

Zero Waste Best Practices for Schools

For support on implementing these best practices, contact the Zero Waste Marin Schools team!

Landfill bins are paired with recycling and compost bins.

Having all 3 bins next to each other makes sorting easy and convenient!



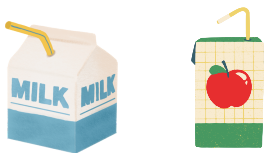
Restrooms have “paper towel only” compost bins.

Paper towels belong in compost, and unnecessarily take up lots of room in landfill!



Liquid buckets are used at lunchtime to collect milk and juice.

Liquids make trash bags very heavy - having a separate bucket that gets poured down a drain reduces weight.



Bins have clear signs with example images.

Zero Waste Marin can provide stickers and signs; Green Teams often make their own 3D signs as well.



Classroom bins have multi-bin stations.

Ensure classrooms have recycling bins for paper, and compost bins for paper towels.



Student Green Team leaders help their peers sort correctly at lunch.

Green Team leaders can stand by lunchtime bins and help answer sorting questions.



No plastic bags in recycling or compost.

Paper recycling is dry and often doesn't need a liner. Compost bins can be lined with paper bags, but plastic bags cannot be recycled or composted.



Green Teams regularly educate their peers about sorting.

Zero waste habits aren't formed overnight, and ongoing education - posters, morning announcements, videos, competitions - help students remember to sort!

