

## **Pandemic Impact on Sustainability Targets**

Reopening plans continue to shift. Here's how you can keep sustainability targets in focus.

## **Green Spend:**

Purchasing needs have changed since March 2020. Expecting pre-pandemic results during this time are not realistic.

- When evaluating quarterly spend targets, also review by total percentage of spend by category type and compare to prepandemic numbers to see how purchasing trends have changed.
- Since many chemicals may be due to pandemic response and may not have green alternatives, it is a good time to review paper products to see if there may be alternatives with comparable performance and similar price points to increase green spend totals during this time.

## **Monitor Waste Removal Service Levels:**

Occupancy at sites may be increasing, but total head counts are still significantly below pre-pandemic numbers.

 Continue to monitor waste containers and service levels to ensure adequate removal schedules are maintained, and are not over serviced.

## **Diversion Rate Changes:**

Operational changes have an impact on waste composition.

 Total volumes of traditional material streams may not be in-line with historical averages. Identify material streams that may be impacting your diversion rate and focus any new programs on those streams first.

## **Disposable vs reusable:**

More information and research is emerging that reusable's are ok to use during the pandemic.

 Even if your site is still using disposables for food service, you may still be able to bring your own water bottle, coffee mug and utensils to reduce individual impact.



# Most Waste Haulers Have Requested No Liners In The Recycling

- Businesses and offices use liners throughout the facility for many reasons:
  - 1. No money for cleaning of containers
  - 2. Liquids left in aluminum cans
  - 3. Eliminate pests

## Why Cant We Tell The Janitorial Team And Have It Immediately Change, RIGHT?

- Contracts require collection, which means liners.
- Some contracts require frequencies for emptying waste.
- Safety is huge concern on how to remove the liners.
- Unions: Any changes can cause problems

#### What we know works

- Don't tie bags and pour into containers
- Watch safety and height of containers versus workers
- Additional time and expense is involved



## **Contracts With Vendors**

#### **As A Business**

- They go with one vendor
- Most of these vendors- own their landfill
- Resulting in "more contamination" fees

## **You Will Be Paying More For Recycle**

- Original FEL fee
- Processing fees
- Contamination fees: are you sure they exist?

#### What Can You Do?

- Right Size
- Education employees to eliminate contamination!



## Loss of \$6M in Revenue

#### SBM's 2019 Results



**♀ 85.4M** 

Pounds Diverted From Landfill



**56 Locations** 

Managed



86.8%

**Diversion Rate** 



In Documented Client Savings

#### SBM's 2018 Results



Pounds Diverted From Landfill in 2018



**45 Locations** 

Managed

77.1%

Diverted in 2018



In Documented Client Savings (2018)

## **Support of Events:** Zero Waste Certifications





## Messaging

- Keep them simple
- Have an Action Item- something you want people to do!
- Ask people to volunteer to do something

## **Event Support**

- Identify what the waste streams look like PRIOR to the event
- Biggest items:
  - **1. Giveaways**: excessive wrappers
  - 2. Food waste containers











## **Circular Economy**

## What is Circular Economy?

- Reduce unnecessary waste
- Derive even more value from products
- Reduce damaging emissions

## Design: What do you Buy?

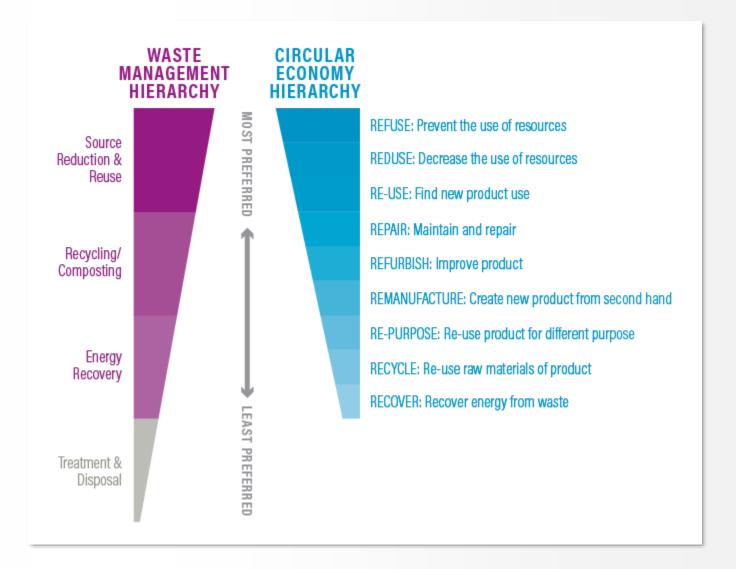
- Designs
- Recycled content
- Single use items
- Require

#### Make/Sell

- Closed Loop
- Rent versus Buy
- Co-Brand services

## **Dispose**

Highest and best use





## **Difference Zero Waste and Circular Economy**

## **Zero Waste**

One explanation of the **difference** is that **zero waste** is something policymakers use to communicate **waste** diversion goals and the tools needed to achieve those goals to the public. And the **circular economy** is a mechanism for manufacturers and businesses.

## **Circular Economy**

A circular economy is "restorative and regenerative by design, and aims to keep products, components, and materials at their highest utility and value at all times.

Zero waste involves "designing and managing products and processes to systematically avoid and eliminate the volume and toxicity of waste and materials, conserve and recover all resources, and not burn or bury them," according to the Zero Waste International Alliance. "Implementing zero waste will eliminate all discharges to land, water or air that are a threat to planetary, human, animal or plant health."



# Thank You For Your Time!



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