

ZERO WASTE



CHAMPIONS

TOOLKIT

WHAT'S IN THIS TOOLKIT?

OUR APPRECIATION!

We would first like to thank you for being a community leader and a Zero Waste Champion. By helping us spread the word about recycling, you are furthering the City of Lakewood's sustainability goals and building a healthy and sustainable community. Go you!

TOOLKIT CONTENTS

- Printable decals for your home. The best way to ensure your family and guests know where to dispose of items is to label your waste bins! Hopefully you can find use for these tools in your home, and help others responsibly dispose of waste.
- An "Engaging Your Neighbors" toolkit. We know that getting your neighbors excited about recycling can be intimidating - and we're here to help! Included are ideas about how to start the conversation, resources for recycling facts, sample social media posts, and ideas for neighborhood events.

This is a living toolkit, and we'd like to add your great ideas to it!

Send your suggestions to sustainability@lakewood.org

Lakewood.org/WeRecycle/



Lakewood
Sustainability



RECYCLE!
It's Good for Lakewood

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ENGAGING YOUR NEIGHBORS

START THE CONVERSATION

- Knowledge about the importance of recycling is the greatest barrier to getting people involved. Start the conversation! We recommend using language like: “Did you know that you can call your hauler and ask about curbside recycling?” or “I just found out that my hauler offers curbside recycling!”
- Bond with your neighbors about your collective love of Lakewood! This is a good time to mention that recycling preserves the Lakewood we love for our children by reducing the pollution and emissions that come from sending trash to a landfill. What will we leave behind?

ARM YOURSELF WITH FACTS

- What if your neighbors live in an apartment complex? Where can they take their recyclables if they can't get curbside service? What can and can't be recycled? What can they do with their hard to recycle items?
- Let them know that you are a Zero Waste Champion and are willing to be a resource if they have questions in the future.
- Send them to our website, which offers easy steps and resources for interested residents.
Lakewood.org/WeRecycle/

CREATE OPPORTUNITIES

- Bring your neighbors together in creative ways to discuss and promote sustainability. You could hold an info session or have a local foods potluck dinner. You can reach your neighbors in person, or through social media.
- Social media is a powerful tool, and it's important to be positive and intentional when conveying your message online. Below are a few sample social media messages that you can use with the hashtag **#LakewoodRecycles**

Lakewood.org/WeRecycle/



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- **Sample Social Media Messages:**

- Recycling preserves Lakewood's beautiful parks and open spaces for the next generation by reducing the pollution and greenhouse gas emissions that come from landfills.
#LakewoodRecycles
- Recycling saves energy, decreases pollution, and preserves the Lakewood we love for our children. It is something simple we can all do every day to preserve Lakewood's beauty and give our children an even better tomorrow. **#LakewoodRecycles**
- Did you know if every Lakewood resident recycled just one glass bottle, it would have the same benefit to our air as planting 234 trees and having them grow for 10 years?
#LakewoodRecycles
- Lakewood only diverts 12% of its waste from landfills. We have a 60% waste diversion goal; can you help us reduce our waste to preserve our beautiful landscapes?
#LakewoodRecycles

- **Neighborhood project ideas:**

- **Mass-cycle:** A morning or afternoon event where you collect tough to recycle items. You may specify the types of items you are looking for, such as plastic bags. For example, suggest to your neighbors that they save their plastic bags for 1 month. Then, designate a location for everyone to bring their plastic bags. Consider picking non-traditional recycling items such as batteries and light bulbs.
- **Clothing Swap:** Hold a clothing swap where each person brings at least one item of clothing or accessory they haven't worn in a while. At the party, friends trade clothing and accessories.
- **DIY Upcycle Craft Night:** Invite neighbors and friends over for an evening. Ask them to bring an out-of-use or under-used household item to make their craft as well as 1-3 craft supplies of their choice. Provide additional craft supplies and a little inspiration. If desired, create a theme for the night so that everyone has an idea to start working from.

This is a living document, and we'd like to add your great ideas to it!

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For questions on specific items, call your hauler!

What can I recycle curbside?



PLASTIC



Plastic bottles
Plastic cups
Plastic containers

ALUMINUM



Aluminum cans
Aluminum foil
Pie pans
Steel cans

PAPER



Junk mail
Office paper
Newspaper
Cardboard

GLASS



Glass bottles
Glass jars



What goes to the landfill?



Styrofoam
Sandwich bags
Chip bags
Beverage cups (sleeves may be recyclable!)
Plastic wrappers



What can I compost in my yard?



Food scraps
Eggshells
Coffee filters & grounds
Tea bags
Napkins & paper towels
Soiled paper products
Yard/houseplant waste
Hair & fur
Woodchips
Dryer lint

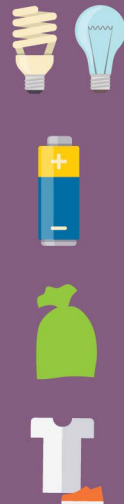


For tips on yard composting, visit:
<https://www.epa.gov/recycle/composting-home#home>

What can I save?

Find out where to
recycle these items at
[www.lakewood.org/
werecycle](http://www.lakewood.org/werecycle)

Hard to recycle items **not** for your curbside bin:



Light bulbs
Batteries
Plastic bags
Electronic devices
Clothing
Paint

