



Program Descriptions

Resource Recovery provides FREE educational programs to teach Rhode Island residents of all ages how to reduce, reuse, recycle, compost, and properly dispose of their waste. Educators are available to travel and speak to community groups.

If you are interested in scheduling a program, fill out a request form on our website at:

<https://www.rirrc.org/education-program-support/presentations-speakers>.

Program Topics Include:

Recycling Right: You recycle, right? But do you recycle right? If you've ever found yourself squinting to look for a recycling symbol on a product, arguing with your friend or spouse over a pizza box, or wondering what actually happens to your recycling when it leaves the curb, you'll have these questions and more answered during Recycling Right in Rhode Island... and Going Beyond the Bin! For a younger audience consider inviting MaxMan, Rhode Island's recycling superhero.

MaxMan Recycling Right: MaxMan is Rhode Island's recycling superhero! Although he does wear a cape, he's a very different kind of superhero. He doesn't fly through the air, or fight super villains...but he helps save the world by recycling, because everything we recycle is PART of the world! MaxMan, and his faithful team of educators at Rhode Island Resource Recovery, want to help you learn how to recycle right. Recycling Superheroes make Rhode Island a better place to live. By reducing, reusing and recycling, we save trees, minerals, oil, and energy—all parts of the world that humans depend on. Want to be a superhero too? MaxMan has the power to transform you into a recycling superhero. With his help, you can do your part, which we think is pretty smart! Best suited for grades Pre-k through 5th.

Composting: This presentation will give you all the information you need to start composting in your backyard. Topics covered include a review of different ways to compost, what goes (and does not go!) in your compost bin, getting started with a basic leaf bin, getting started with a bin for both leaves and food scraps, best practices for managing your bin, and for harvesting, applying, and supplementing your finished compost. If you've always wanted to compost, and compost right, this presentation is for you.

Composting for Kids: What is compost really – and why is it so important? This presentation will help you understand the amazing process of composting. We'll talk about the science behind it and the rules you want to follow to make it work for you! You will also learn about the tremendous impact you and other students can make in Rhode Island (and for the environment as a whole) just by starting a compost bin!

Vermicomposting (worms): This workshop will give you all the information you need to start using worms in an existing outdoor compost bin or to start a worm bin that can be used indoors. Topics covered include selecting the right worms, what goes (and does not go!) in a worm bin, how to make a basic worm bin, best practices for managing your bin, and for harvesting and using your worm castings. If you've ever wondered why some people use worms in their compost bins, or if it is possible to compost indoors, this workshop is for you.

Food Waste Prevention: In this presentation you will learn how food waste occurs, the impact of wasted food, and simple tools that have been shown to be effective in reducing household food waste. From an impact standpoint, preventing household food waste has the double benefit of decreasing the amount of food waste going to the landfill (where it produces methane, a potent greenhouse gas) as well as saving households' money by preventing edible food from going to waste!

Facing Your Future: This presentation for teens, relates some of the biggest challenges facing the next generation—energy, climate change, jobs and the economy—to all of the “stuff” we buy, use, and ultimately dispose of each day. Students learn about U.S. energy sources, and follow the story of a single paper cup through its lifecycle, to better understand how our stuff impacts our environment. Because a large portion of U.S. greenhouse gas emissions come from the “provision of goods” (in other words, our stuff) students are given an analogy to help them understand how those emissions change our climate over time and how climate change affects all of us. Alternatives to disposal, such as reuse and recycling, are exhibited as ways to reduce our impact on the environment while also strengthening our economy and creating more jobs. “Green” programs in higher education, green jobs, and green initiatives in the news will be highlighted, and students will leave knowing how to recycle right in Rhode Island.