## Zero Waste Vashon March 2023 Newsletter



Zero Waste Vashon (ZWV) is a non-profit organization and is 100% volunteer driven. Our goal is to inspire the Vashon and Maury Island communities to "Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, and Rethink." by turning waste into resources.



# Major Zero-Waste Bills Are Moving Forward

Zero Waste Washington needs our help! There are several key environmental bills up before the legislature. They need us to contact our representatives and voice our support asap.

The **WRAP Act (HB 1131)** is a comprehensive bill that will modernize our recycling system in Washington.

Under **Right to Repair (HB 1131)**, manufacturers would be required to provide parts, tools, and specifications to both the public and independent repair shops so that we can more easily get electronic devices such as cell phones, laptops, and game consoles repaired across the state.

The **Battery Recycling bill (SB 5144)** is a bill to make it easier for batteries to be recycled responsibly across the state.

The **Plastics Reduction bill (HB 1085)** phases out mini-toiletries at hotels and lodgings, starts to address the most problematic styrofoam-filled docks, and requires refill stations at drinking fountains in new buildings.

The **Compostable Products bill (HB 1033)** is to tackle the confusing rules and labeling of compostable foodware.

And there's more!

Read all about it and then take a moment to contact our representatives in Olympia <u>before March 8, 2023</u>. Easy links are provided in their newsletter.

Zero Waste Washington February 2023 eNewsletter

First & Third Sunday Styrofoam and Plastics Recycling - Update

EXPANDED FIRST SUNDAY PLASTICS COLLECTION PROGRAM

The Styrofoam & Plastics collection program has been expanded due to increased popularity. The program now offers two drop-off events on the first and the third Sunday of the month. The program serves over 500-600 households/month, with over 4000 vehicles dropping off materials in 2022. Since 2019, over 3500 cu. yds. of styrofoam and 80 tons of hard-to-recycle plastics have been collected, recycled, and diverted from the landfill (23 tons in 2022 alone).

Our DTG Option 2 plastics are no longer used as an alternative fuel for cement manufacture. They now go to Merlin Plastics. The material is sorted into



individual plastic types, then sent to their processing plants for grinding, washing, and pelletizing, which is then sent to manufacturers for making into new materials. Very little is used for alternative fuel or landfilled.

A big thanks to our fantastic volunteers and the generous support of our community for this hugely successful program, a hallmark of our model green community! Thanks to our business sponsors (Steward Builders, Meade Construction, Terrapin TIle, Dammann Designs, and Vashon Pharmacy), and all the participants who cooperate with their friends and neighbors to combine loads-keeping the lines shorter.

Due to limited sorting space, we no longer accept black plastic bags as the carrier for your donations. We do prefer contained loads and have clear bags available if you need them.

The next events are March 5th and March 19th from 10am to 2pm at the Sheffield Bldg., 18850 103rd Ave SW.

Questions about the program? Contact our star manager, <u>Nadine Edelstein</u>. Do you want to help? It's just a few hours a month. If interested, please contact <u>Jacquie Perry</u>. For more details, go to: <u>Styrofoam Recycling</u>



## Hold The Plastic, Please!

Did you know that 60 million plastic water bottles are discarded in the US every day? It's a staggering number, especially when you think of the environmental impacts which occur through the life-cycle of each bottle. From the oil that is extracted, to the toxic chemical additives (the recent train wreck was full of chemicals used in plastic), to the microplastics that are now showing up in our oceans and our bodies.

Single-use plastic is a convenience that we can no longer afford. In March, the Choose Plastic Free campaign will encourage Islanders to bring their reusable water bottle every time they leave the house. It's a small but powerful step we can all take to reduce single use.

## Vashon Fix-It Youth Academy

Learn to fix stuff! On March 8th Vashon Fix-It Youth Academy will teach middle and high school students basic repair skills and how to reduce waste. Led by experienced inventor and fixer Dennis Chien, with volunteers from Zero Waste Vashon and the Vashon Tool Library. The first event, which will focus on lamp repair, will be held as part of ORBIT's programming and will be held at Orbit at Openspace.

Free of charge, with tools provided. Space is limited! Register at <u>http://bit.ly/3XH4VYs</u> or go to <u>Vashon Fix-It</u>. This



event is made possible through a grant from the King County Eco-Consumer Program and discounted tools sourced from Vashon Ace Hardware.



# Earth Day Electronics Recycling Event

Celebrating Earth Day, ZWV's annual electronics recycling collection will take place on April 22, 2023 from 10am to 12pm at the High School. Enter via the east lot by the pool.

Accepted items: Computers, laptops, monitors,

ink cartridges, CDs, DVDs, cassettes, printers, fax machines, keyboards & mice, servers, routers, televisions, DVD & CD players, VCRs, audio components, radios, cellphones, telephones, cameras, electronic games and small electronics.

Place small items like loose ink cartridges, CDs, DVDs, cassettes, etc. in a bag for easy handling.

#### Not accepted:

No large rear screen projection TVs, no appliances except microwave ovens. No large commercial copiers, miscellaneous metal boxes, cabinets or devices. (Metals can be dropped off at the transfer station for free. Put them in the metals recycling dumpster.)

There is no charge except for CRT computer monitors and CRT TVs. All CRTs are \$10 per item. A CRT is an old-style monitor or TV with a picture tube inside.

Donations are gratefully accepted. They help support ZWV's work on island.

2023 ZWV BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Nancy O'Connor, President Gib Dammann, Vice President & Treasurer Steve Bergman, Secretary Will Lockwood Emily Reitman Andrea Walker

Donate to ZWV

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thank you to all of our volunteers, donors, and board members who contribute to the ongoing success of Zero Waste Vashon!



If you are interested in volunteering, getting involved, donating to ZWV, or simply have a question, let us know - we are here to help!

Web Page: zerowastevashon.org

Facebook: Facebook.com/zerowastevashon

Email: info@zerowastevashon.org

## **REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE & RETHINK**

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Zero Waste Vashon | PO Box 441, Vashon, WA 98070

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