

# zerowaste

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY

## ZERO WASTE PLAN

for Prince George's County, Maryland

### 2017 and Beyond

Regardless of how you think “zero waste” and how you act “zero waste”, the following simple guidelines apply:

“If it can't be reduced, reused, repaired, rebuilt, refurbished, resold, recycled or composted, then it should be restricted, redesigned or removed from production.”

Berkeley Ecology Center

“Refuse, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, and Rot.”

Zero Waste Home



# WHAT IS ZERO WASTE?



A philosophy that encourages the redesign of resource life cycles so that all products are reused.



# WHAT IS ZERO WASTE?

It is becoming a proven and successful practice in many municipalities, local governments, businesses and homes.



2020 "Perfect Vision, Perfect Mission"



# WHY ZERO WASTE?

Prince George's County is ideally poised to leap into the practices of zero waste because:

- 1 Our Landfill has a current capacity until the year 2028.
- 2 Our recent Waste Characterization Report provides data that proves 75% of the waste disposed at our landfill is divertible.
- 3 Our residents and officials are excited and enthused with this common-sense approach for mapping our future of managing waste as a valued commodity.



# “ZERO”-ING IN ON PRINCE GEORGE’S COUNTY

Our current stakeholders, interests, commitments and involvement are growing.

Prince George’s  
Sierra Club  
Group

Community  
Forklift

Institute of  
Local Self-  
Reliance

Community  
Research

Building  
Materials Reuse  
Association

City of  
Greenbelt

Zero Waste  
Prince George’s

Waste Zero

Town of  
University Park



# PARADIGM SHIFT

Our 'waste' has tremendous value and is now treated as a commodity.

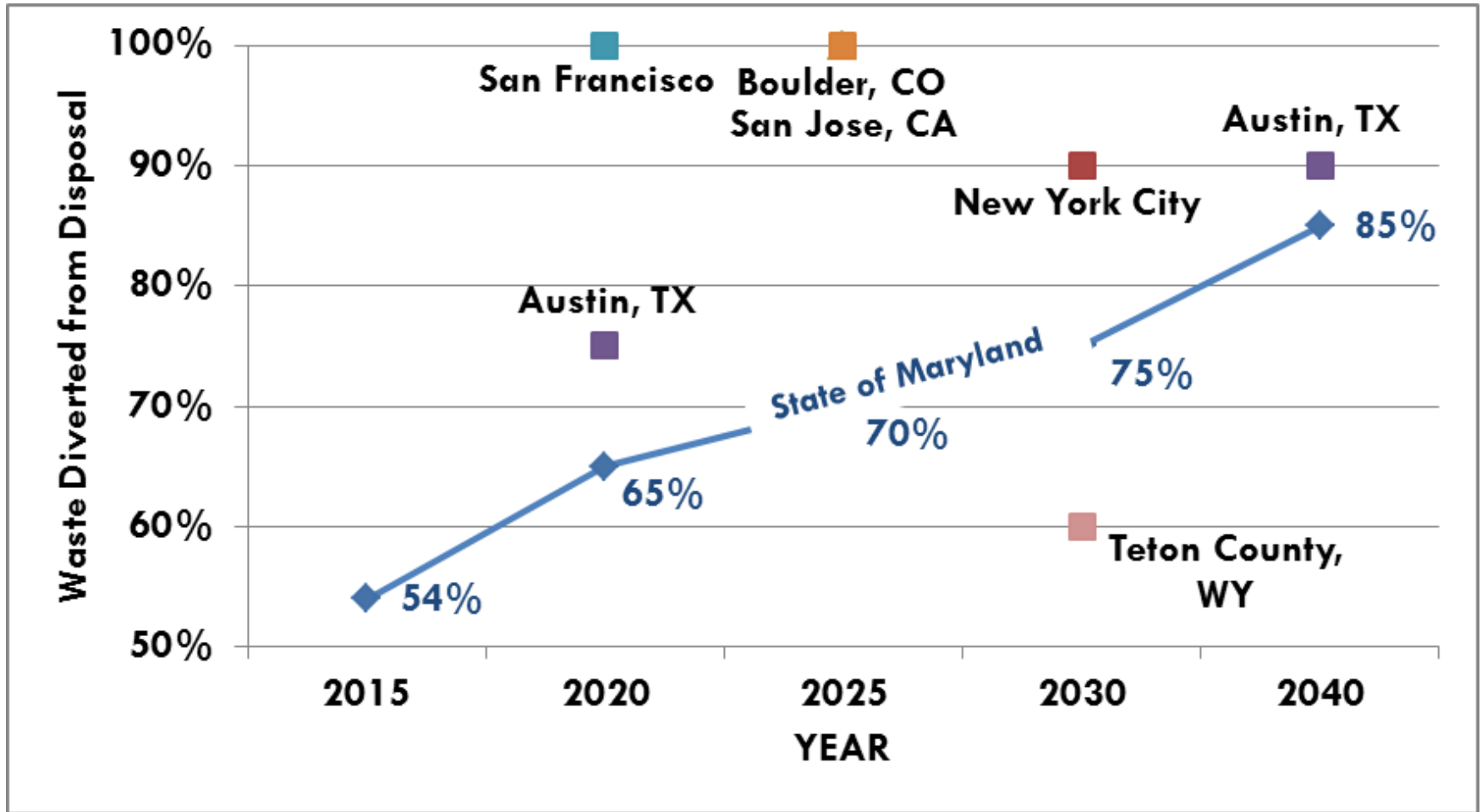


Recyclables used to be what we kept out of the trash

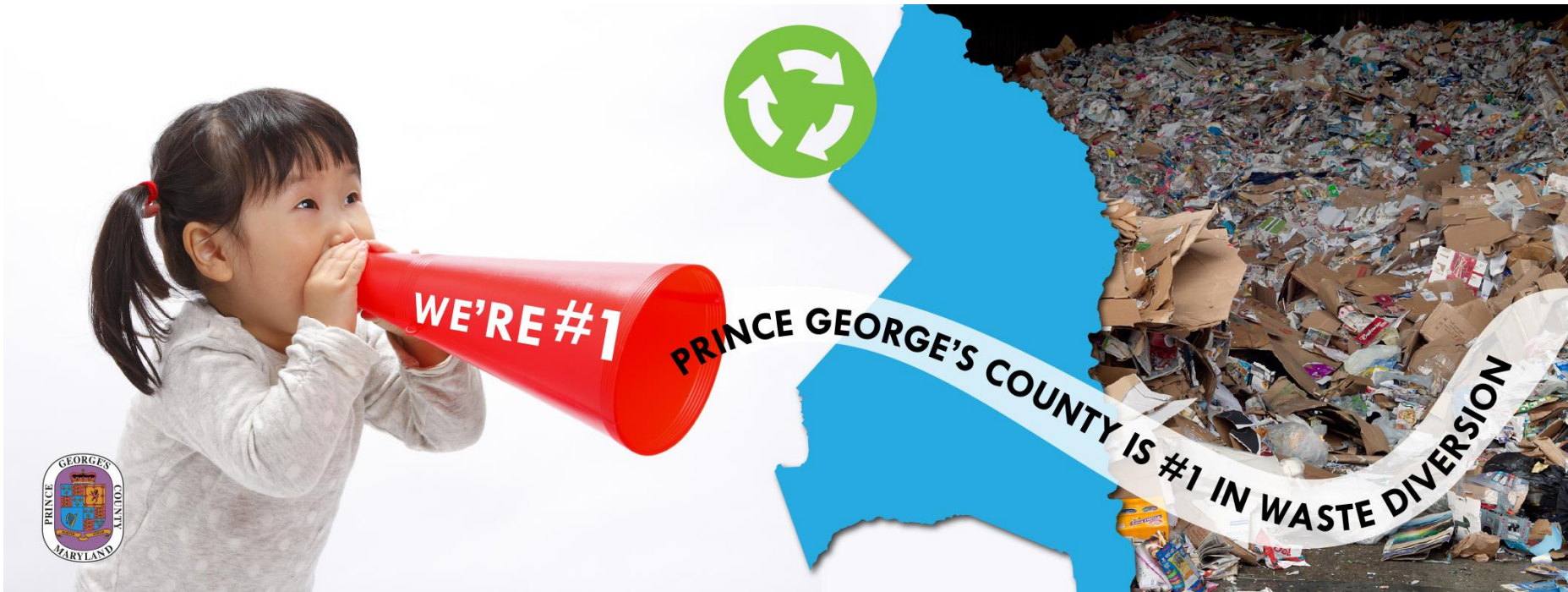


Now trash is what we have left over after we reuse, recycle and compost

# ZERO WASTE GOALS



# PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY IS #1 IN WASTE DIVERSION



ZERO WASTE PLAN for Prince George's County, Maryland | DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT



# PRACTICE WHAT WE PREACH

## SOURCE REDUCTION POLICY

It is DoE's goal to reduce waste at the source and before it is created. Employees will be encouraged to change their behaviors and do the following:

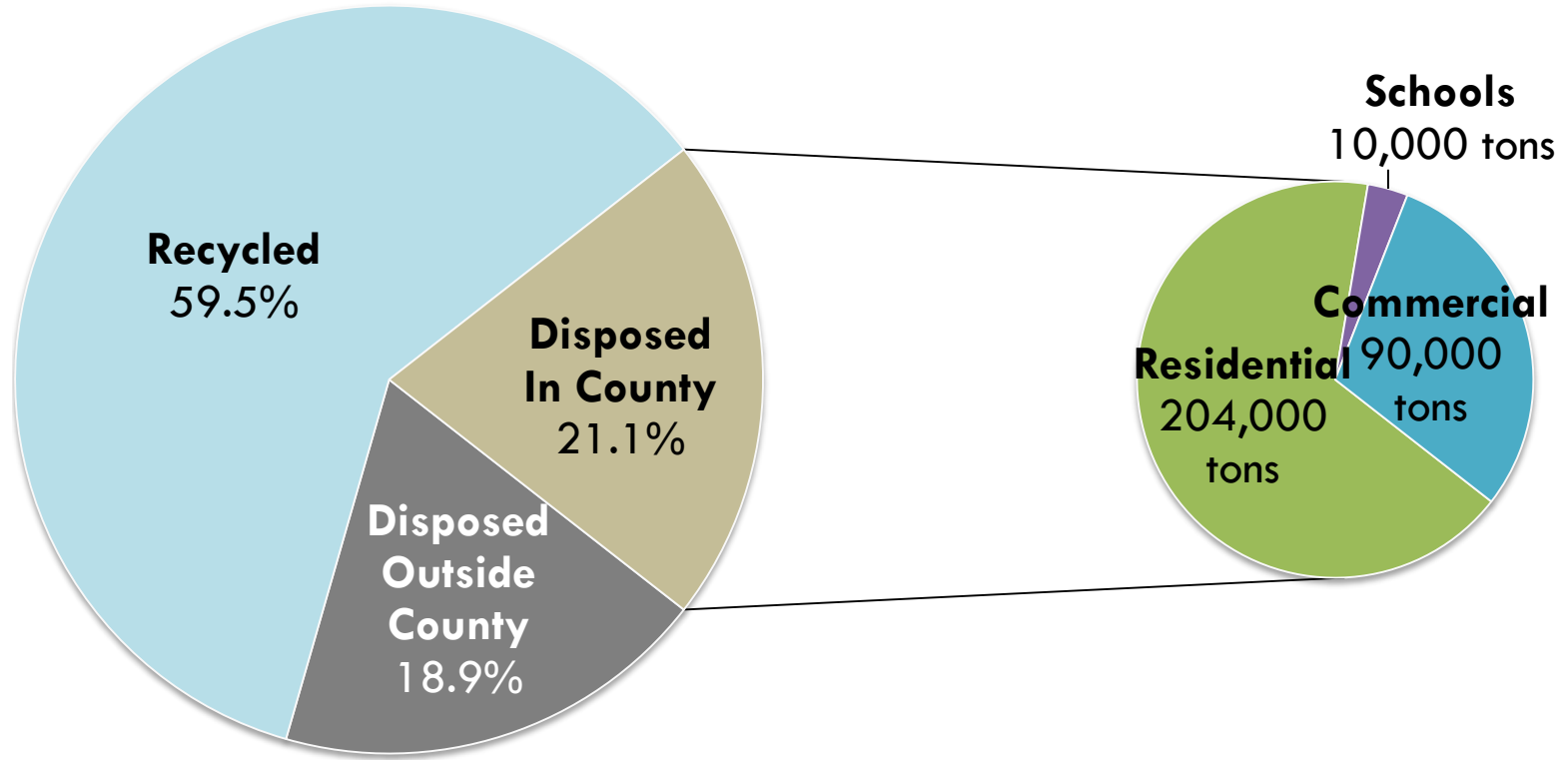
- 1 Use reusable bags
- 2 Use reusable drinking bottles
- 3 Pack lunch in reusable containers
- 4 Use thermoses for hot drinks
- 5 Use reusable coffee mugs and tea cups
- 6 Make reports available on-line
- 7 Donate, repair, refill, reuse or rebuild appliances and supplies

# HOW MUCH WASTE IS GENERATED IN OUR COUNTY?

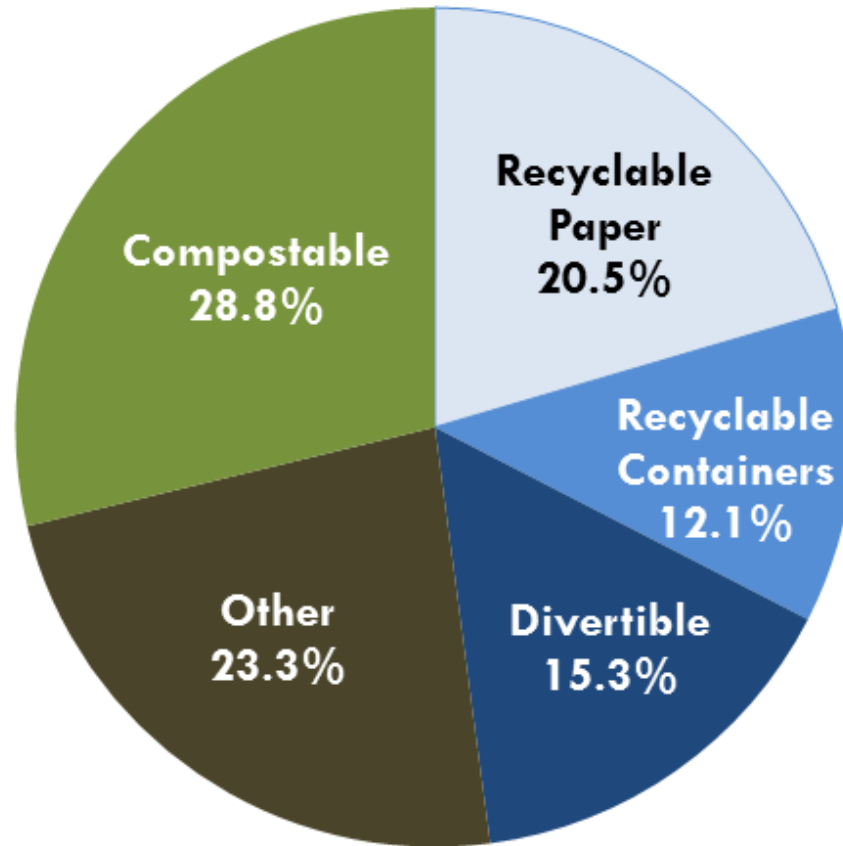
## 2013 ANNUAL TONNAGES

**GENERATED: 1.4M TONS**

**DISPOSED IN COUNTY: 304K TONS**



# WHAT IS IN OUR LANDFILL WASTE?



# REDUCE WASTE GENERATED

Expand Reuse Programs

Promote Extended Producer Responsibility

Support Container Deposit Legislation

Limit Single-Use Disposable Bags

Reduce Consumption (outreach and social marketing)

Technical Training for Building Material Reuse

Target Organics for Diversion

# RECYCLING ENHANCEMENTS

## **PUBLIC EDUCATION**

Work with Schools

Support Technical Training

## **IMPROVE CONVENIENCE**

Multi-Family Recycling

Special Events

## **PROVIDE INCENTIVE**

Pay-as-you-throw Programs

Construction & Demolition

Debris Ordinance

Require Recycling at  
Commercial Properties

County Government to Lead  
by Example

# COMPOSTING ENHANCEMENTS

**INCREASE CAPACITY  
AT WESTERN BRANCH**

**EXPAND COMPOSTING  
INFRASTRUCTURE**

Create Decentralized  
Composting Network

**SUPPORT COMMERCIAL  
FOOD REDUCTION AND  
DONATION PROGRAMS**

Provide Financial Assistance  
and Training



# COUNTY GREENING

## PORT TOWNS ECO DISTRICT

Goal is defined as achieving regional leadership in recycling, reuse and repurposing of buildings by promoting the transformation of industrial spaces into leading edge facilities that incubate and accelerate the development of green and sustainable businesses.

This Eco District will foster a thriving economic base which utilizes existing environmental assets while promoting unique behavior and identity.

## DEVELOPMENT OF GREEN TEAM

This is the functional 'hands-on' group that causes actions, tracks progress, measures and analyzes results, and perpetuates the cause

## MEASURE AND AUDIT PROGRESS

Progress is only proven with measurement, adjustment, and goals identified as immediate, mid term and long term.



# HOW TO COMMENT

DoE invites submittal of written comments beginning Tuesday, December 6, 2016 for a period of 45 days to Darryl L. Flick, at [zerowasteplan@co.pg.md.us](mailto:zerowasteplan@co.pg.md.us); be sure to reference Zero Waste Strategic Plan in the subject line.

Written comments may also be mailed to:

Prince George's County

Department of the Environment

1801 McCormick Drive, Largo, MD 20774

**ATTN:** Darryl L. Flick

Verbal comments may be provided at either public meeting.





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