

31 DAYS TO ZERO WASTE CHALLENGE

1. Compost your real Christmas tree - Set next to your curbside bin on your collection day or call Customer Care at 919-996-3245 to set up a collection time.
2. [Refill Raleigh](#) – Use a refillable water bottle instead of purchasing disposable plastic bottles.
3. Bring your own reusable coffee cup to the café.
4. Say “no” to straws!
5. Bring your own utensils (I carry camping silverware in my purse), so you never need plastic silverware.
6. Recycle right, recycle more, recycle often! ([paper/cardboard, plastic, metal, glass only](#))
7. Rinse aluminum foil and recycle it after use.
8. Keep reusable bags in your car to avoid shopping bags.
9. Buy from the bulk aisle to avoid packaging – don’t forget your containers!
10. Buy your eggs in cardboard cartons instead of Styrofoam.
11. Say “no” to produce bags – use fabric reusable bags or skip the bag if it’s not essential.
12. [Recycle plastic film](#) - this includes grocery bags, produce bags, bread bags, toilet paper wrap, bubble wrap, clean sandwich bags and cling wrap!
13. Collect your [food waste](#) and drop off at [free sites](#) for composting.
14. Facial tissues, napkins and paper towels are all compostable too!
15. Recycle all of your [holiday grease](#) – the city turns it into biofuel!
16. Remember that going Zero Waste takes time!
17. Try to fix an item instead of throwing it away or re-buying it.
18. Don’t throw away wine corks – make something new from them!
19. Re-use washcloths instead of paper towels.
20. Buy a few beeswax cloths and phase out cling wrap.
21. Phase out dryer sheets (made of polyester = plastic fibers) in lieu of wool dryer balls.
22. Recycle in the bathroom (hair product canisters, shampoo bottles, medicine bottles).
23. Re-use washcloths instead of disposable makeup wipes.
24. Use lotion bars or bottles instead of lotion tubes.
25. Swap your disposable razor for a safety razor – only need to sharpen the blade.
26. Swap your plastic toothbrush for a bamboo toothbrush.
27. Swap out toothpaste tubes for toothpaste tablets.
28. Check out [earth911.com](#) for information on how to recycle difficult and unusual items.
29. De-clutter your house and donate used clothes/toys/furniture to a non-profit charity.
30. Recycle old batteries and electronics at an electronics recycler.
31. Believe that your efforts, no matter how big or small, make a positive impact!

