

Seizing the Opportunity to Prevent Pollution from Packaging & Plastic Foodware

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Who we are

- StopWaste is a public agency committed to advancing environmental sustainability and building healthy, climate resilient communities in Alameda County.
- We help communities, businesses, schools, and local governments reduce waste & use resources efficiently.
- Governed by three boards serving 17 jurisdictions



Overarching Goals



Healthy Local Food System

A healthy, equitable food system that minimizes food loss and waste, while prioritizing soil health, local livelihoods, and community access to nutritious food.

Thriving Circular Economy

An equitable, flourishing circular economy that enables easy and affordable access to repair, reuse, and refill services designed to prevent waste, and a recycling and composting system that contributes to material circularity in ways that are good for people and the planet.

Innovative Bay Area Construction Sector

A Bay Area construction sector that advances material and resource efficiency in the built environment to prevent waste, fight climate change, and improve the health of our communities.

A Circular Economy Approach

Redefining growth from linear "take-make-waste" model to circular economy model



Vision for a Local Circular Economy

Waste prevention

- Advancing reusable foodware infrastructure
- Supporting upstream policy & innovations in material design

Material circularity

- Building repair & reuse ecosystems
- Effective recycling & composting systems

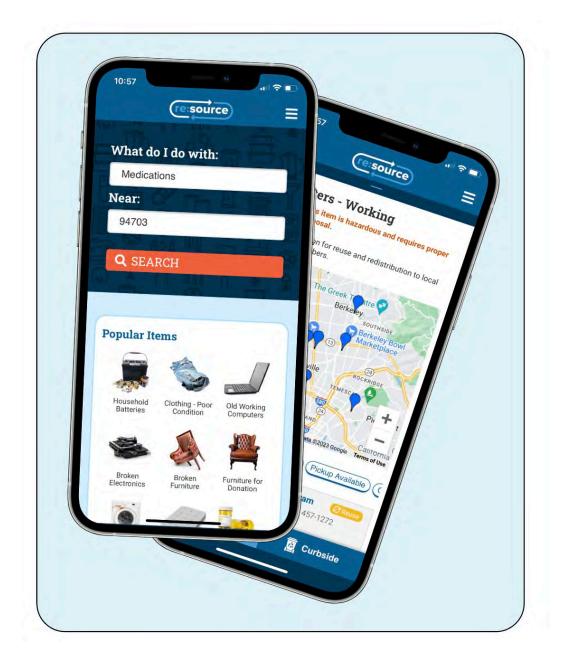
Education & outreach

- Schools & climate literacy
- Increasing access with tools & resources



RE:Source Tool

- Online guide for reuse, repair, recycling, and safe disposal across Alameda County
- Detailed curbside service information for each city
- Safe disposal options for household hazardous waste



SB 54: Cutting Single-Use Packaging

- Groundbreaking EPR law to cut packaging waste
- Requires all single-use packaging and foodware to be recyclable or compostable by 2032
- Engaging local governments in rulemaking



In California, by 2032:



100% of single-use
packaging and plastic
single-use food ware will
be recyclable or
compostable



65% of single-use plastic packaging and food ware will be recycled

30% by 2028 | 40% by 2030



25% of single-use plastic packaging and food ware will be source reduced by weight and unit

10% by 2027 (2% reuse/refill) 20% by 2030 (4% reuse/refill)

Materials covered by the law

Single-use packaging

 Includes plastic, paper, paperboard, metal, glass, multi-layer materials, etc. (definition is material neutral)

Plastic single-use food ware

 Cups, lids, straws, cutlery, stirrers, lidded containers, trays, plates, clamshells, food wrap, and wrappers





\$5 billion plastic pollution mitigation fund

- \$500M per year x 10 years paid for by producers
- Designed to help clean up existing plastic pollution
- Funds to focus on addressing environmental justice and public health impacts of plastic pollution

Getting involved

- Stay informed on the CalRecycle SB 54 listserv
- Attend CalRecycle workshops and provide feedback
- Submit written comment letters
- Work with your partners and cities



Ways to Take Action!

- Engage with your local reuse and repair communities
- Bring your own bags, mugs, and takeout containers
- Opt for packaging-free purchasing when possible
- Encourage your favorite restaurants and cafes to switch to reusables
- Connect with community groups and city leaders
- Visit RESource.StopWaste.org for answers to reuse, repair, recycling and safe disposal



