

WHAT'S IN YOUR WASTE?

A simple waste audit to identify your waste and reduce waste going to the landfill



Materials Large trash bag, tarp, gloves, recycle bin, compost bin, trash can, other sorting bins

Directions Over the course of a day, collect all of your waste. Then dump the waste onto the tarp and sort it according to the materials listed below. Once everything is sorted, weigh each material, estimate the % of whole, check the appropriate box(es) for the current disposal method being used. Can you re-sort some items so that there is less waste going to the landfill?

Follow-up Complete another waste audit a week or month later after focusing on changing waste habits and compare your results. What habits and actions did you change?

Type of Material	Weight	Estimated % of Whole	Refuse	Reduce	Reuse	Recycle	Upcycle	Compost	Donate	Landfill
Mixed paper										
Newspaper										
Cardboard										
Plastic bottles										
Other hard plastics										
Soft, flexible plastics										
Glass										
Aluminum cans										
Other metal cans										
Food waste										
Yard waste										
Other										