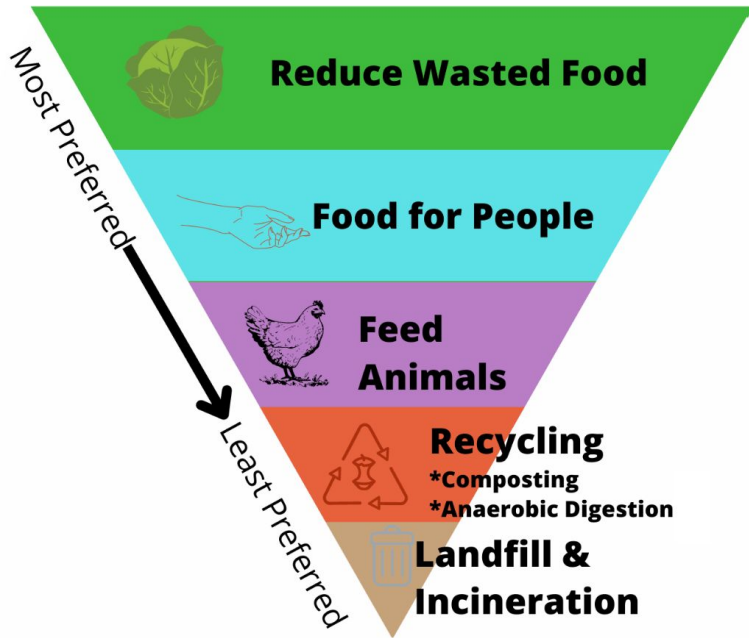


FOOD DIVERSION LAW



Food Law & Organics Recycling

Maryland's Food Recovery Hierarchy





What do we do at the school?

Waste Audit

- Food & Nutrition Program
- Janitorial Staff
- Students

Analyze the Data

- Administrative
- [Curriculum](#)
- Green/Garden Club

Develop a Program

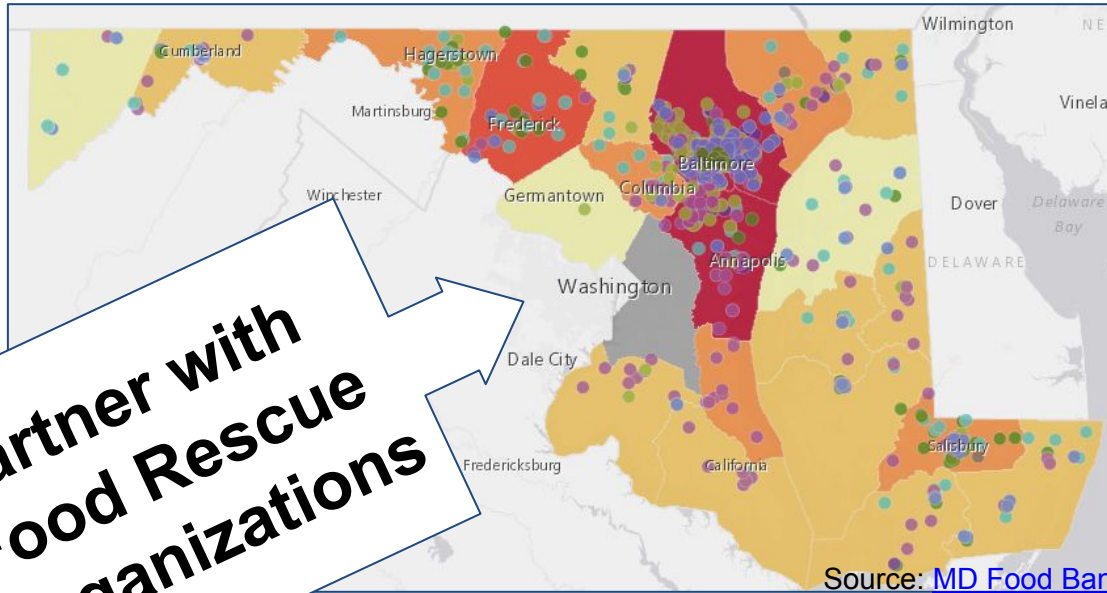
- Collection of Materials
- Where will they be stored
- Where will they be transported or managed
- How will they be reported

Execute the Plan

- Work within the community
- Funding



How does this relate to food insecurity?



**Partner with
Food Rescue
Organizations**

Source: [MD Food Bank](#)



Share tables

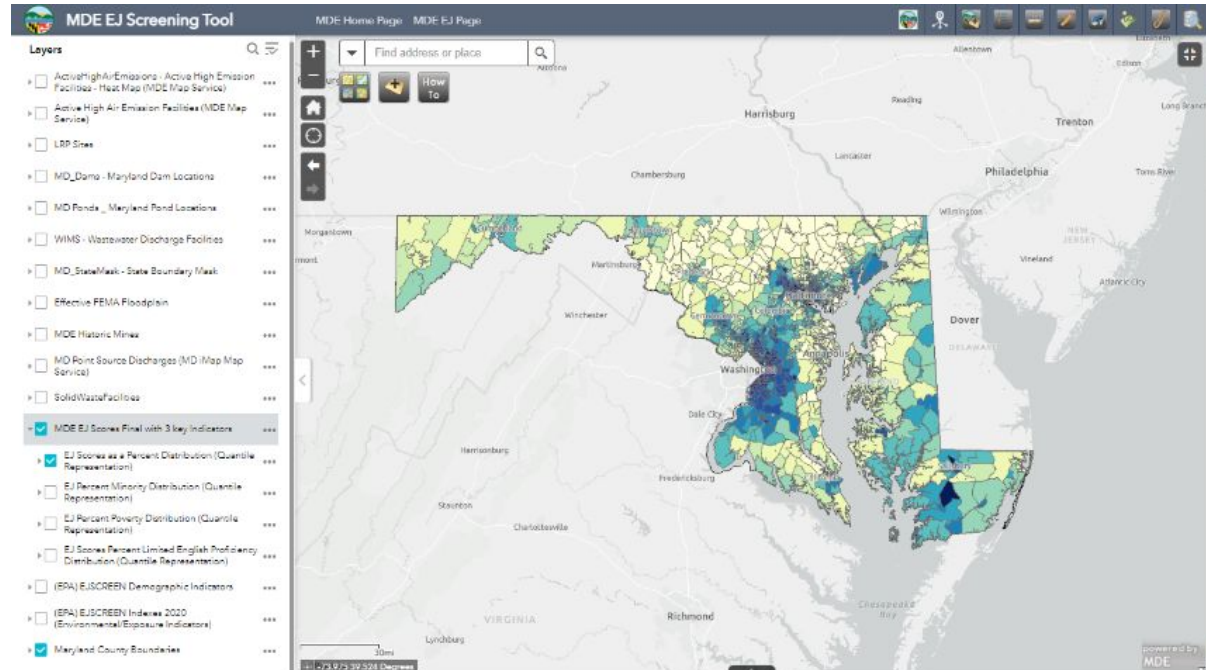


Onsite food pantry

Source: [Student Support Network](#)



Direction towards Environmental Justice



Source: [Kiss the Ground](#)



Fixing erosion to benefit soils, water & air



Source: [Institute for Local Self Reliance](#)



Source: [Baltimore Compost Collective](#)



Source: [Compost Council](#)



Source: [Homegrown National Park](#)



RETHINK RECYCLING SCULPTURE CONTEST



What is the sculpture contest? Videos

20TH ANNIVERSARY RETHINK RECYCLING



Maryland
Department of
the Environment





Videos continued





Videos continued





21st Annual Contest Winners (2022)





2022 winners (cont)





2023 Contest

Friday, November 17, 2023

High school & 4H students

- 2 entries for each school

Winners

- Overall Winner
- Individual
 - Creativity
 - Workmanship
 - Use of Materials
- People's Choice





Resources

Instruction/Programs

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jAqVxsEgWIM>
<https://www.weareteachers.com/school-recycling-changed-classroom>
<https://www.weareteachers.com/best-recycling-videos/>
<https://www.youtube.com/hashtag/worldwidewaste>
<https://www.nextgenscience.org/pe/2-ps1-1-matter-and-its-interactions>
https://www.nextgenscience.org/sites/default/files/evidence_statement/black_white/K-LS1-1-%20Evidence%20Statements%20June%202015%20asterisks.pdf
<https://www.nextgenscience.org/pe/2-ess1-1-earths-place-universe>
<https://www.nextgenscience.org/pe/k-2-ets1-2-engineering-design>
https://cdn5-ss3.sharpschool.com/UserFiles/Servers/Server_9046958/File/Mathematics/22-23%20Year%20at%20A%20Glance/02%20Grade%201%20Year%20at%20a%20Glance%202022-2023.pdf
<https://lessismore.org/materials/23-school-recycling/>
<https://lessismore.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/Food-Forward-School-Edition.pdf>
<https://lessismore.org/materials/271-teacher-resources/>
<https://www.education.com/common-core/first-grade/math/>
<https://www.foodspan.org/lesson-plans/index.html>
https://www.foodspan.org/_pdf/lesson-plan/citizen-action-project/food-citizen-action-project-lessonplan.pdf
<https://www.epa.gov/students/resources-teachers-starting-planet-protectors-club>
<https://www.worldwildlife.org/teaching-resources/toolkits/be-a-food-waste-warrior>
<https://marincarbonproject.org/what-is-carbon-farming/#what-is-carbon-farming>
https://wegotleaves.files.wordpress.com/2015/08/img_1440.jpg <https://www.nextgenscience.org/search-standards?keys=&page=3>
<https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/crossmedia/EnvironmentalJustice/Pages/WhatisEJ.aspx>
<https://www.npr.org/2023/01/10/1147986096/extreme-weather-fueled-by-climate-change-cost-the-u-s-165-billion-in-2022>
<https://kisstheground.com/regenerative-resources/#resource>
<https://vimeo.com/574593834>
<https://thegreenteam.org/the-green-team-presents-compost-for-the-earth-the-compost-song/>
<https://www.epa.gov/students>
<https://www3.epa.gov/recyclecity/>
<https://recyclesmartma.org/resources/>
<https://youtu.be/exhgrxpeQws>
<https://www.nextgenscience.org/topic-arrangement/hshuman-sustainability>

Programs

<https://futurecity.org/>
<https://maeoe.org/green-schools-and-green-centers/green-schools-program/current-green-schools>
<http://mdenvirothon.org/>
https://www.chesapeakebay.net/what/goals/environmental_literacy
<https://dnr.maryland.gov/pgc/Pages/default.aspx>
<https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/air/ClimateChange/MCCC/Pages/index.aspx>
<https://www2.ed.gov/programs/green-ribbon-schools/index.html>

Industry

<https://www.americanchemistry.com/chemistry-in-america/chemistry-in-everyday-products/plastics>
<https://www.afandpa.org/>
<https://youtu.be/2srE7muq-Hk>
<https://kab.org/programs/ard/organize-an-event/>
<https://www.gpi.org/recycling>
<http://springfieldmrf.org/>
<https://napcor.com/recycling/>
<https://plasticsrecycling.org/>
<https://www.cancentral.com/sustainability>
<https://thegreenteam.org/>
<https://www.wm.com/us/en/inside-wm/who-we-are>

Food Diversion Law

<https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/land/RecyclingandOperationsprogram/Pages/Solid-Waste-Management---Organics-Recycling-and-Waste-Diversion---Food-Residuals.aspx>

Sculpture Contest

<https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/LAND/RecyclingandOperationsprogram/Pages/recycled-sculpture.aspx>



Summary / Contacts

- Where to find more information
 - County recycling coordinators
 - State coordinators
- Website
- Questions
 - Shannon.McDonald@maryland.gov
 - Christy.Bujnovszky@maryland.gov