

NH Network Plastics Working Group Notes (PWG) #72

Sunday, Sunday, October 6, 6 pm

Next Regular Meeting: Sunday, October 20, 6 pm

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87209928697>

Meeting ID: 872 0992 8697

+19292056099,87209928697# US (New York)

[Plastics Working Group Slide Deck Link \(all may add resources\)](#)

[Ten Towns Toolkit website Link](#)

[2024 Facilitator Schedule](#)

[Action Tracking Spreadsheet](#)

[NH Network Bills Resource](#)

 Ten Towns Ten Actions Promotion Pieces

Attending

(KEEP THIS LIST INTACT AND EDIT EACH MEETING - USUALLY SIMILAR ATTENDEES SHOW UP EACH TIME)

NOTE: Names in **bold** were in attendance.

Mary Armstrong, Clayton Barrows, **Kristine Baber**, Mark B, Patsy Beffa-Negrini, Sarah Boudreau, Dennis Brown (Falmouth ME working to reduce plastic), Rep. Tony Caplan, Carolyn Choate, Clark Corson/Carol Foss (Collaborative Solid Waste Strategies), **Paul Del Frari**, **Alice DonnaSelva**, Christina Dubin, **Rep. Sherry Dutzy**, Rep. Karen Ebel, Rep. Nick Germana, **Cindy Heath**, Nancy Ladd and daughter Sarah, Peggy Longley, Reb MacKenzie, **Kathy Manfre**, Bruce Norlund, **Rep. Lucius Parshall**, Ann Podlipny, Susan Posluszny, Raelene Shippee-Rice, **Susan Richman**, Rep Peter Schmidt, **Susan Smith**, **Carol Sullivan**, Darla Thyng, Cynthia Walter, Douglas Whitbeck, Roger Andrews

1. Land Acknowledgment, Norms, Leader in Every Chair, Welcome New Attendees

2. Upcoming Events/Education

- Oct 7 [NH Network Event - Campaigning for the Climate](#)
- Oct 25 - [Solid Waste Working Group](#), 9:30-11:30 AM
- Nov 6 to Nov 22 - Next LSR filing period
- Dec 9 - Aftermath of Fast Fashion (rescheduled) - NH Network Event, Monday 6:00 PM

3. Discussion/Presentations

- **Legislative Research Group Update**
 - [Legislator Tracking Spreadsheet](#)
 - Open to all to add environmentally friendly reps/senators and their contact information and areas of expertise
 - Has a tab for bills PWG is considering supporting this session and that legislators are considering submitting
 - We are interested in collating a list of environmentally active legislators that we can work with
 - Sherry shared that Karen's PFAS HB 1649 would have been roll called so we should have a good list of which Republicans supported it and which Democrats did not. This could give us a good starting list edited for elections.
 - Susan has the roll call list and will do the work on entering it into the right place.

- Rep. Parshall - Extended Producer Responsibility for Packaging - hearing from Democratic side that this may not be a sell for this year. Will be putting in a bill for certification for compostable plastics.
- Karen Ebel is focusing SWWG efforts on putting forth an EPR bill for paint; may consider toxics in food packaging next year
- Toxics in food packaging bill
 - CH has a question about whether we can add certain chemicals to the existing bill on toxins
 - Rep. Parshall thinks that is a good idea and would be glad to draft something to that effect CH and Rep. Parshall will touch base offline on this
- A bill trying to extend Karen Ebel's PFAS bill to include artificial turf, KB asked Rep Parshall about sponsoring such a bill. He recommended Wendy Thomas as a logical point person on this. He will touch base on Wendy Thomas when he sees her Thursday.
- Carol shared that Matt Wilhelm is someone we should have on our list
 - Bill passed in 2024 to establish a committee to explore a civilian service corps focused on environmental areas
 - Sherry believes that this is tangential to the work we are doing
 - Sherry also shared that Matt Wilhelm is being pulled in a number of different directions right now
- KB updates - Christina Dubin put KB in touch with a rep from _____Health. Nora Bosworth from CLF will be returning to work mid-October and will let KB know if she will be able to work with PWG in a similar role to what she has in the past.
- Susan Richmond asked about veto override day - it is this coming Thursday. Sherry shared that it will just be votes. Does it make sense to have a presence there? Most of it will not be PWG related. Sherry does not think it is worth reporting.
- Set Next Meeting Date - Sherry is willing to lead the Legislative Research Group and will convene the meetings by Zoom. Cindy and Sherry will talk offline.
- **Legislative Updates**
 - Container Deposit Bill
 - [National Caucus of Env. Legislators Fact Sheet](#)
 - [NH Needs a Bottle Bill One Pager](#)
 - [CDB Resources Doc](#); [CDB/EPR Advocates & Opponents Slides](#)
 - **ACTION: Introduce the bill, and work through the process with detractors at the public hearing**
 - Clark Corson (former bottle bill lobbyist) is reviewing the bill
 - Sherry no new additions to this info - waiting for election results

4. Updates from Ten Towns, Ten Actions Leaders & Attendees

- **Paul - Laconia:** Green Sanctuary Committee tabled at the multi-cultural festival; plastic film collection has consistent good response; attending workshop in VT on foam recycling; appreciates Patsy's newsletter re: increasing reuse; organized effort to process beverage containers; postcarding to voters
- **Cindy - Cornish Flat:** attending workshop in Lyndonville on foam recycling October 8th at 5PM with Meghan & Lou from Foam Cycle; Cornish Hen Party elected to be a Zero Waste event. Preparing to reach out to Blue Sky Group - 3-4 Restaurant chain to promote the Skip The Stuff Campaign. They have eliminated foam in their take out containers. CEO is very environmentally concerned. STS may be an entry point toward a reusables pilot.
- **Mary A - Harrisville:** Had a great meeting with a local business on Reducing waste toward Zero Waste. Impressed by what they are doing and we will be trying to help them in 6 areas. We want to get support from business before we approach the select board for a Proclamation.. Met with Aldwith Manor which is a big event place and they had an interest. Patsy and Mary offered to help with them.
- **Carol - Center Harbor:** Looking to connect with people with shared environmental views and interests - working with the town of Meredith and New Hampton. Working with GOTV. Planning a Button Up event on November 20 with NH saves.
- **Kristine - Dover:** Tabled at Apple Harvest Day Sustainability Expo, 6 month interviews with restaurants in Returnable, Reusable Take Out Pilot; 100% returns on containers after 6 mos.; case study analysis; info to be made available; # containers, willingness to pay questions
- **Alice - Concord:** 350nh came to UU Church to introduce the congregation to Climate Justice. Turnout was small (10-15) but interested. They shared some actions UU Concord may take to advance Climate Justice in our area. Offered to work with the congregation to help choose our first action.
- **Susan R - Durham:** "IWMAC" will be meeting with Hannaford people on Oct 16; hope we can find funding for compost expansion; tax bills will have information on composting and recycling; talking with town departments about alternatives to bottled water; working on town declaration to restrict bottled water use
- **Kathy - Peterborough:** Piloting foam collection program; exploring densifier set up in Peterborough.; tabling at recycling center and farmers' market; dedicated members
- **Sherry** - needs to get connected with DPW. [Stellos Stadium has been closed due to artificial turf](#) safety concerns. Not much information available right now.
- **Ann-Chester** - Organizing a trash pick up day with Chester Academy on 10/26. Meeting with Manchester Water Treatment Plant regarding how to manage dangerous PFAS levels in sewage. Joined the Lead Exposure Prevention Commission (Manchester Health Dept) to help reduce lead in schools and homes. This is an environmental justice issue. Tried multiple times to contact Hannafords manager but no response to pilot program of mesh bags at fruit and vegetable areas.

Clarification from Cynthia Walter on CCL website information on impact of plastics carbon footprint:

Please consider this in conversations with Citizens Climate Lobby folks in NH. We all need to help each other in our efforts. One way is to try to share info and make adjustments in our web pages and public statements.

Citizens Climate Lobby website info on carbon footprint of plastics states that plastic is about 3% of the world carbon budget. They do not cite a source or provide a link. This number might have been a guess from info such as the following found in an abstract from a peer-reviewed paper I found within just a few minutes:

"GHG emissions from cradle to grave of plastics will reach 1.34 Gt per year by 2030." The whole carbon budget in 2050 is estimated at around 420–570 gigatons. However, if you read further in the article, the authors state: "The cumulative greenhouse gas emissions from cradle to grave of plastics may exceed 56 gigatons by 2050 (approximately accounting for **10%–13%** of the total remaining carbon budget)"

Source: [\(Micro\)plastic crisis: Unignorable contribution to global greenhouse gas emissions and climate change](#)

- **ACTION: Someone (Patsy?) will reach out to Citizens Climate Lobby and provide this information and discuss the possibility of them updating their website.**

- **PWG Priorities Action Plan - Getting It Done**
 - [LINK to Action Plan](#)
 - [LINK TO SURVEY RESULTS](#)
 - [SUMMARY](#)
 - [Link to Discussion on Sept 8 - PWG Meeting #70](#)
 - **ACTION: Ask an environmental legislator to host an environmental caucus and invite our list of environmental legislators**
 - Wait until after election for this to invite those who have been elected
 - **ACTION: Susan to contact Nick Germana, Karen Ebel for advice on environmental caucus**

- **Open Space Topics**
 - **Reuse Bag Initiative** - get bags from conference organizers and redistribute to grocery stores, social service organizations
 - **Citizens' Climate Lobby on plastics:**
<https://citizensclimatelobby.org/blog/advocacy/the-link-between-plastic-pollution-and-climate-change/>
 - Perhaps we can use this opportunity to educate CCL on their position on the importance of spending time on plastic activism
 - **Next steps on priorities - outreach to respondents who want to be involved**
 - **Upstream** initiative for large events to start a reusable cup program; would generate a business to wash the cups and return them to the vendors
 - How can this work in NH with our rural nature?
 - Manchester arenas; Fisher Cats games are our large venues
 - Usefull (company that can deal with large scale venues and Universities)
 - 99% return rate on reusables
 - <https://www.usefull.us/>
 - NH Businesses for Social Responsibility partnership?
 - Here's an entire brief on what I was talking about regarding "anchor venues" and "wash hubs."
<https://upstreamolutions.org/blog/putting-reuse-into-practice>
 - Guidance on how to break through to Hannaford's corporate to reduce plastic bag use
 - Kristine has contact at Hannaford's - George Parmenter, Director of Sustainability, for Ahold Delhaize USA; George.Parmenter@AholdDelhaizeUSA.com
 - NERC webinars - <https://www.nerc.org/webinars-overview>
 - Reuse network webinar - Patsy recommends
 - Plastics industry interests are not the same as our interests - reduction v. recycling
 - As You Sow - environmental investing group; puts pressure on companies for issues like plastic reduction and use to influence shareholders; try to harness shareholder power to change companies; <https://www.asyousow.org/about-us>
 - NCABC Leaders will meet with us - discuss how their meeting works?
 - Possible lunch at legislative office building - John Gage is thinking about this too
 - New legislative session, so can work on the bills for two years
 - On house sessions days, Dems/Reps have caucus before session

- KB - Skip the Stuff Campaign is something we could put into action quickly. SB 1207 was submitted last year. Could be an action for people who want to focus on education - could be a way to work on legislation as well.
 - Tony Kaplan was the legislator who sponsored such a bill (1207) last session
 - What are the politics of asking another legislator to sponsor it
 - Could start with asking Tony who he would recommend as a possible sponsor this year
 - Legislature usually does not like bans - artificial turf is a different case
 - Tony's bill, Sherry felt it has problems in terms of implementation
 - Think of it instead as an enabling legislation - has to be carefully drafted
 - How it is written - who it impacts and how it is implemented has to be carefully considered
- Susan asks whether we should put all our efforts behind one bill or a focus on a number of bills
 - Any bill that calls for systemic change is going to be an uphill battle according to Sherry. She recommends that smaller asks that build on each other are a better process.
 - Sherry suggests that artificial turf bill would be better separated from Karen's bill
 - The more complicated the bill, the less likely it is to pass
 - Cindy asks is it better to work with individual restaurants and grocery stores etc. as a collective action and bypass legislation
 - Sherry suggests writing enabling legislation instead that allows cities and towns to implement such actions
 - How do we find out what enabling legislation we have? Sherry suggests doing a search on enabling legislation at gencourt website

- **Resources - (copied from Sept 8 PWG Meeting #70)**

- [Reuse Policy Tracker By Upstream](#)
- [2024-25 PWG Action Steps & August 11 Discussion Notes](#)
- [Full Report](#) - Mobilizing Federal Action on Plastic Pollution
- [Report Fact Sheet](#) - Biden-Harris Administration Releases New Strategy to Tackle Plastic Pollution, Takes Action to Reduce Single-Use Plastics in Federal Operations
- [Beyond Plastics](#) - Working to End Single Use Plastic Pollution

Other Updates

- [Cindy shared a polystyrene bill from the state of Washington.](#) Sherry thought this might be worth introducing in NH and connecting it with toxins in the containers.

Future Agenda Items

- **Political Action Discussion**

The discussion began at the June meeting regarding learning more about state and local candidates including developing questions for candidates and ideas for items such as bumper stickers, postcards, etc. that Kennedy McGrath might design.

- [How did they vote?](#) (Partial view of Legislators' voting records)
- [Sample 'Environment/Energy/Climate' questions for candidate forums](#)

Below this Line: Resources in General (not agenda items)

12. Legislative - Past

- Bag Ban introduced by Laurel Stavis (Lebanon)

13. Legislative - Future

- **Toxics in Food Packaging** - [Link to Working Document](#)
 - Should be a separate bill from container deposit law - who will champion this? NHHCA?
 - Contact Wendy Murphy & Karen Ebel to co-write and sponsor; Bill Palmer will be involved
 - Strategizing on Future Legislation with Gretchen Salter
- **Microplastics in Water** - [Link to Working Document](#)

14. Future Agenda Items

- Presentation to NH Legislative Committee on the environment
- Road map tour of NH legislative website
- Connect with Businesses for Social Responsibility
- EPR Toolkit & Solid Waste Event - EPR: "Breaking It Down" [Link to Working Slide Deck](#) - Cindy

15. Resources

- **NHLA Sustainability Book List**
 - NH Library Association's Sustainability Committee has created a spreadsheet of titles and resources (not just climate change). Send additional titles to Nancy Ladd? Linked at the bottom of their web page:
<https://www.nhlibrarians.org/Pages/Index/226518/sustainability-home-page>
- **Food Security**
 - **NH Food Hub Network**
 - <https://www.newhampshirenetwork.org/resources/agriculture-food-and-public-health#h.w9g0yko055hg>
 - **Messaging about Policy**
 - <https://www.10towns.org/actions/policy-actions/testify-about-plastic-pollution>
- **Film - The Politics of Beauty** - about Stewart Udall
- **Reuse Resources**
 - [Upstream Article: Reuse vs. Single Use: Economics](#)
 - [Foodware To Go](#)
 - [Reusable Packaging Association](#)
 - [Reuse Seattle](#), [Reusables](#), [Zero Waste USA](#)
- **350 NH**
- **[Fossil Fuel Investments](#) Webinar**
 - 99% of Americans are forced to invest in fossil fuels in their retirement plans.
 - Almost 20% of investments in fossil fuels come from retirement savings.
 - If you took 12 companies including Adobe, Amazon, Apple, Google, Intuit, Meta, Microsoft, Netflix, Oracle, etc: the employees have lost \$5.1 billion due to their companies investing in fossil fuels.
 - If you took \$10,000 and invested in fossil fuels 10 years ago, guess how much money you'd have today? \$10,004.
 - If you took the \$10,000 and invested in the S&P 500 minus the fossil fuels, you'd have \$34,851!
 - Google has invested \$1.7 billion in fossil fuels through their retirement savings. If they hadn't done that it would be like taking 700,000 cars off the road.

- An explanation of why fossil fuel companies are desperate to turn to plastics.

Table of PWG Action Steps 2023-2024 (Updated 8.5.24)

Overarching Themes (In no particular order!)	Subcategories (In no particular order!)	SMART Goals Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Time-Bound	Time Frame	Status	Lead Person
#1: Keep Working in Our Own Towns and Regions	A. Composting	Increase # towns offering pilot composting programs or collection initiatives	UV focus 4 towns piloting by 9/24	Hanover, Grantham actively meeting	Cindy Heath
	B. Mesh Bag Mamas	Raise awareness by co-op customers on reusable options for produce; Move co-op toward voluntary phase out of SUP bags in produce section	Complete 1,000 bags; launch in October	DONE CO, CA, MA have contacted us for info; Possible MBM 2.0 with VA Hospital, area FM & Subaru may fund	Cindy Heath
	C. Ten Towns Toolkit	Send out newsletter updates Nov/Dec; Annually update spreadsheet of actions taken	Jan/Feb; Mar/April; May/June; July/Aug; Sep/Oct; Nov/Dec; Action Update Feb 2024	Nov/Dec: DONE J/F: DONE Mar/Apr: DONE May/June: DONE July/Aug: DONE 2024 Action Update - DONE	Patsy Beffa-Negrini Patsy Beffa-Negrini
	D. Restaurant Projects	Four restaurants selected to pilot reusables in		ongoing	Dover Plastics Reduction Group, Kristine/

		Dover & Portsmouth; Fully funded			Christina
	E. Saint Gobain PFAS	Help environmental justice campaigns in NH	Attended DES public information session on Nashua asphalt plant. Will continue to oppose	ongoing	Ann Podlipny
	F. Zero Waste Campaigns	Help communities explore the options			Reb interested
#2: Education (including tabling)	G. General Public (including Earth Day and PFJ)	"Do One Thing" campaign Possible soccer mentorship program with a fundraising goal to support environmental causes	Created an 'Earth Grandmas on the Ball' program to launch with Boy Scouts	Spring 2024	Ann Podlipny
	H. Legislators	Support legislators in their efforts to introduce and pass legislation focused on reducing plastic waste and pollution	2023-24 session	DONE ONGOING	CLF/BP to support and guide PWG
	I. Schools - Reuse Presentations			Funded, complete	Cynthia Walter
	J. Toxics in Food Packaging and Recycled Plastic	Look at next legislative session for a targeted push; Truth in Labeling Laws; most influence at the		NH HCCA Nurses for Planetary Health Revisit in April/May to assess learning	Susan will contact Paul F. (not yet)

		state level;		and forward movement	
	K. Speaker's Bureau	Possible collaboration with HCWCA to get Beyond Plastics training?		Request speakers through BP	Cindy Heath
	L. Targeted Education	By age, by town committee, by political leaning, seniors, parents of young families; college students		Revisit in 2024 for 2025	Cindy Heath
	M. Connect with NRRRA, Businesses for Social Resp., Libraries	Organic connections at conferences, gatherings			ALL
	N. <i>"Rethink Plastic: Global and Local Solutions to The Plastic Crisis"</i>	February Network presentation Christina Dubin will moderate	February 2024	DONE	Cindy Patsy Susan Carol
#3: Legislation DES Legislation Page: https://www.des.nh.gov/rules-and-regulatory/legislation	O. PWG member participate in EPR study committee (Model EPR)	Connect with Food Packaging Forum experts; Pursue truth in labeling law in NH			Bruce Norlund, Kristine Baber, Ann Podlipny
	P. PWG member participate in Solid Waste Working Group	Align with curriculum development by Collaborative Solid Waste Strategies group;			Carol Foss

		Align with Cynthia Walker's work with UNH intern; NH Hospital Assoc & nursing home administrators; Beyond Plastics has a Meals on Wheels guide			
	Q. Banning single-use plastic; other legislation ?	Four priority bills by CLF/PWG - EPR for Packaging; PFAS; Container Deposit Law; Skip the Stuff	Introduce; testimony provided	DONE	CLF Surfrider Beyond Plastics
	R. Dealing with 'chemicals of concern' and 'toxics' in food packaging, similar to Maine's legislation				See above
	S. Environmental Justice Saint Gobain PFAS	Help environmental justice campaigns in Saint Gobain affected communities	Support anti PFAS bills and Rep.Wendy Thomas at State House	ongoing	Ann Podlipny
#4: Social Media & Other Media	T. Instagram			Ongoing	Kennedy McGrath
	U. Facebook	Regular PWG updates		Ongoing	Kennedy McGrath
	V. Chester FB Page				
	W. NH Network				
	X. Twitter or				Kennedy

	Threads				McGrath
	Y. Online Media	Invite Rep. Wendy Thomas, Rosemarie Rung & Nancy Murphy (Water Warriors) Mara Hoplamazian (NHPR)			
	Z. NH Municipal Association				
	AA. Action Network				Kennedy

Links & Resources

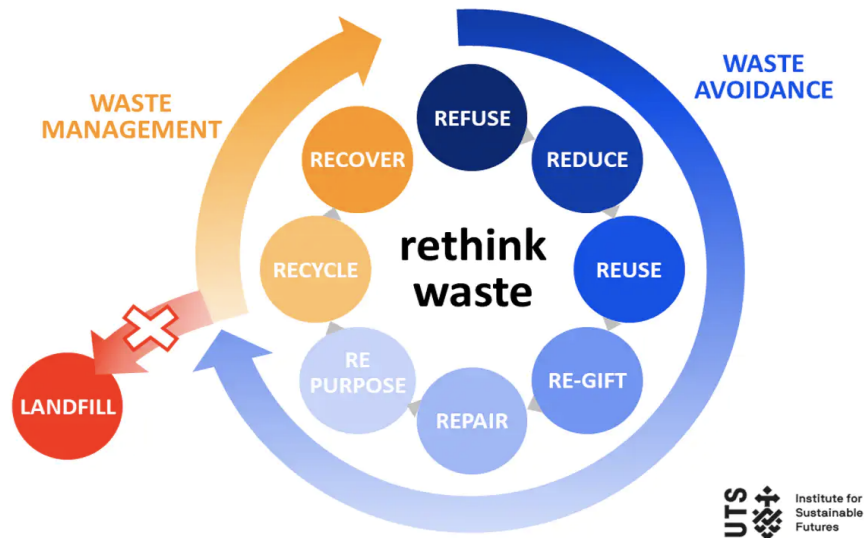
- **Bloomberg Law Article** - *US Senators Highlight Environmental Justice in Plastics Process*
- [Beyond Plastics Tabling Kit](#)
- **Grist Article** - *Democrats Unveil Most Comprehensive Bill to Address Plastics Problem*
- [Beyond Recycling Plastic](#) (draft document created by Kristine Baber)
- [Biomimicry Website with Real World Solutions - Ask Nature](#)
- [Link to NH Network Brochure for Copying](#)
- [PPT by Susan Hodges with good material on alternatives to SUP](#)
- [Bloomberg Philanthropies - Beyond Petrochemicals Initiative](#)
- [UN Report on Chemicals in Plastics](#)
- [Recycled and Reused Food Contact Plastic Are Vectors for Toxics](#) (Swedish meta analysis)
 - Corresponding author: Birgit Geueke; Email: birgit.geueke@fp-forum.org
- [Project Drawdown](#) (Paul Hawken)
- [Low Carbon Diet](#) (You Tube - David Gershon)
- ["Thicker Than Water: The Quest for Solutions to the Plastic Crisis"](#) by Erica Cirino

Community Action Works Notes and Future Planning

- [Campaign Planning Principles, Decision-Making Chart, Kick Off Meeting Notes](#)
- [#2 October 17 - Goal Setting & Timeline Notes](#)
- [#3 November 14 - Messaging Workshop Handbook](#)
- [#4 November 14 - Messaging Notes](#)
- [#5 November 28 - Messaging & Slogan](#)
- [#6 January 3 - Communications Work Group Meeting Docs](#)

- [#7 June 5 - Updates and Legislative Planning, Campaign Planning PDF, Visioning Workshop](#)

An **Extended** Waste Hierarchy

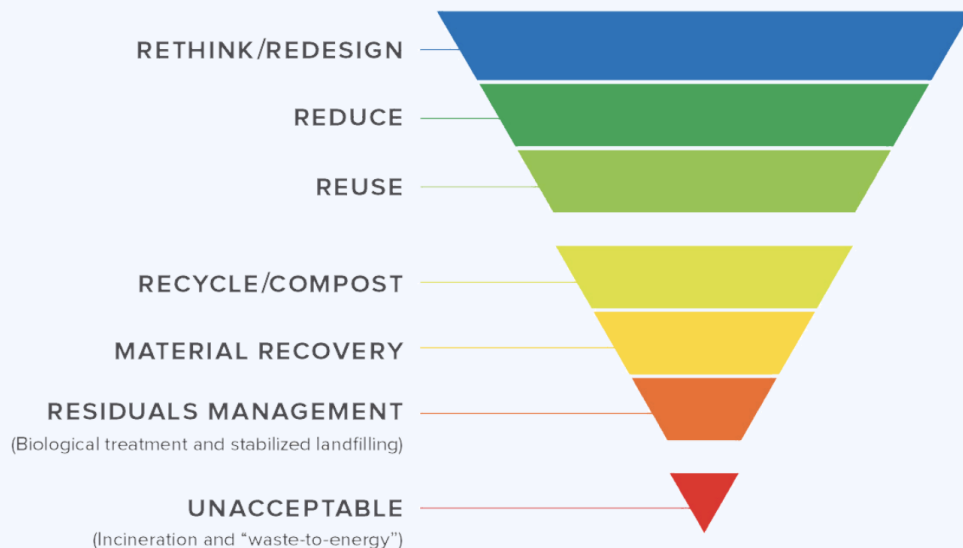


Waste hierarchy. (Image credit: UTS Institute for Sustainable Futures,)

Version 8.0 — Last updated May 19, 2022

THE ZERO WASTE HIERARCHY 8.0

For detailed version visit www.zwia.org/zwh



Previous Meeting

PWG Notes

[Meeting #1 - August 1,](#)

[Notes](#)

[Meeting Notes #2 - August 15, 2021](#)

[2021](#)

[Meeting Notes #3 - August 29, 2021](#)

Zero Waste Hierarchy of Highest and Best Use 8.0

[Meeting Notes #4 - September 19, 2021](#)
[Meeting Notes #5 - October 3, 2021](#)
[Meeting Notes #6 - October 17, 2021](#)
[Meeting Notes #7 - October 31, 2021](#)
[Meeting Notes #8 - November 14, 2021](#)
[Meeting Notes #9 - November 28, 2021](#)
[Meeting Notes #10 - December 12, 2021](#)
[Meeting Notes #11 - January 9, 2022](#)
[Meeting Notes #12 - January 23, 2022](#)
[Meeting Notes #13 - February 6, 2022](#)
[Meeting Notes #14 - February 20, 2022](#)
[Meeting Notes #15 - March 13, 2022](#)
[Meeting Notes #16 - March 27, 2022](#)
[Meeting Notes #17 - April 10, 2022](#)
[Meeting Notes #18 - April 24, 2022](#)
[Meeting Notes #19 - May 8, 2022](#)
[Meeting Notes #20 - May 22, 2022](#)
[Meeting Notes #21 - June 5, 2022](#)
[Meeting Notes #22 - June 19, 2022](#)
[Meeting Notes #23 - July 19, 2022](#)
[Meeting Notes #24 - July 31, 2022](#)
[Meeting Notes #25 - August 14, 2022](#)
[Meeting Notes #26 - August 28, 2022](#)
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[Meeting Notes #36 - February 5, 2023](#)
[Meeting Notes #37 - February 19, 2023](#)
[Meeting Notes #38 - March 5, 2023](#)
[Meeting Notes #39 - March 19, 2023](#)
[Meeting Notes #40 - April 16, 2023](#)
[Meeting Notes #41 - April 30, 2023](#)
[Meeting Notes #42 - May 14, 2023](#)
[Meeting Notes #43 - June 11, 2023](#)
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[Meeting Notes #46 - July 23, 2023](#)
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[Meeting Notes #51 - October 1, 2023](#)
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[Meeting Notes #54 - November 12, 2023](#)
[Meeting Notes #55 - December 3, 2023](#)
[Meeting Notes #56 - January 15, 2024](#)
[Meeting Notes #57 - January 28, 2024](#)
[Meeting Notes #58 - February 11, 2024](#)
[Meeting Notes #59 - February 25, 2024](#)
[Meeting Notes #60 - March 10, 2024](#)
[Meeting Notes #61 - March 24, 2024](#)
[Meeting Notes #62 - April 7, 2024](#)
[Meeting Notes #63- April 21, 2024](#)
[Meeting Notes #64 - May 5, 2024](#)
[Meeting Notes #65 - May 19, 2024](#)
[Meeting Notes #66 - June 30, 2024](#)
[Meeting Notes #67 - July 28, 2024](#)
[Meeting Notes #68 - August 11, 2024](#)
[Meeting Notes #69 - August 25, 2024](#)
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