



Reach for Zero

Zero Waste AVL Recycling What YOU CAN DO: Reaching for Zero Waste

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle.



CYCLE your waste materials back into nature, or back to the marketplace.

PRE- CYCLE UP- CYCLE RE- CYCLE

Zero Waste is a goal to re-design resource lifecycles so that materials are reused and waste is minimal. Discarded materials become resources that are recycled back into nature or to the marketplace to be reused again. Residents can now recycle additional materials in the Zero Waste AVL recycling program. By recycling, we not only reduce the amount of trash going to landfills, but we also save energy and reduce greenhouse gases. Curbside recycling is one part of the solution, and when combined with additional efforts to reduce, reuse, and recycle, can help us reach for zero waste.

Reduce and Reach for Zero: PRE-CYCLE

Help prevent unnecessary waste by using fewer resources in the first place, and avoid items which will generate excess waste when there is an alternative. It's called Pre-cycling. There are many opportunities to pre-cycle in our daily lives:



Before you leave the house, did you remember to bring reusable grocery bags, coffee mug or water bottle? Before you purchase, consider if the item is durable, made from recycled content, or has too much packaging. Before using plastic wrap, do you have a reusable container that can be used instead?



Reuse and Reach for Zero: UP-CYCLE

Opportunities to reuse materials at home can be economical and fun.

Before you recycle, can you reuse a jar, box or container for another purpose? Before you buy new, have you looked in consignment and thrift stores? Before storing, used cell phones, PC's & eyeglasses can be donated to charity. Before you discard, can you "up-cycle," and make something new?

"Up-cycling" is when a new item like a handbag, clock, or pet bed is created out of discarded materials like candy wrappers, used bicycle parts, or suitcases- becoming popular with both artists and retail manufacturers.

Reach for Zero: RECYCLE

In addition to curbside recycling, quarterly collection events accept "hard to recycle" items like Styrofoam and CD's to help divert these materials from landfills.

Before discarding food scraps and backyard leaves, try composting them to make an organic soil amendment. Before you bring to the curb, electronics are not accepted curbside, so look for local e-cycling businesses.



For more information about recycling, visit:
www.ashevollenc.gov/recycling