

Intro To Zero Waste, Foundation to Resource Management Class Project

In class, students will break into groups. Each group will share their experience with Zero Waste at their business or community. The team will choose one example and develop a Zero Waste Plan for that situation based on the principles learned in class:

1. Assume types, amounts and sources of materials discarded.
2. Design waste out of the system and identify EPR opportunities.
3. ID service opportunities where new services are needed to fill gaps in current reuse, recycling and composting services.
4. Select policies, programs and facilities needed. Consider if resource recovery park needed. Support existing reuse, recycling and composting businesses and nonprofits.
5. Structure Zero Waste Challenge to residents and businesses.
6. ID how to fund Zero Waste initiatives and ID incentives for all stakeholders.
7. ID “low-hanging” fruit for short-term success and long term strategy and goals.

Each team will present their analysis to the rest of the class. Class will discuss the team presentations.

To obtain the CRRA Certificate, students will be required to implement an "Information to Action Project" within 1 year of the class. That activity could be asking their business, community or environmental group to adopt Zero Waste as a goal, organizing an event as a Zero Waste event, or developing an incentive or policy to help their business or community get to Zero Waste.