

# 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>