

THE FUTURE OF OUR TRASH

Solutions for a post-incineration clean energy future through zero waste in Baltimore and Maryland.

Removing public subsidies for trash incinerators is part of a larger effort to build a just transition from incineration to zero waste.



- 75% of what we dispose of is recyclable or compostable
- The leftover 25% can be redesigned to avoid.



Zero waste is a goal to divert as much waste as possible from landfills and incinerators through increased recycling, composting, reuse programs and other initiatives.

Here's how the Baltimore City plans to get there:

- 1). Promote composting, including developing a composting facility.
 - 2). Provide free recycling bins to all Baltimore residents and extensive education on what can be recycled.
 - 3). Implement styrofoam ban and ban plastic bags.
 - 4). Develop a plan for a "Save As You Throw" program to incentivize reductions in the amount of household garbage placed on the curb.
- ...And much more! The zero waste goal is reflected in the city's 2019 Sustainability Plan.

Zero Waste Solutions from Baltimore

Baltimore is leading the way with a number of zero waste businesses:

- **EchoTopia**: a garden-based, zero-waste cleaning product business. Echotopia estimates that their three-and-a-half years in business has saved 2,000 packages from entering incineration or landfill.
- **Second Chance**: a nonprofit that salvages usable materials from homes and makes those available to the public for reuse.
- **Baltimore Compost Collective**: A youth-led food scrap collection service run out of the Filbert St. Garden in Curtis Bay.



A number of cities across the country, such as San Francisco, Oakland, and Austin have adopted zero waste plans to improve their sustainability. Time for Maryland to follow their lead.

We can build a just transition from incineration to zero waste in Baltimore and across Maryland. An important step is to stop propping up trash incinerators in our state's clean energy laws.

TAKE ACTION: Support bills to remove public subsidies for trash incineration SB548 and HB 961, and SB 516, which would double the state's Renewable Portfolio Standard while removing incineration. Learn more: <http://bit.ly/FightIncineration>