



**WASHINGTON COUNTY**  
**OREGON**  
Solid Waste & Recycling

2021



# Recycling 101

Presented by:

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Tuesday, April 06, 2021

# Accessibility & Discussion

- Your microphones are automatically muted and your video is not turned on.
- This presentation will be recorded.
- Please add questions to the Q&A function.
- For best viewing in Zoom, select 'side-by-side mode' or dock video participants to the side or bottom of the screen.
- Feel free to send questions or feedback:

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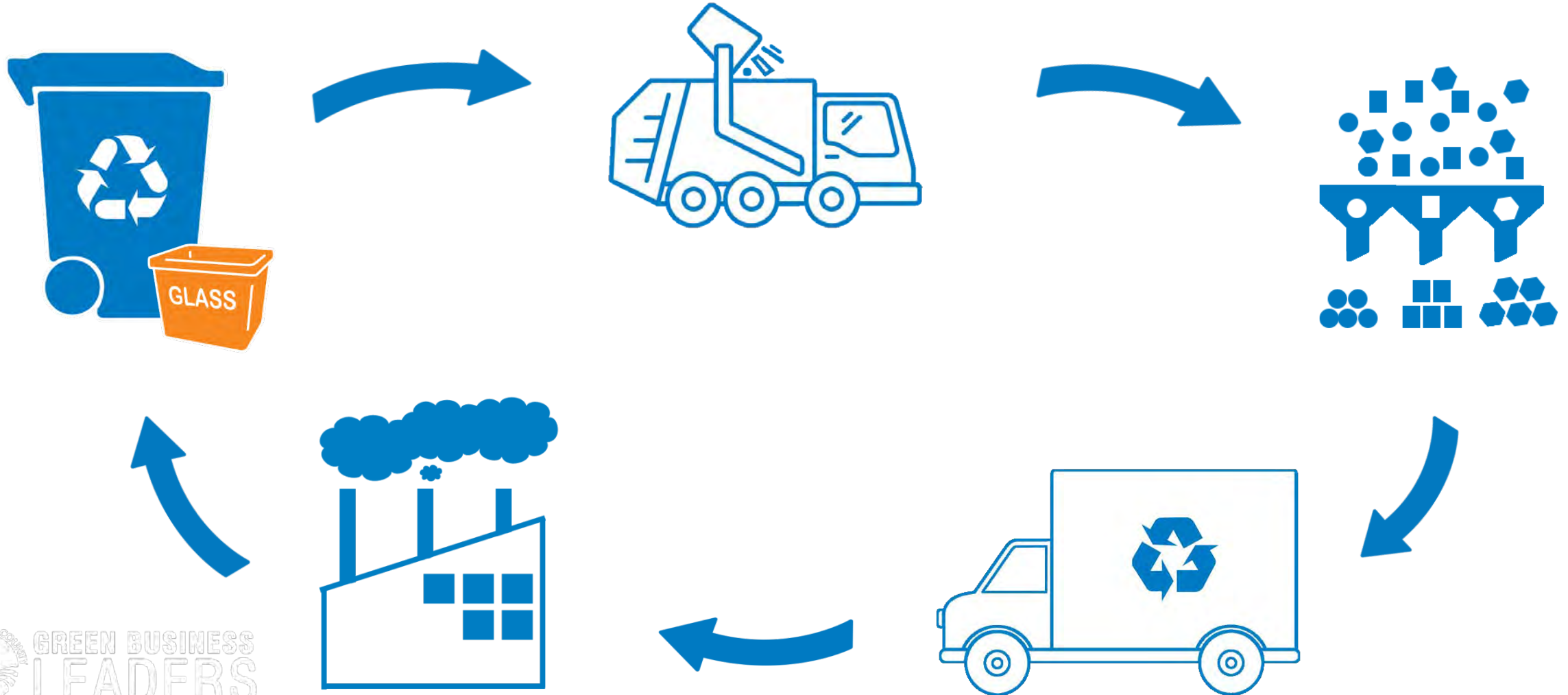


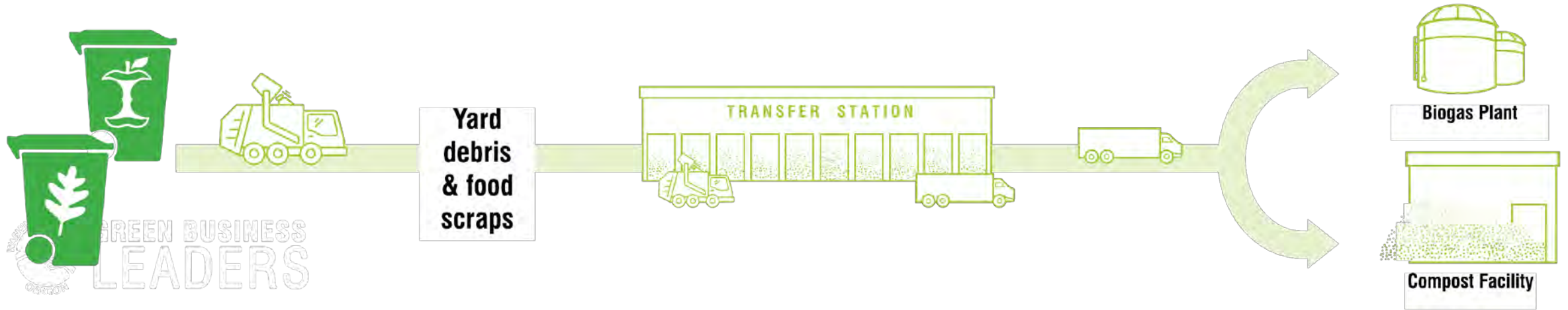
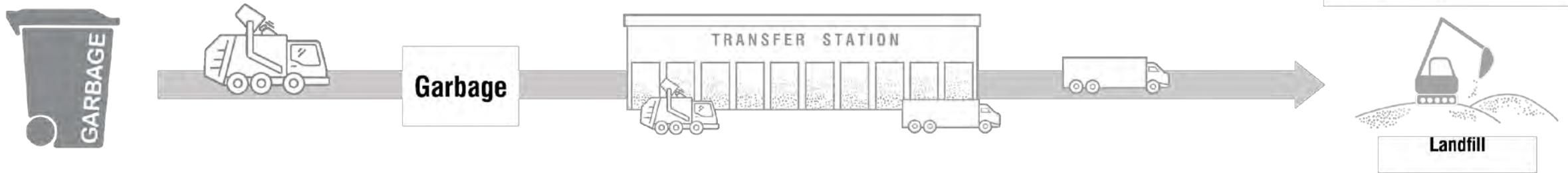
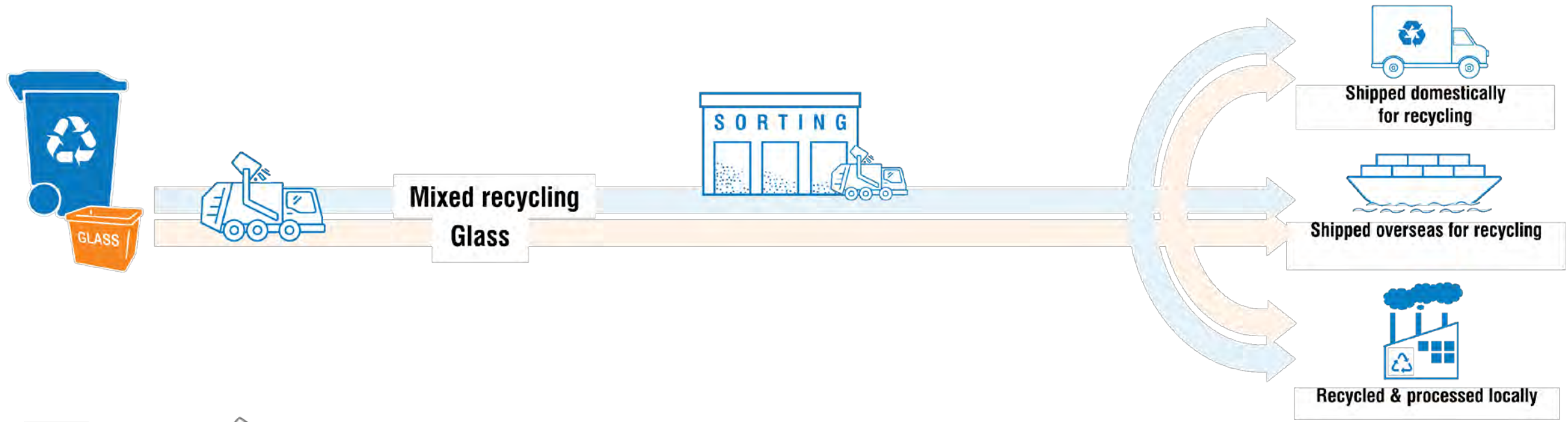
# Agenda

- Recycling market overview
- Is recycling the best thing you can do with your stuff?
- What can you do to make a difference?
- What goes where?

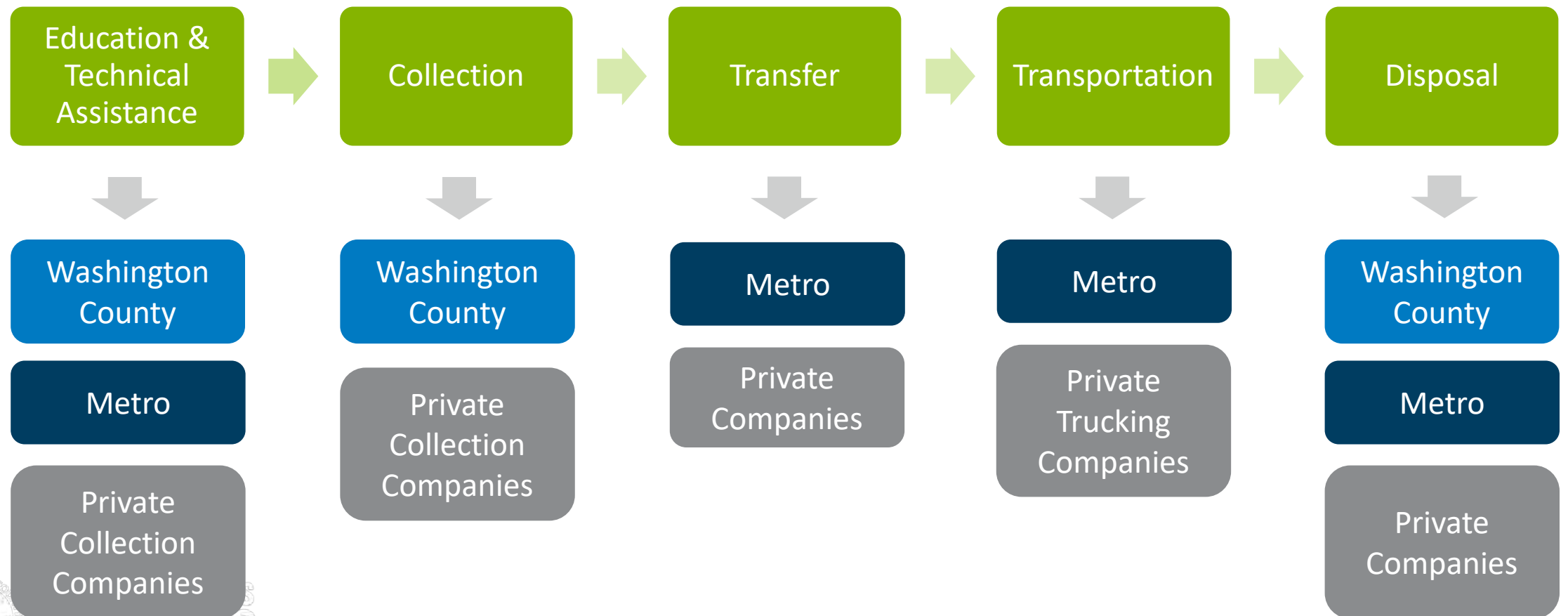


# How Recycling Works





# Who is responsible for what?















# Remember National Sword?



30+ types of scrap recycling were banned or heavily restricted.



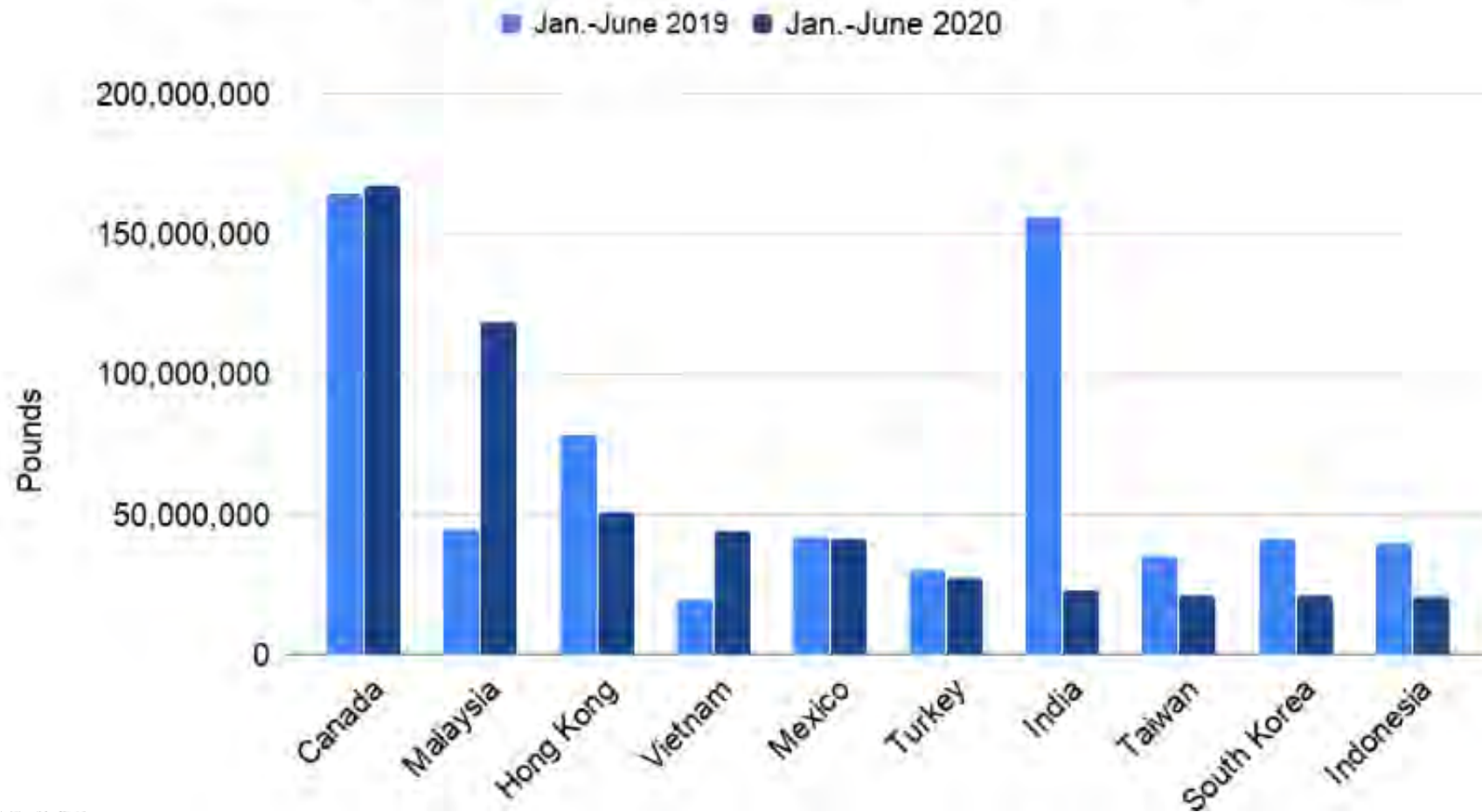
Anti-pollution and anti-corruption measures were connected and popular in China.



Increased inspections of recycling facilities and stopped accepting loads with more 0.5% contamination.

# Where do our plastics go now?

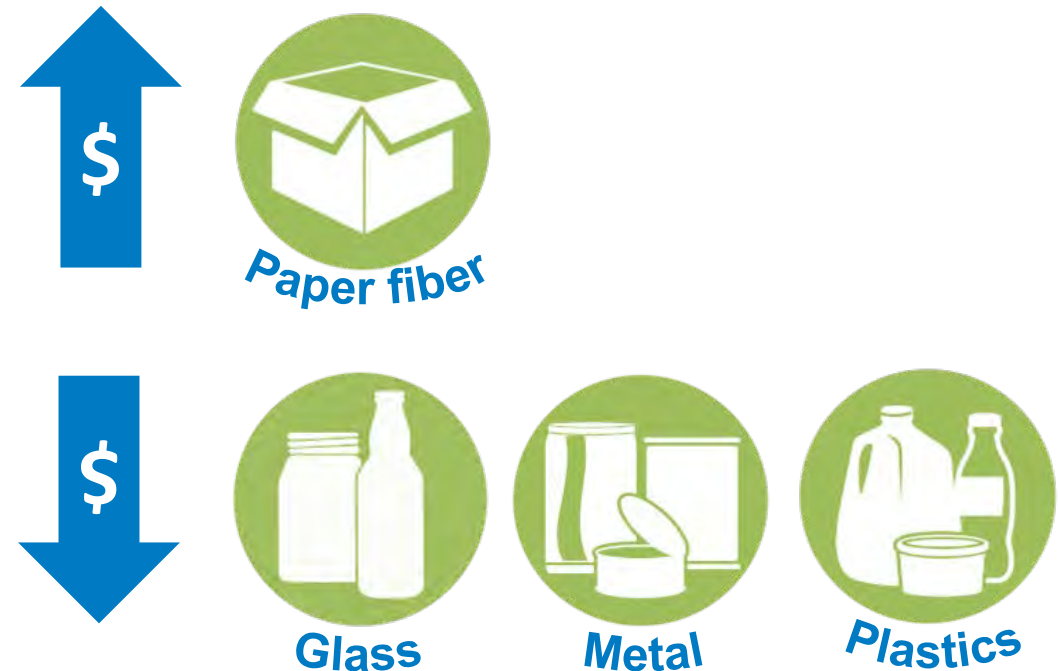
U.S. scrap plastic exports by destination, first half of 2019 and 2020





# What's happening in Oregon?

- Many Oregon MRFs are moving away from Asian end markets to domestic end markets.
- Covid-19 has impacted commodity prices for many materials.

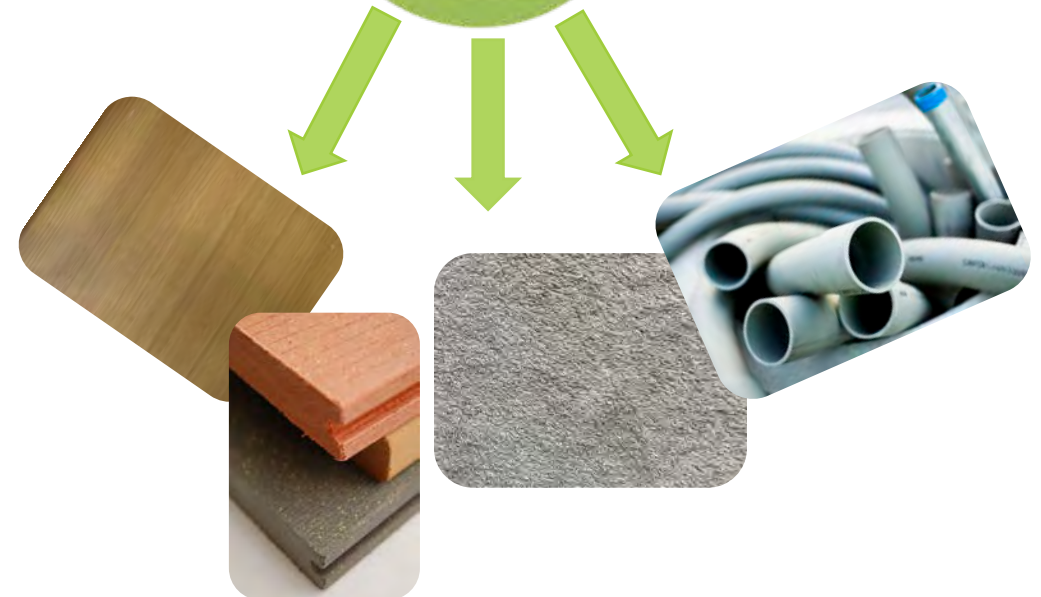


# Recycling in Oregon: What does it become?

## Paper Fiber



## Plastics



# Recycling in Oregon: What does it become?

## Glass



FIBERGLASS

## Metals





# RECYCLING IS STILL HAPPENING

(nothing changed in Portland Metro)



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Next up:  
Is recycling the  
best thing you  
can do with  
your stuff?



=





Recycling aluminum  
saves 95% of the  
energy required to  
make the same  
amount of aluminum  
from its virgin source.



Recycling a steel soup can saves 75% of the energy it would take to make a new steel can from raw materials.

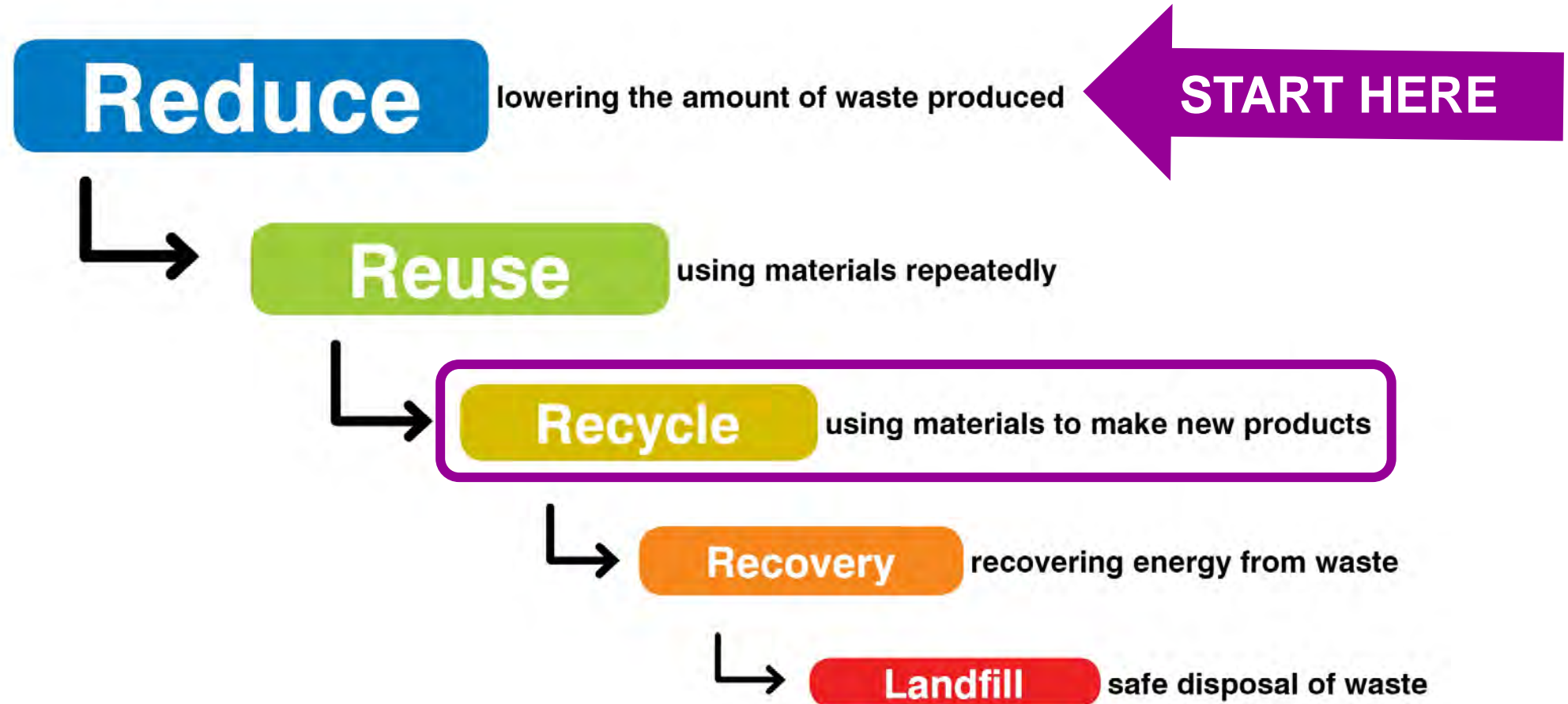


The background of the image is a stylized forest scene. It features various shades of green, from light to dark. There are numerous evergreen trees of different sizes and shapes, some standing on small, rounded hills. The trees are arranged in a way that creates a sense of depth, with some appearing closer and larger, and others further away and smaller. The overall style is clean and modern, using simple geometric shapes to represent the trees and hills.

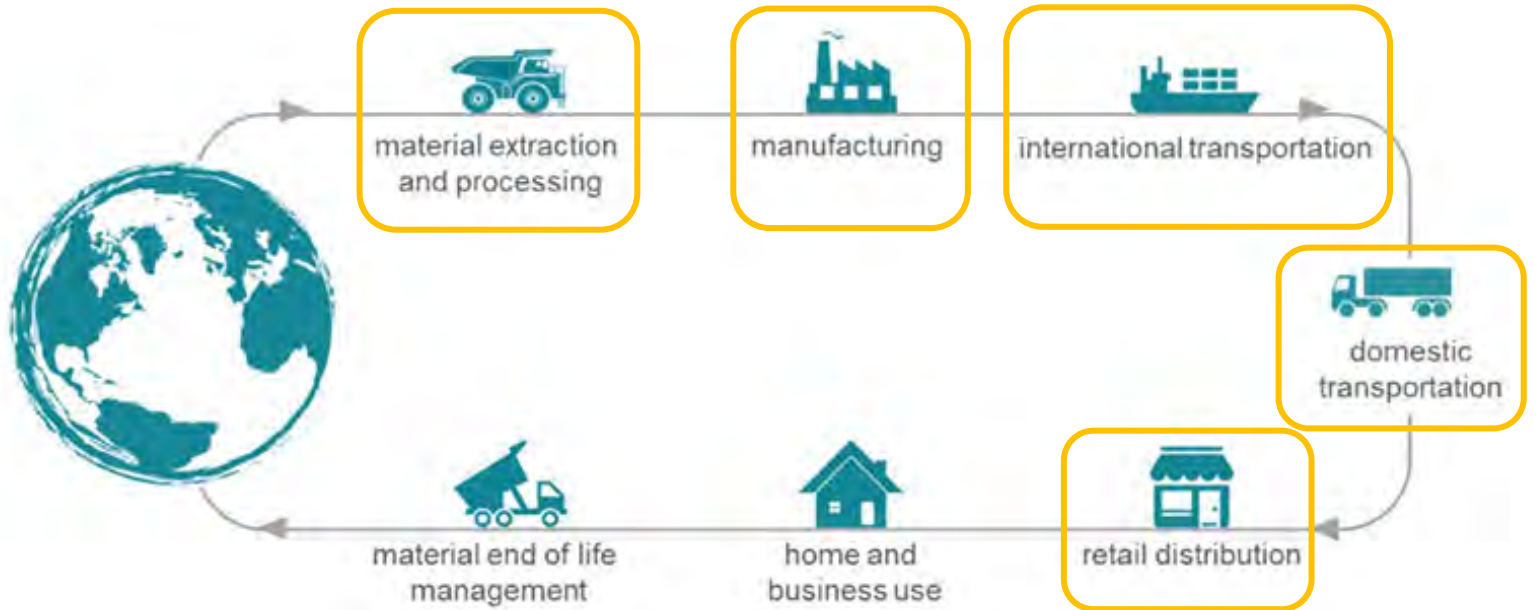
By recycling paper, the  
Metro region **saved 8.2  
million trees** from being  
harvested.

That is equivalent to  
the **number of trees in  
eight Forest Parks.**

# Waste Hierarchy



Every item you buy has an environmental impact. The majority of these impacts comes **before you even buy it**. Focusing on *what* you buy is more important than focusing on *where* it goes when you're done with it.





Type of package

Recyclable?

Energy consumed  
to manufacture  
product

CO<sub>2</sub> emissions to  
manufacture  
product

Solid waste  
generated



# Disposable vs. Reusable

**Disposable**  
bottled water



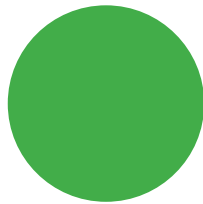
**VS**



**Reusable**  
bottle with  
tap water



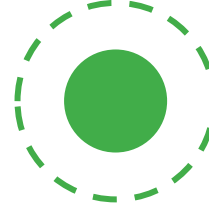
Recycled



Recycled + **thinner bottle**



Reused + washed **daily** in **inefficient** dishwasher



Reused + washed **weekly** in **efficient** dishwasher



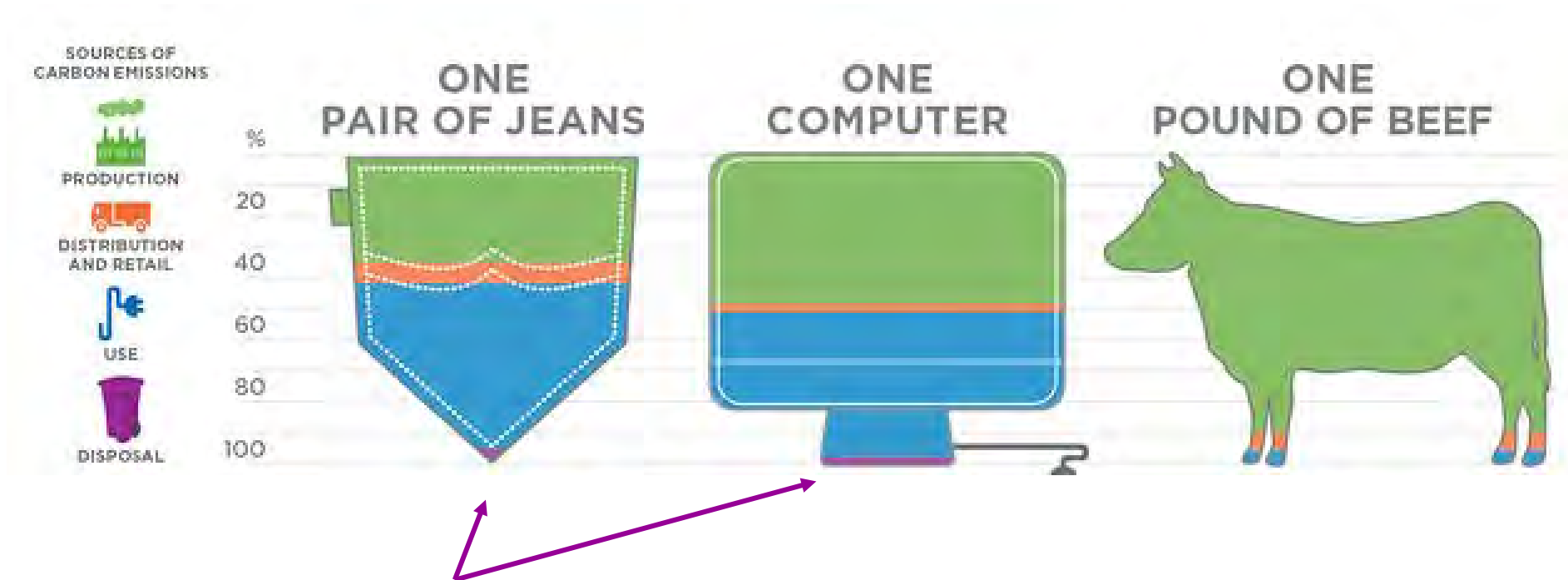
Environmental  
Impact

# Disposable vs. Reusable



**Environmental  
Impact**

# Carbon Impact



**End-of-life** = small % of a product's carbon emissions



# Key Take-Aways

- Recycling is good.
- Reducing and reusing are better.
- Avoid single use products.

Next up:  
What can you  
do to make a  
difference?





**Reduce**

=

Do I need this?



**Reuse**

=

Have I used this until it's absolutely worn out?



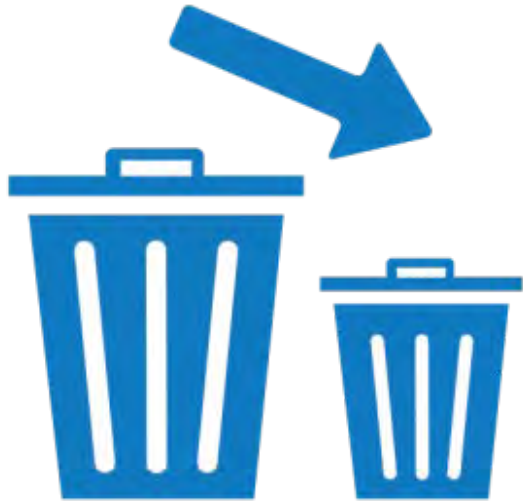
**Recycle**

=

When it can't be used again, can I recycle or compost it?

# Best Option: Reduce

*“Do I need this? Do I have a reusable option?”*



- Don't buy things you don't need.
- Say no to items you don't need.
- Avoid giving away things that aren't usable.
- Don't choose disposable items.

# Next Best Option: Reuse

*“Have I used this until its absolutely worn out?”*



- Choose re-usable items instead.
- Borrow instead of buying.
- Buy, sell or donate used items.
- Repair and maintain.





Next up:  
When it can't be  
used again, can  
I recycle or  
compost it?

# Are you a wishful recycler?

## Clamshells



## Plastic film



## Paper cups & plates



## Hand sanitizer bottle & wipe container



# Mixed Recycling



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# Plastic





# Paper





# Metal



# Glass Recycling



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# Glass



# Yard Debris



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# Yard Debris



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# Food Scraps



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# Food Scraps



# Food Scraps



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# Not sure where it goes?

## What to Recycle Where Online Tool



## Garbage & Recycling Day Mobile App



[WashingtonCountyRecycles.com/WTRW](http://WashingtonCountyRecycles.com/WTRW)



# Want to learn more?

**Latte and Learn** tomorrow, April 7, at 2:30 p.m. Topic is Green Schools.

**GooseChase Earth Week (and beyond) Challenge!** App-based scavenger hunt. Complete missions & earn points.

**Earth Month Webinars:** Every Tuesday in April at noon and 5 p.m. in English, 6 p.m. in Spanish.

- Tuesday, April 13: Beyond the Bin
- Tuesday, April 20: Eat Smart, Waste Less Challenge
- Tuesday, April 27: Green Cleaners



You're  
awesome  
and can make a  
difference!



# Q & A

