IT'S EASY TO REDUCE WASTE AT ANY BUSINESS!

Did you know that about half of all waste generated in Montgomery County comes from businesses, organizations, and government facilities? Reducing the amount of waste generated at your workplace will help protect our environment. You will likely be able reduce your trash disposal costs and increase profitability. Join Montgomery County to reduce waste and recycle more, aiming for zero waste.

Reduce Waste – Don't Create It in the First Place.

Prevent waste, and there is no need for collection, processing, and disposal. You conserve valuable natural resources and protect the environment, benefiting all of us, our children, and future generations.

◀ **FOLLOW THESE SIMPLE WAYS TO REDUCE THE AMOUNT OF WASTE GENERATED AT YOUR BUSINESS.**

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
MontgomeryCountyMD.gov/RecycleRight
or call 311 or 240-777-0311.

Montgomery County, Maryland
Department of Environmental Protection
Recycling and Resource Management Division
Waste Reduction and Recycling Section
2425 Reedie Drive, 4th Floor
Wheaton, Maryland 20902

MontgomeryCountyMD.gov/RecycleRight
Phone: 3-1-1 or 240-777-0311
TTY: MD Relay 711

This information is available in an alternate format
by calling 240-777-6421.

FACEBOOK: MyGreenMontgomery
TWITTER & INSTAGRAM: MyGreenMC
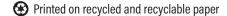**FLICKR: DEP Montgomery County**
YOUTUBE: MontgomeryCountyDEP

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How to Reduce Waste In Your Retail Business

MontgomeryCountyMD.gov/RecycleRight

Reduce waste at your retail business by looking at your trash and seeing what it's mostly made of.

Reduce Waste Before It Starts

- Look at your trash – what's it mostly made up of?
- Buy supplies and office products in bulk, with less shrink wrap and packaging
- Work with suppliers to reduce packaging and offer products that are not over-packaged

Reduce packaging and offer products that are not over-packaged.

- Encourage use of reusable containers and shopping bags
- Save hangers for reuse
- Take back hangers from customers
- Require suppliers to take their pallets back

Encourage the use of reusable shopping bags.

- Reuse crates, boxes, baskets, and pails as many times as possible
- Repurpose or donate displays
- Reduce ordering large quantities of products that have expiration dates

Minimize excessive packaging.

Daily Activity

- Minimize excessive packaging when a customer makes a purchase
- Ask customers if they really need a bag for small purchases
- Encourage customers to use reusable containers or shopping bags
- Send receipts by email instead of printing receipts
- Write daily/weekly sales on dry erase boards instead of using paper signs
- When printing, be sure to use double-sided printing

Send receipts by email.

- Place recycling bins at your store for customers and employees

Behind the Scenes

- Educate employees about reducing waste
- Ask vendors to reduce bulky packaging when shipping merchandise

Educate employees about reducing waste.

- Reuse materials such as pallets, boxes and clothes hangers
- Use online catalogs, social media and e-newsletters instead of printing
- Donate, discount, or recycle damaged or outdated merchandise

Instead of printing, use online catalogs, social media and e-newsletters.

- Consider a space-saving cardboard baler to make it easier to store and recycle large amounts of cardboard boxes

Outdated merchandise can be donated or recycled.