

Sustainability Update

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What is Sustainability?

The collective actions and efforts that create: a vibrant economy (fiscal responsibility), socially just communities, and environmentally sound practices that ultimately meet the needs of current and future generations



Take a minute to think about these questions

1. What was the last thing you purchased for your office?
2. Did you consider if it was a sustainable item?
 - What was it made of?
 - Where was it produced?
 - Did you buy in bulk or just one box of pens, for example?
 - What happens to the item when it has been used for its purpose
 - Can you repurpose/reuse it
 - Can it be composted
 - Can it be recycled
 - Does it have to be landfilled
3. Do you know if there is a more sustainable option out there for that item?

Overview



Staffing Updates



Goals



Single – Use Plastics Policy



Composting



Ways you can help and I can help you



Questions

Staffing Updates

New Zero Waste + Sustainability Specialist

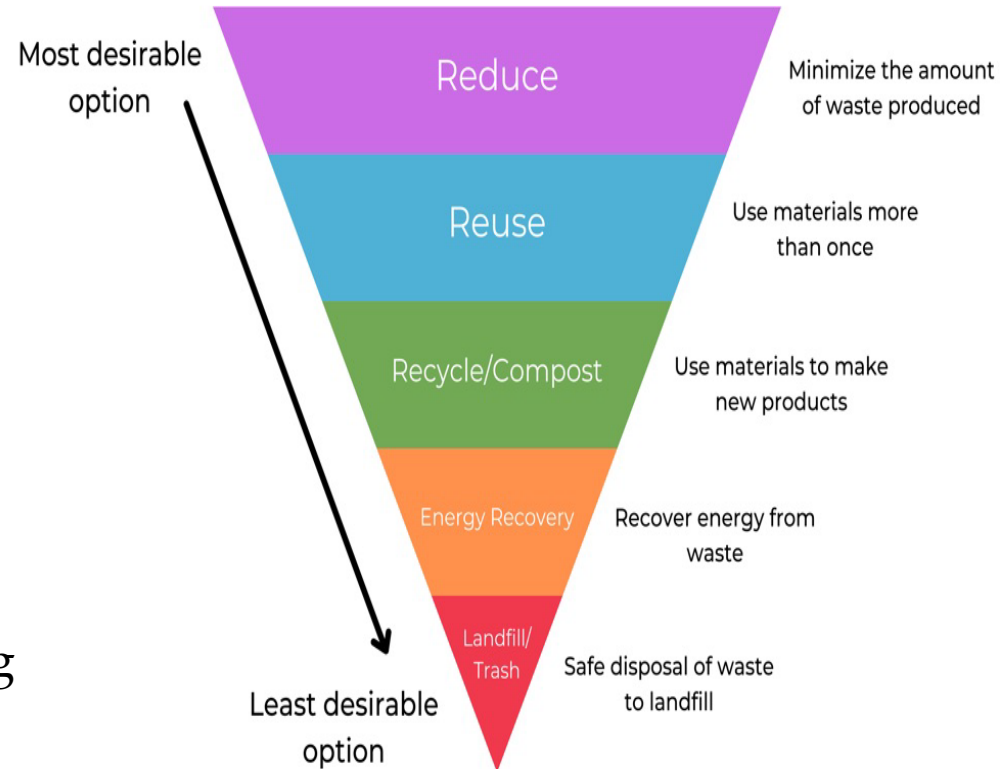
- Stephanie Hebert retired
- Marissa Acosta will begin as the ZWSS on February 1st.
 - She will be coordinating the education, outreach and ultimately responsible for getting us to Zero Waste by 2025
 - macosta@csusm.edu
- Position now reports to me vs. Energy Management and Utility Services

Changes to this role

- Facility Services is now responsible for receptacles and for EDCO bin pick up
- For needs related to bins please place a work order on FDM websites
- For pick ups of office supplies and anything else related to Zero Waste efforts contact sustainability@csusm.edu
- We will be phasing out the zerowaste@csusm.edu email

Goal: Zero Waste by 2025

- We still have a long way to go
- We need your help to get us to this goal
 - Consider what you are purchasing
 - Is it recyclable, compostable, or landfilled
 - If landfilled, are there other options to purchase?
 - For example: Since so much has gone electronic- do you need to be purchasing so much paper?



Single-Use Plastics Policy

CSU Wide policy – 4 main areas

- Plastic Straws
- Plastic Bags
- Styrofoam
- **Single Use Plastic Water Bottles**
- Policy Link:
<https://www.csusm.edu/sustainability/commitment/index.html>

Policy began Jan 2019 and final phase began Jan 2022



Composting has started!!!!

SB 1383 – Requires us to divert our food waste and also develop food recovery programs (Jan 1, 2021)

We have 2 Composting efforts going on at CSUSM

- Compost Group (Starbucks, Coffee Cart and Dome)
- EDCO (all other locations, including USU)



What goes in the bin?

Food Scraps

Fruit, vegetables, meat, bones, dairy, eggshells, prepared food



Food-Soiled Paper

Napkins, tea bags, paper plates, coffee filters



Zero Waste Event Planning

Work with ECS- they are well aware of the new changes and we are determining the best next steps

Use all items you currently have - if you purchased water or other items, use them up- as it's more wasteful to just throw them away

Our Vendors know our policies- but doesn't hurt to remind them

We are looking at items that are compostable first, then recyclable then landfilled (For ex. Paper is better than plastic)

Marissa and I are here to help

Ways you can help....



**The most sustainable
option is to not
purchase something**

- Inventory your current purchasing
 - If you want assistance in finding alternatives – reach out
- Are there any processes that have yet to go paperless?
- Work with your supervisor to identify areas to make your department more sustainable
- Participate in our Sustainable Cougars (Home) Office Program

Questions?

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@sustaincsusm on social media

www.csusm.edu/sustainability

