



Reduce, Reuse, Recycle



Overview



Waste Generation in Hennepin County



Waste Prevention



Recycling Process



Recycling Yes/No's



Waste Sort!

Waste Generation in Hennepin County

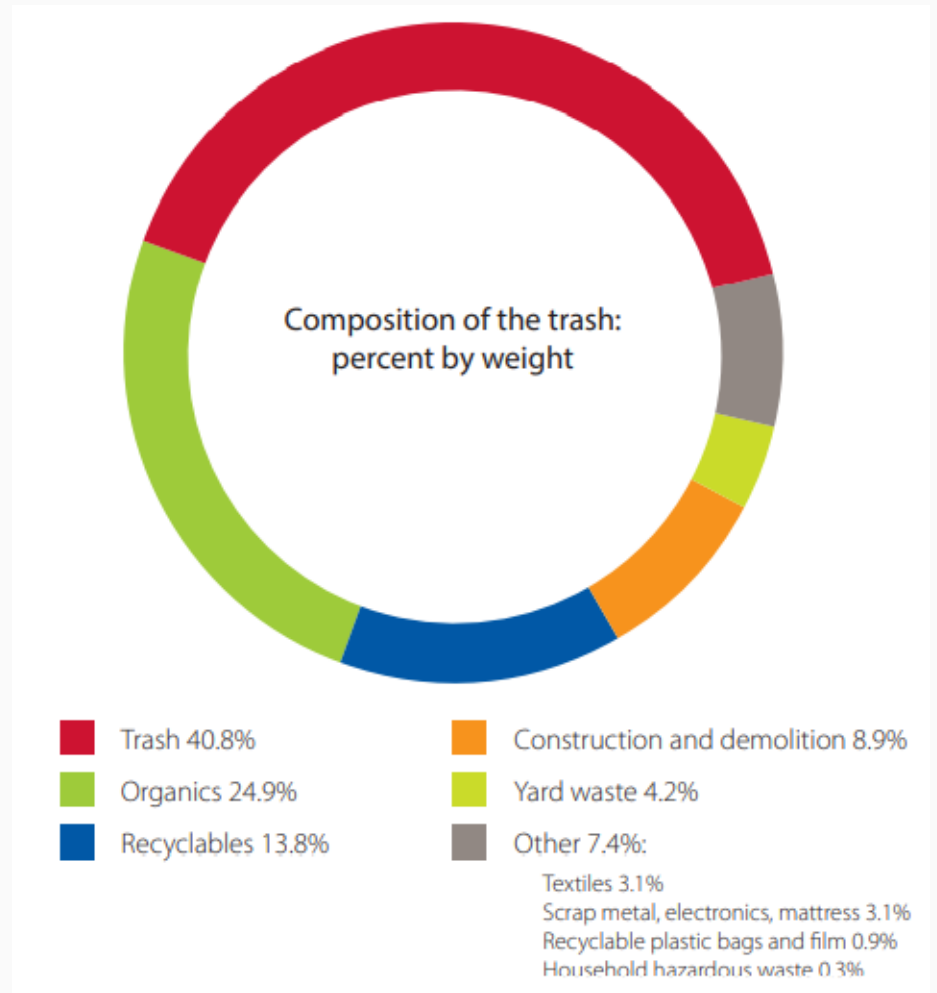


Hennepin County Waste Generation

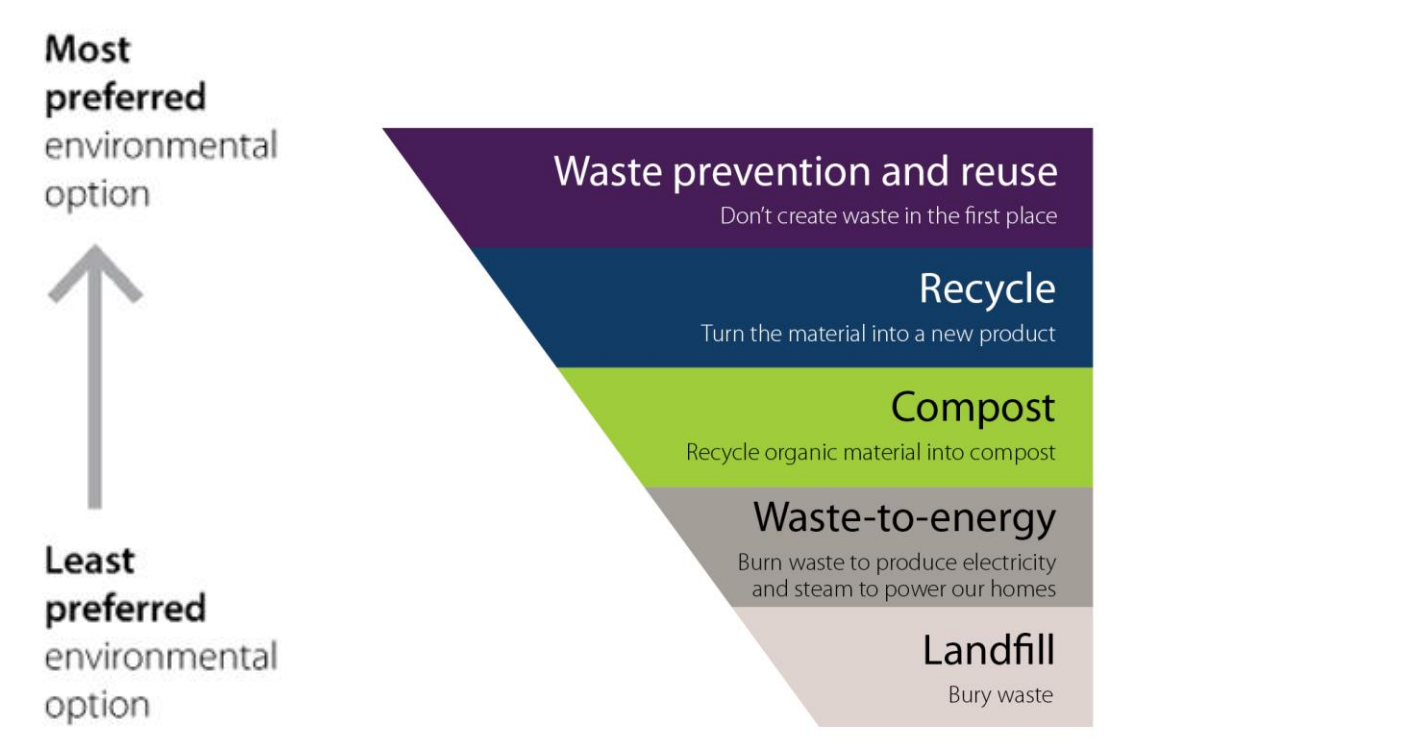
- About 1.45 million tons of municipal solid waste were generated in 2018.
- Add up all the waste created in the county in a year and it's enough to fill Target Field more than **11** times.



What's in our trash?



Waste Hierarchy



Waste Prevention



Waste Prevention

Waste prevention is not disposal.



Not here...



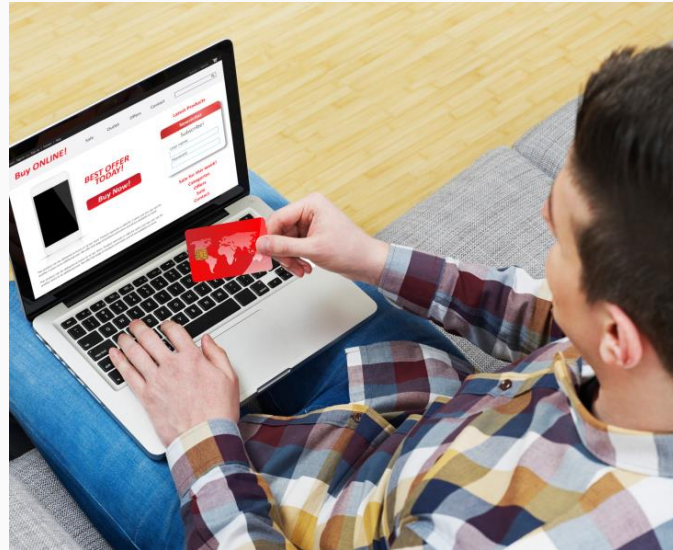
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...or here.

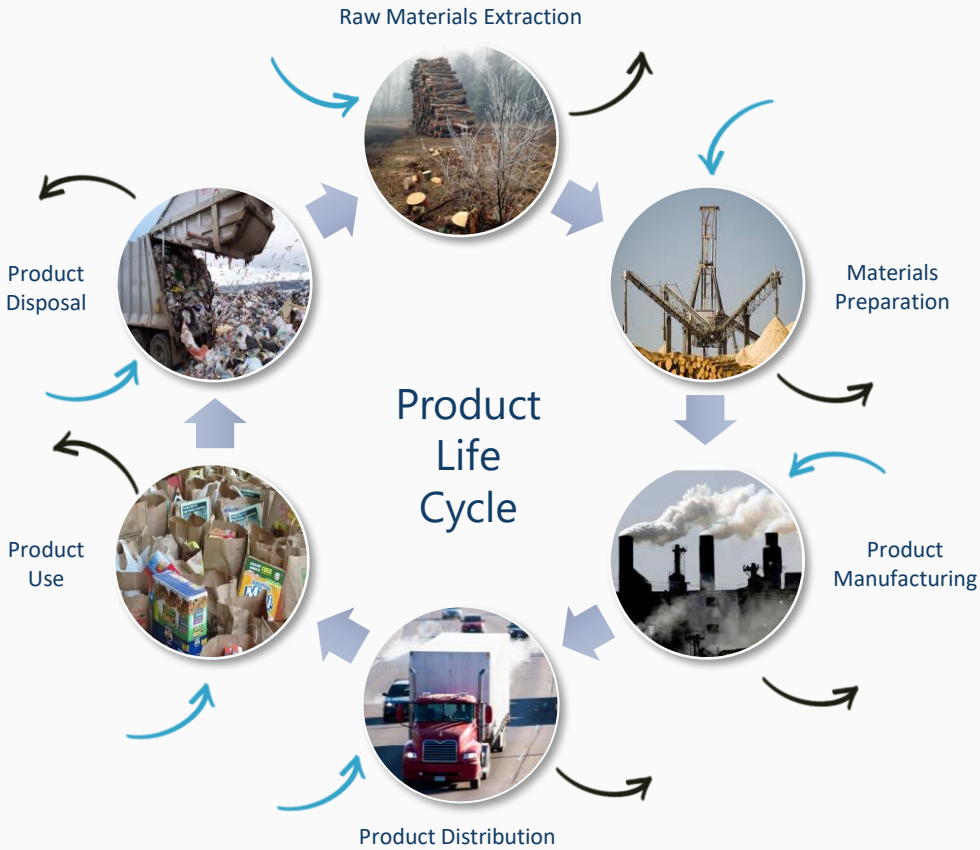
Waste Prevention is Better Consumption

Once a new product is in your hand, it's too late to prevent waste





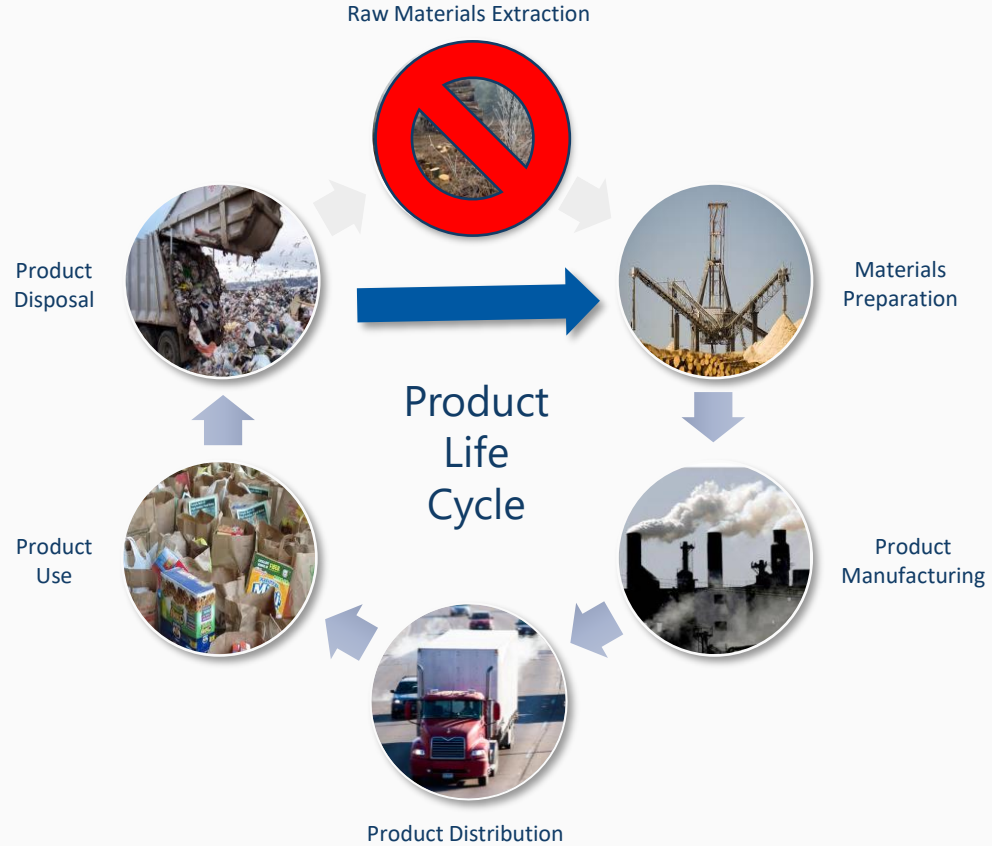
Isn't the goal landfill diversion?



Each stage of the life cycle includes resource & energy inputs and wastes & pollution outputs.

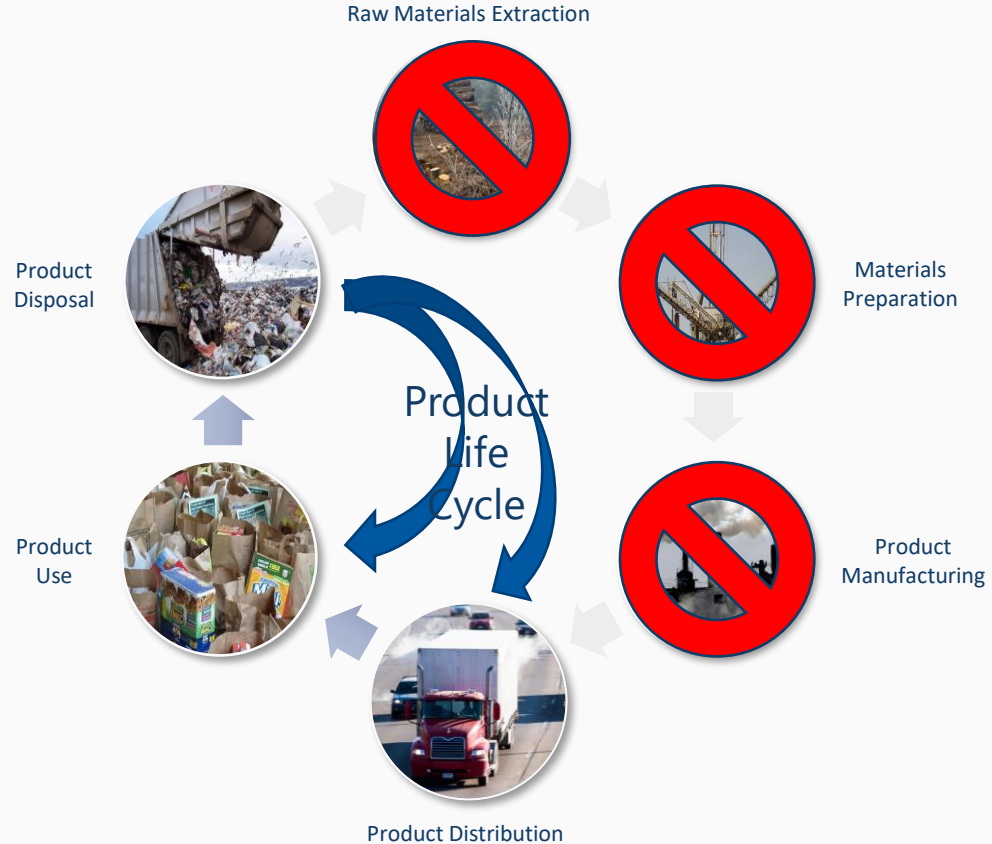


Recycling Helps...



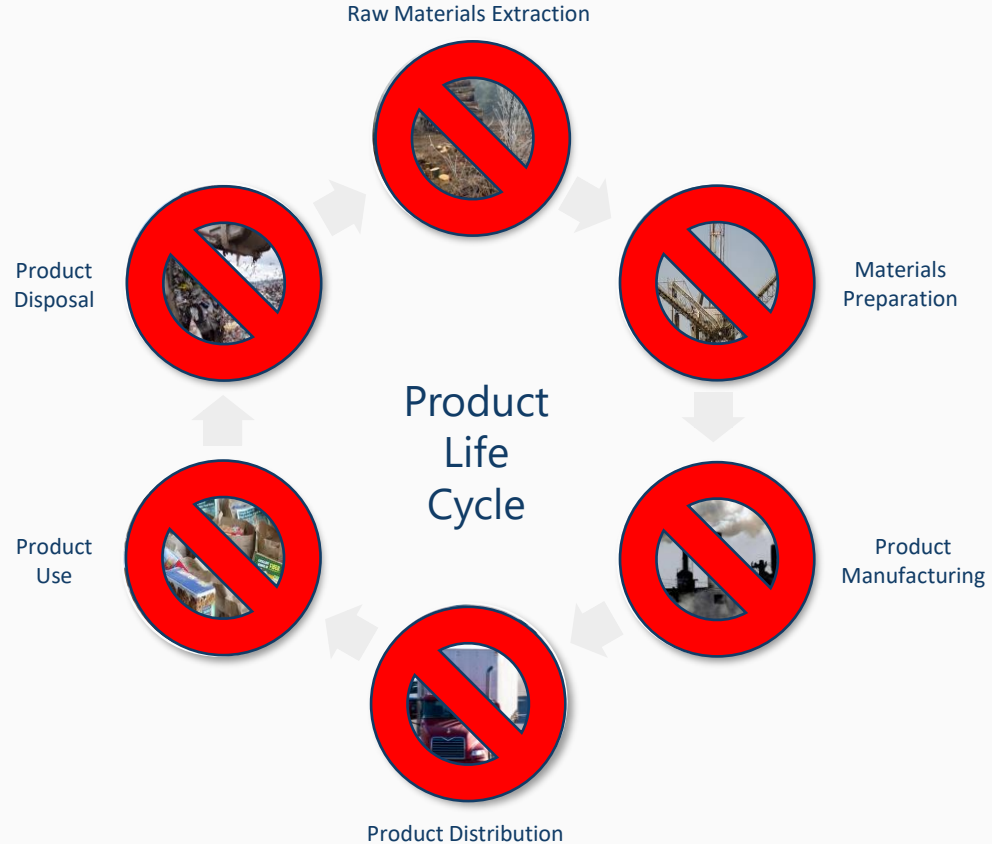
Buy products made from recycled content to close the loop.

Reusing is Way Better



Reuse consistently for the greatest improvement – one is good. More isn't better!

There are NO GREEN Products



We prevent the solid waste, but the bigger win is:

No virgin materials extracted. No water & energy used. No materials processed & transported.

Waste Prevention Take-Aways

- Once a new product is in your hand, it's too late to prevent waste.
- Before buying new, first consider if you can reuse, rent, repair or go without.
- There are no "green" products.
- Best things in life are experiences, not things.

Questions



Recycling Process

What makes something recyclable?

- Collection: convenience, size/shape, contamination
- Processing: identification, sorting, size, design
- End markets: demand, volume, value
- Can it be used to make a new product?



Recycling Guide

Paper

- Mail, office, and school papers
- Magazines and catalogs
- Newspapers and inserts
- Phone books

Boxes:

- Cardboard
- Cereal and cracker boxes
- Shoe boxes, gift boxes, and electronics boxes
- Toothpaste, medication, and other toiletry boxes



Cartons

- Milk cartons
- Juice boxes
- Soup, broth, and wine cartons



Glass

- Food and beverage bottles and jars



Plastic

Bottles and jugs:

- Water, soda, and juice bottles
- Milk and juice jugs
- Ketchup and salad dressing bottles
- Dishwashing liquid bottles and detergent jugs
- Shampoo, soap, and lotion bottles



Cups and containers:

- Yogurt, pudding, and fruit cups
- Clear disposable cups and bowls
- Margarine, cottage cheese, and other containers
- Produce, deli, and takeout containers



Metal

- Food and beverage cans



Not accepted:

- Plastic bags, film, and wrap
- Batteries
- Large plastic items like laundry baskets, storage tubs, and toys
- Random metal items like pots, pipes, and hangers
- Plastic foam (Styrofoam™)
- Paper cups and plates
- Plastic utensils and straws
- Hoses, cords, and string lights
- Glass dishes, drinking glasses, window glass, and ceramics
- Containers that held hazardous products

1. Collect it



Recycling Guide

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- Magazines and catalogs
- Newspapers and inserts
- Phone books

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Cups and containers:

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- Clear disposable cups and bowls
- Margarine, cottage cheese, and other containers
- Produce, deli, and takeout containers



Metal

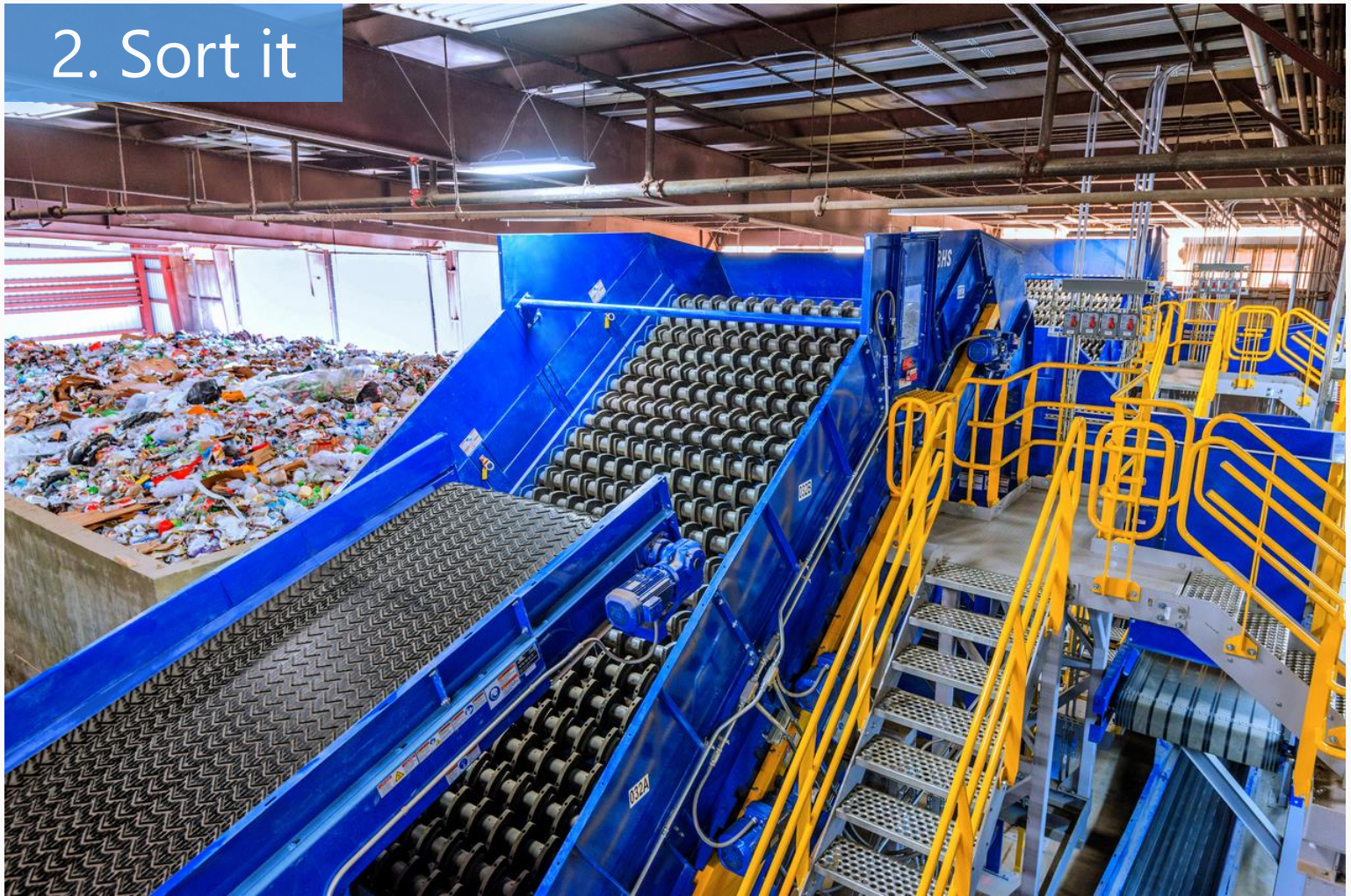
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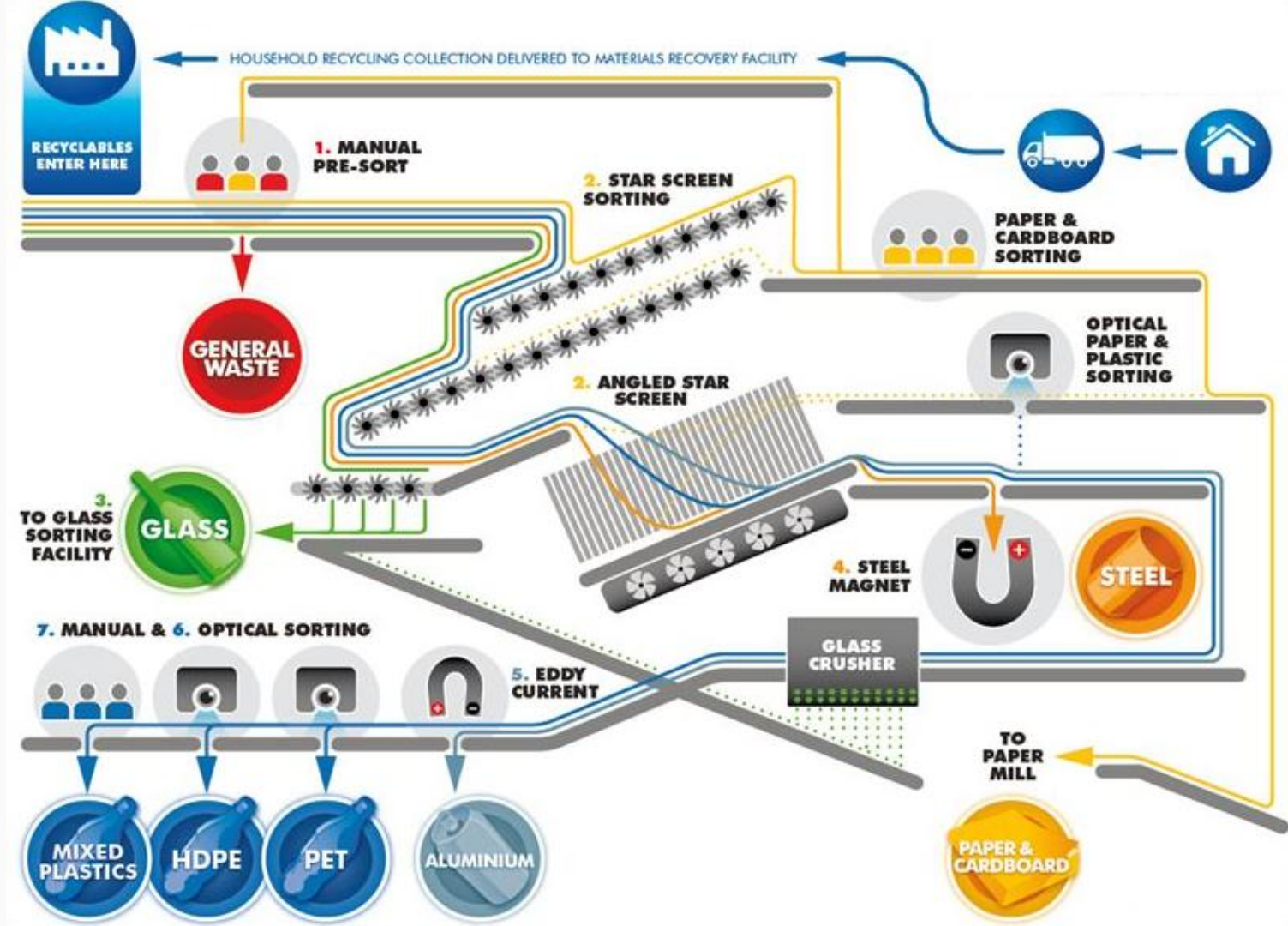


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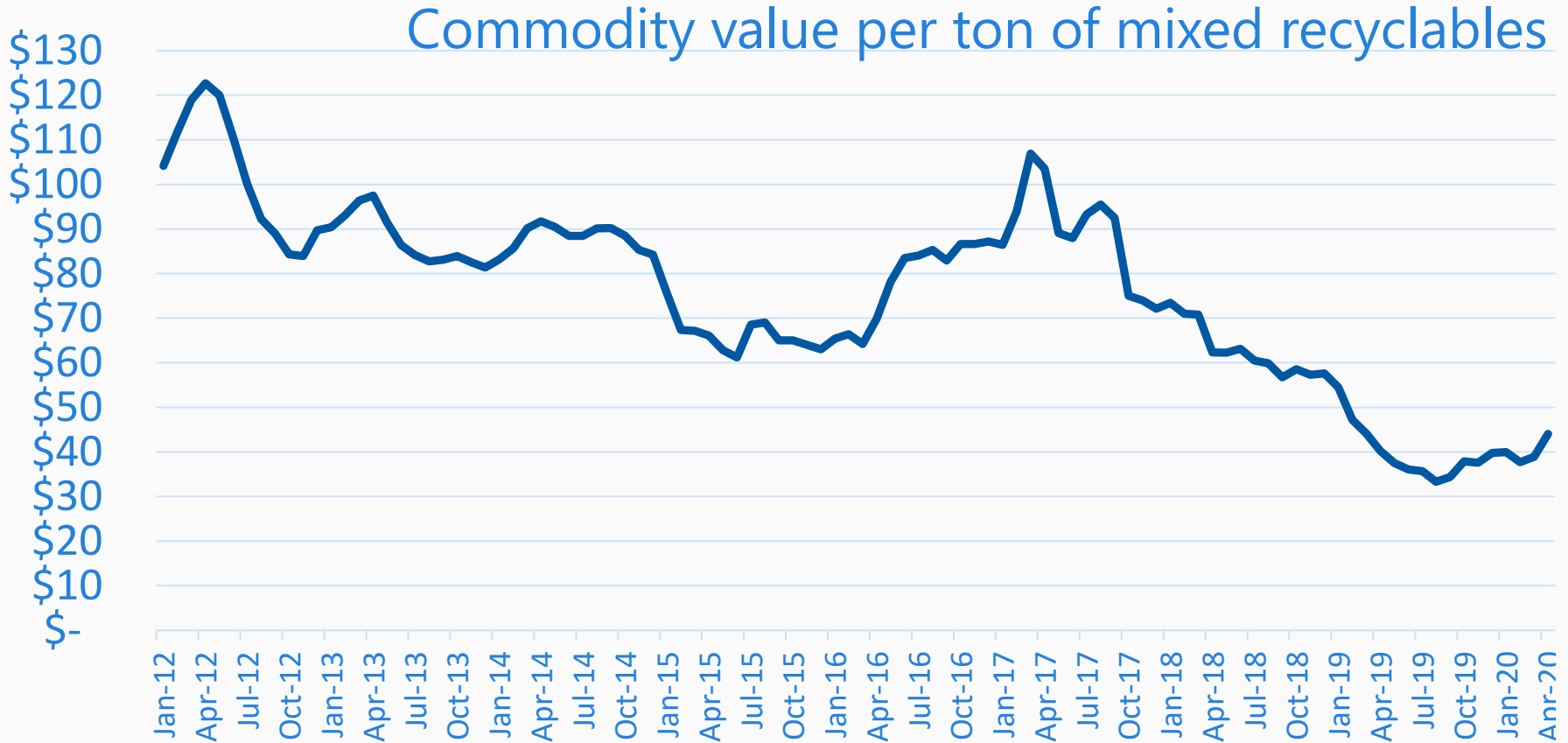
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- Hoses, cords, and string lights
- Glass dishes, drinking glasses, window glass, and ceramics
- Containers that held hazardous products

2. Sort it





3. Sell it



Recycling at home

- Plymouth contracts with Republic to provide curbside recycling service to single family through 8-plex residential homes
- Apartments and other multifamily over 8 units contract for recycling service with a private hauler



Resources for residents

- City of Plymouth website
- Hennepin County website
- Green Disposal Guide
- Hennepin County Drop Offs
- Free signs, labels, education materials



Recycling at work

- Across Hennepin County, businesses contract for recycling service with a private hauler
- Accepted recyclables should be more/less the same
- Business must adhere to state, county and city recycling laws and regulations



Laws and ordinances about recycling

State of MN:

Commercial property owners in the 7-county metro that produce 4 cubic yards or more of trash per week must recycle at least three materials effective January 1, 2016.

Hennepin County Ordinance 13:

Recycling requirement:
Incorporates state law and adds labeling and service reqs.

Food scraps collection requirement: Requires certain businesses to collect food scraps back of house

Multifamily: Adds labeling, service, accessibility and education reqs.

Resources for multifamily and businesses

- Free signs, labels, education materials
- Hennepin County Grants
- Education and training



How can you help at work?

- Be the recycling instigator at your work, school, place of worship, volunteer site, etc.
- Engage where you shop; don't be afraid to ask or say something. Businesses are very sensitive to what their customers want.
- Let others know about county/city programs and resources and that we're here to help.

Recycling Yes/No's



Accepted Recycling Items



Recycling Guide

Paper

- Mail, office, and school papers
- Magazines and catalogs
- Newspapers and inserts
- Phone books

Boxes:

- Cardboard
- Cereal and cracker boxes
- Shoe boxes, gift boxes, and electronics boxes
- Toothpaste, medication, and other toiletry boxes



Cartons

- Milk cartons
- Juice boxes
- Soup, broth, and wine cartons



Glass

- Food and beverage bottles and jars



Plastic

Bottles and jugs:

- Water, soda, and juice bottles
- Milk and juice jugs
- Ketchup and salad dressing bottles
- Dishwashing liquid bottles and detergent jugs
- Shampoo, soap, and lotion bottles



Cups and containers:

- Yogurt, pudding, and fruit cups
- Clear disposable cups and bowls
- Margarine, cottage cheese, and other containers
- Produce, deli, and takeout containers



Metal

- Food and beverage cans



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- Glass dishes, drinking glasses, window glass, and ceramics
- Containers that held hazardous products

Paper

- Mail, office and school papers (not shredded)
- Magazines and catalogs
- Newspapers and inserts
- Phone books
- Paperback books (no hardcovers)
- Boxes and Cardboard (flattened)



Metal

- Food cans
- Beverage cans



Glass

- Brown, green and clear
- Food jars
- Beverage bottles



Plastics

- Bottles and jugs: Water, soda, milk, juice, ketchup, salad dressing, dish soap, detergent, shampoo, soap, lotion
- Cups: Yogurt, pudding and fruit cups, clear disposable drinking cups
- Containers: Margarine, whipped cream, cottage cheese, produce



Cartons

- Milk cartons
- Soy/nut milk cartons
- Juice boxes
- Soup/broth cartons



Challenges for Recyclers



Plastic bags

- Plastic bags get caught up in machinery and must be manually cut-out by workers several times a day.
- When put in the mixed recycling plastic bags...
 - reduce efficiencies
 - cause damage to equipment
 - create a hazard for workers



Small Items

- Caps **on** or **off**?
 - Same material as container: leave them on.
 - Different material: take them off.
- Items smaller than ~2x2 inches do not recycle well



“Wish-cycling”

Recycling

- Act of recycling items that are **accepted by your local program**, to be collected, sorted, and marketed to manufacturers who will make new products from them.

Wish-cycling

- Act of recycling other stuff that you **hope** will be accepted by your local program, stuff you’re **not sure about but trust someone else will sort it out** if it can’t be recycled.

Other Challenges

- How clean is clean?
- Shredded Paper
- Plastic-lined paper
- Black plastic
- Very small items



Questions



Waste Sort

