

BURBANK WASTE WARRIOR PROGRAM



**FREE RESIDENT
ZERO WASTE
TRAINING**

**STARTS
SATURDAY
JANUARY 11, 2025**

Brought to you by



**RECYCLE
CENTER**

CLASS SCHEDULE

*All classes will be held at the Burbank Recycle Center,
500 S. Flower Street, unless there is a tour or special engagement*

PHASE ONE: CLASSES AND COURSE WORK

All Waste Warrior students will be required to sign up for SLACK, a free cloud-based proprietary instant messaging platform. We use this for communication, updates, and class prep reading instead of email.

Class homework involves course-related reading, internal forum chats, and conducting one class project.

CLASS 1: SATURDAY, JANUARY 11 – 9AM-3PM

Recycling 101: There's No Such Thing as "Away"

Learn the truth about waste! Class one starts with a tour of the Recycle Center and then a hands-on waste characterization study where we will examine what is thrown "away" in Burbank.

The class includes an introduction to Zero Waste, what's recyclable (and why), state and federal recycling statistics, storm water run-off and a discussion of class projects.

CLASS 2: WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22 – 6PM-8:30PM

Single Use, Multiple Impacts: Resources & Materials

A look at how modern conveniences and our throw-away culture are leading to a global increase in resource depletion and waste. We will examine the complexities and decipher the realities of green products vs. green washing.

The class includes a world view of packaging, plastic resins, recycled commodities, and global markets that keep recycling afloat.



**" YOU CANNOT PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT
UNLESS YOU EMPOWER PEOPLE, YOU INFORM
THEM, AND YOU HELP THEM UNDERSTAND
THAT THESE RESOURCES ARE THEIR OWN, THAT
THEY MUST PROTECT THEM." -Wangari Maathai**

CLASS 3: SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1 – 9AM-1PM

Power to the Plants: Valuing Organic Material

For millions of years, nature has operated the most sophisticated and successful recycling program on the planet: breaking down organic (plant) matter and returning the nutrients back to the soil. Yet, modern society misallocates this valuable resource as “waste.”

You’ll learn how California organics are generating power, building soil, and reducing harmful emissions.

CLASS 4: SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15 – 9AM-1PM

Consumption Grave site: Burbank Landfill Tour (field trip)

Did you know that Burbank residents own a landfill? Take part in a VIP tour of one of the best managed and scenic landfills in the country, tucked away in the Verdugo Hills. You’ll see what happens after your trash is picked up and taken “away.”

CLASS 5: WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26 – 6PM-8:30PM

Toxins Amongst Us: Household Hazardous Waste (HHW), Electronics & Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR)

Nearly one million chemical compounds are used in world manufacturing. Our modern conveniences and technologies come at a price. What happens to hazardous products at the end of life?

This class provides an overview of local household hazardous waste collection, recycling, and reuse programs. Extended Producer Responsibility (manufacturers share in the disposal burden of their products) and other emerging policies will be examined.

CLASS 6: SATURDAY, MARCH 8 – 9AM-1PM

ReTHINK: Trash as Treasure (field trip)

Recycling is a necessity but reuse delivers far greater environmental benefits and, often times, greater profits. On this field trip you’ll explore businesses and nonprofits that recognize the value in discarded treasures. You may be surprised at the untapped potential of the new dematerialized/sharing economy. Get ready to salvage, repair, reuse, re-imagine and get inspired.



CLASS 7: WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19 - 6PM-8:30PM

Business REvolution: Manufacturer Responsibility.

What is the true cost of doing business if sustainable practices are not factored in? This class covers the drivers of "green" business and how to identify false environmental claims ("greenwashing"). We will also cover sustainable packaging and California's new recyclability standards.

CLASS 8: SATURDAY, MARCH 29 - 9AM-1PM

Leadership Challenge: Using Your Skills for Local Action

Throughout the Waste Warrior classes, project ideas and inspirations will pop up. This class is devoted to moving inspirations into action, drawing on your experiences and talents. The recycling staff will assign roles in a class outreach project focusing on organic diversion for business. Students will also design a project of their choice.

BONUS EVENT: DINNER AND A DOC!

Meet former graduates of the Waste Warrior program while enjoying a zero-waste dinner and an insightful documentary on an important waste issue. Great opportunity to network, share, and find kindred spirits that care about the same issues you do.

TUESDAY, APRIL 1 - 6PM-8:30PM

PHASE TWO: GROUP PROJECT AND COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERING (APRIL-DECEMBER)

Taking your new skills and putting them to work on a fulfilling group project for the Burbank Recycle Center, as well as any personal project you may have at your own pace. (30 hours total).



**TO REGISTER:
BURBANKRECYCLE.ORG**

(go to the Events page)

IN A THROW “AWAY” SOCIETY, WHERE IS AWAY?

The Waste Warrior program takes a deep dive on what “away” means. Classes focus on helping the public fully understand how recycling works and why “reduce and reuse” should be the priority. Students will also learn that zero waste is more about changing what’s possible rather than the unrealistic idea of creating no waste. This includes manufacturers redesigning their products to give consumers better choices.

This free program includes eight classes highlighting the 8 Rs of waste reduction:

- **Rethink** (redesign systems, habits & mindsets)
- **Refuse** (say no to unnecessary waste)
- **Reduce** (share it, rent it, borrow it)
- **Reuse** (refill, repurpose)
- **Recycle** (remanufacture used materials)
- **Return** (give nutrients back to nature).
- **Repair** (fix, mend, restore)
- **Regulation** (manufacturer responsibility, policy, packaging recyclability)

Classes include in-depth analysis, policy overview, and historical perspectives on waste and recycling. Expect lively discussions, hands on learning, tours, guest speakers, and instruction from the professionals at the Burbank Recycle Center.

BECOME A CHANGE AGENT

Waste Warriors that complete all eight classes and thirty hours of volunteer time will receive a graduation certificate and recognition by the Burbank City Council. Community projects may focus on waste reduction, thoughtful consumption, composting, or recycling.



HOW WASTE WARRIORS MAKE A DIFFERENCE

The Waste Warriors are building a network of engaged residents with an insider's view of the realities of managing waste and what is needed to create more resilient systems.

Students are empowered to help raise awareness and educate their community by:

- *Speaking to friends, neighbors, & local groups*
- *Working on a Burbank Recycle Center team project*
- *Organizing waste prevention & recycling projects*
- *Engaging businesses & residents at events*
- *Boosting existing recycling programs at schools, businesses, and organizations*
- *Volunteering and giving back*

FOR ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS:

Amy Hammes, Recycling Specialist
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818-238-3900

ADVANCED REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED

Class is limited to 25 Burbank residents.

Non-residents will be put on a waiting list.

Register Now! www.BurbankRecycle.org
(go to the Events page)

