



# SUSTAINABLE STEPS

Brought to you by Arielle Gerstein,  
Charleston County's Sustainability Manager

In July we're focusing on reducing single-use plastics.

## Why is this important?

Although recycling accepted plastics is important, it should always be the third option after Reuse and Reduce. Reusing items or reducing the number of single-use plastics you purchase is more important because plastics litter our cities, oceans, and waterways and contribute to health problems in humans and animals.



The County does recycle rigid plastics like water bottles, soda bottles, laundry detergent, and shampoo bottles but cannot accept other plastics like plastic bags, toilet paper plastic wrapping, delivery bags, and hangers.

## Tips for reducing single-plastic use

### Tip #1: Ditch disposable utensils

Leave reusable utensils at work to eat daily snacks and lunch

### Tip #2: Bring your own bag

Leave reusable bags in your car for shopping trips to the grocery or retail stores

### Tip #3: Level up your laundry routine

Ditch plastic laundry jugs by replacing them with dissolving pre-measured laundry strips or pods

### Tip #4: Buy in bulk

Choose products that are packaged in larger quantities reduces the amount of disposable packing per unit

### Tip #5: Switch up shower products

Look for brands that supply soap, shampoo, conditioner, and other products in a bar form

For more information on Charleston County's Sustainability Program or to suggest a Sustainable Steps idea, contact Arielle Gerstein at [agerstein@charlestoncounty.org](mailto:agerstein@charlestoncounty.org), or call (843) 958-4083.

