



Urban Sustainability

Although there is no universal definition of urban sustainability, it can generally be understood as applying an urban lens to the principle of providing for the needs of the present generation without sacrificing the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. In Vancouver, sustainability is a high priority that is reflected in many environmental, social and economic programs, policies and services.

Did You Know?

Vancouver's green economy is growing more than twice as fast as traditional sectors. The green economy includes jobs in clean technology and products, green building design and construction, sustainability consulting and education, recycling and composting, and much more

Vancouver's electricity is generated in British Columbia—93% of it from renewable sources

City planners and urban designers come to Vancouver from around the world to find inspiration for re-imagining their inner cities, and look for more sustainable ways to live healthy and socially connected lives

“Vancouverism” is an internationally known term that combines a deep respect for nature with enthusiasm for busy, engaging, active streets and dynamic urban life.

Vancouverism means tall slim towers for density, widely separated by low-rise buildings, for light, air, and views. It means many parks, walkable streets, and public spaces, combined with an emphasis on sustainable forms of transit.

Greenest City Action Plan

The Greenest City Action Plan (GCAP) is a bold initiative to address Vancouver's environmental challenges. While we live in what is widely recognized as one of the most liveable cities in the world, our environmental footprint is currently three times larger than the Earth can sustain.

The GCAP outlines ten goal areas and 15 measurable targets to guide Vancouver toward becoming the greenest city in the world. These goal areas include climate and renewables, green buildings, green

transportation, zero waste, access to nature, clean water, local food, clean air, green economy and lighter footprint.

Did you know? Cities are responsible for three-quarters of global greenhouse gas emissions. As such, cities around the world must show continued leadership to meet the urgent challenge of climate change. The most impactful change we can make is a shift toward 100% of our energy being derived from renewable sources. The future of Vancouver's economy and livability will depend on our ability to confront and adapt to climate change.

Zero Waste 2040

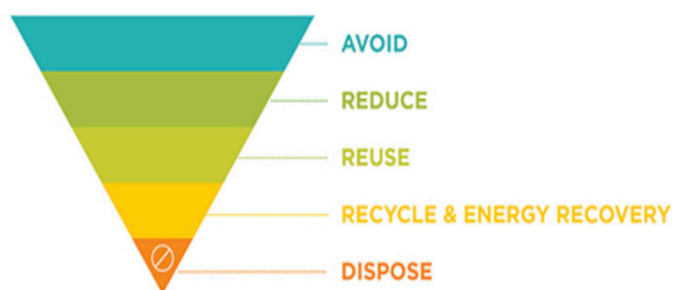
Zero Waste 2040 is a long-term strategic vision for Vancouver to achieve the goal of zero waste by 2040. It will help guide future decisions and investments relating to solid waste, and provides a framework to continue the work and success of current zero waste policies and programs.

Why Aim for Zero Waste?

The benefits of pursuing zero waste go beyond reducing pressure on recycling, composting, and disposal facilities, and extend beyond Vancouver. For example, an environmental benefit includes the fact that using fewer materials (some of which may be toxic), reduces Vancouver's ecological footprint. In regard to economic benefits, one incentive is that an economy in which materials remain in circulation

has the potential to grow and attract new businesses creating more 'green' and inclusive jobs. Equally, a zero waste community provides opportunity for all residents of Vancouver to be more connected through programs involving repair, sharing, and reuse and thus provide social benefits.

ZERO WASTE APPROACH FOR VANCOUVER



Public Safety

We are all responsible for ensuring our own safety, and the safety of our family members. Take some time to learn how to reduce your risks, and make sure you understand what to do if disaster strikes.

For example, you should be prepared to evacuate during an emergency, know how to eliminate or minimize the chance of a fire in your home, and understand what to do in the hours and days following a major emergency.

Vancouver makes significant investments to ensure that the entire city, and everyone in it, remains as safe as possible at all times.

From state-of-the-art firefighting equipment, to free disaster preparedness workshops, to training programs for

children, to seismic upgrades of all important roads, bridges, and buildings, you can feel confident that your safety is the City's number one concern.

Be sure to keep up with the '**Shape Your City**' website for updates on the latest community engagement opportunities at **www.shapeyourcity.ca**

