

# Zero Waste

"Zero waste is a philosophy that encourages the redesign of resource life cycles so that all products are reused."

By

*Be the Change!*

**ZERO WASTE**

*Mendo*

# Zero Waste Mendo

- *A place to learn ways to reduce your waste*
- *English and Spanish Facebook groups*
- *In-home/commercial/municipal consultations*
- *Municipal and county level coordination*
- *Public outreach*
- *Home tours*

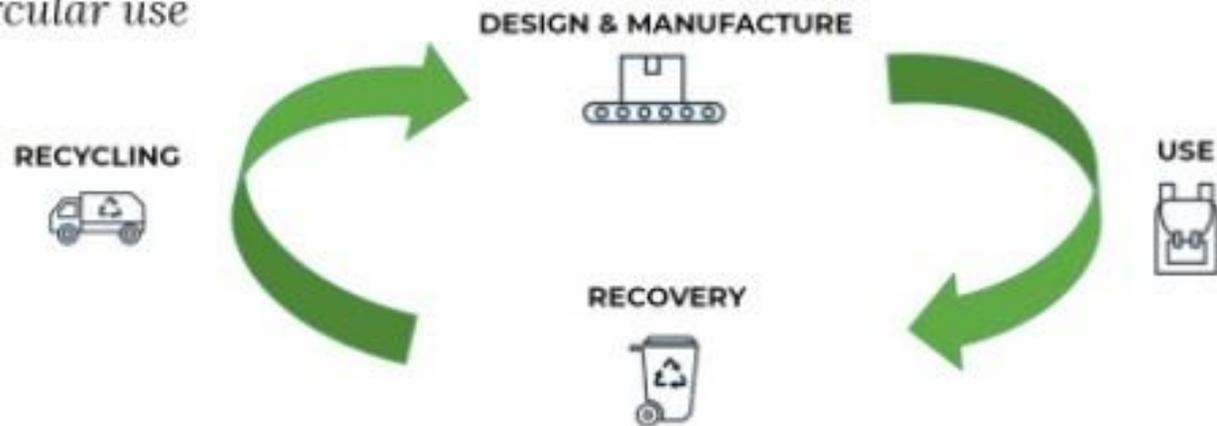
# Linear vs. Circular Economy/System

## ZERO WASTE CONCEPT

*From linear use*

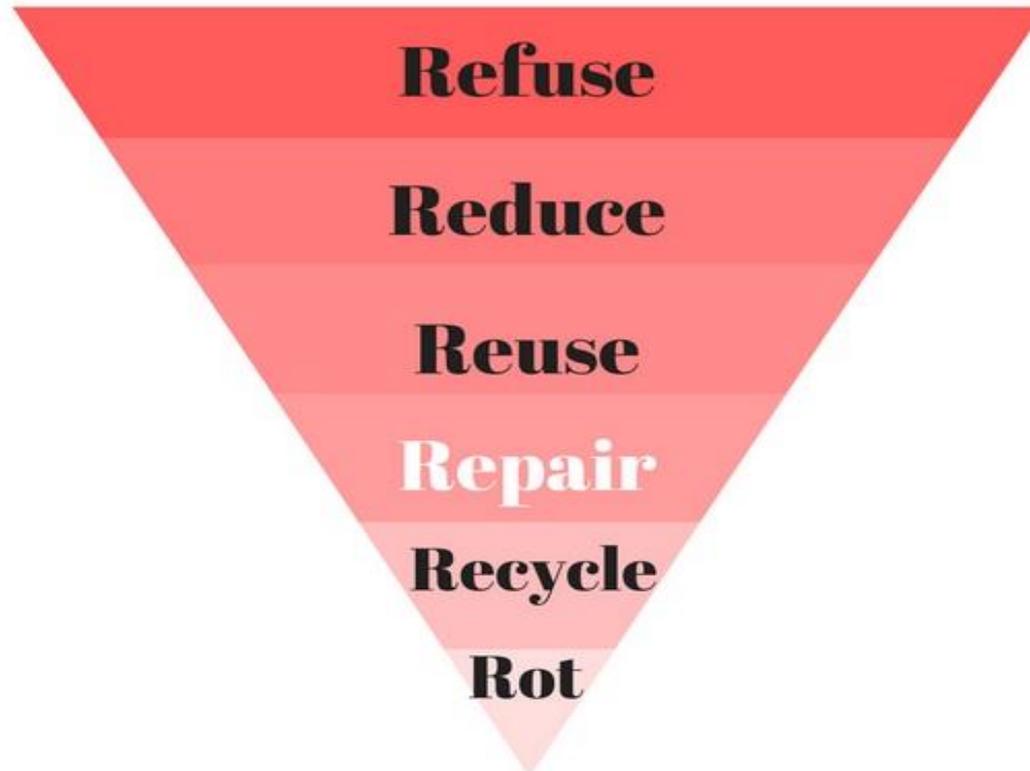


*To circular use*



# The 6 R's

## Zero Waste Principles



The Zero Shop Blog

# Benefits to Zero Waste

- *The 6 R's create 10x more jobs than disposal*
- *Reduces our climate impact*
- *Redirects resources to those in need (building community) rather than disposing of them*
- *Conserves resources and minimizes pollution*
- *Individuals save money and time while living healthier*

# Refuse

- *Just say 'No' to:*
  - *Freebies*
  - *Single-use plastics*
  - *Food packaging*
  - *Disposable items*
  - *Things you just don't need*
  - *Junk mail*



# Reduce

- *Donate/sell items you don't need or use*
  - *Save time, space, and sanity*
- *Wait 30 days before buying something new*
- *Create household rules*
  - *Everything has a home*
  - *One thing in and one thing out*
- *Simplify*
- *Reducing can have health benefits*

# Reduce: Self-Sustainability

- *Self-production of energy*
  - *Solar panels*
  - *Make your own biodiesel*
  - *Generator using methane/biodiesel/natural gas*
  - *Battery backup system*
  - *Solar water heating*
  - *Residential wind power*
- *Growing your own food*
  - *Shelf stable foods*





# Reduce: Water

- *Instant water heaters*
- *Bathroom sink aerators*
- *Low flow shower heads*
- *Dual flush toilets*
- *Efficient dishwashers and washing machines*
- *Drip systems*
- *Gray water system*
- *Reduce beef consumption (1lb uses 674 gallons of water)*

# Reuse

- *Replace disposables with reusables*
- *Buy secondhand*
- *Craft time for artists and kids!*
- *Donate items for reuse*
- *Get creative and think, "There is no box"*





# Repair

- *Find someone to repair*
- *Learn how to repair*
- *Buy items that can be repaired*
- *Donate to a charity that can repair*



# Recycle

- *Recycle what you can't refuse, reduce, reuse, or repair*
- *Upcycle as much as possible due to downcycling*
- *Learn what is actually being recycled*
- *Reduce your recyclables*
- *Opt for glass, metal, or paper*
- *Recycle worn-out clothing*

# Rot

- *Compost accepted materials not in the other R's*
- *For Example:*
  - *Soiled and unlined paper products*
  - *Plastic-free cotton swabs*
  - *Dryer lint*
  - *Food waste*
  - *Yard waste*
  - *Pizza boxes*

# Rot: SB1383

- *California's short-term solution to climate change is to increase landfill diversion rates for organic materials that could otherwise be composted*
- *Decreases methane gas created by organic material decomposition in landfills*
- *Increases usage and availability of natural fertilization*
- *Plants that feed on compost sequester carbon*
- *50% diversion rate by 2020*
- *75% diversion rate by 2025*



# How to Reduce Your Waste

- *Pick one item to start; It's a process*
- *Just say, "No thank you"*
- *Bring your own reusable shopping bags, bags or containers for bulk, and produce bags*
- *Skip the packaging*
- *Make a to-go bag to leave in your car*
- *Find alternatives to products once finished*
- *Complete a home trash audit*
- *Implement self-sustainability practices with energy and food production*
- *Reduce water consumption*

# Zero Waste Mendocino Projects

- *Waste Reduction Program with the City of Fort Bragg*
- *Beginning to work with the Fort Bragg Unified School District on a Waste Reduction Program*
- *Compost Stamp for Pizza Boxes*
- *Also working with:*
  - *Noyo Center for Marine Science*
  - *MendoParks*
  - *Waste Management*
- *Overall Vision:*
  - *Mendocino County, its towns, and people practice Zero Waste in all aspects of life*

# Questions to Think About

- *What's one habit that you feel comfortable starting to shift?*
- *What's one waste-reduction dream you have for your town no matter how 'far-fetched' it may seem?*

*“We don’t need a handful of people doing zero waste perfectly. We need millions of people doing it imperfectly.”*  
*Anne-Marie Bonneau*

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