

# C.A. Frost Green Team Waste Reduction Guide

## **Rethink, Refuse, Reduce, Reuse, Repurpose, Recycle**

**Rethink** – *Do I really need it? Could I borrow it? Can this be used in another way?*

**Refuse** – *Say “no thank you” to items you don’t need/want. Could you bring your own bags to the grocery store?*

**Reduce/Reuse** – *Use reusable and refillable packaging where possible*

- Earth Refillery: Offers shampoo, all purpose cleaner, dish soap, laundry soap
- Fresh Thyme: Bulk grains, beans, nuts, seeds, snacks, dried fruits, candies, nut butters, oils, and vinegar.
- Global Infusion: Bulk herbs, spices, and teas.
- Moondrop Herbals: Bulk herbs, teas, and spices packaged in paper bags (does not allow containers brought from home).  
Petrichor Market: Bulk liquid soaps, cleaners, shampoo, conditioner, lotion, and more, plus low-waste goods such as reusable bags, utensils, wooden brushes, and bar soaps.
- South East Market: Grains, pasta, flours and baking supplies, beans, nuts, seeds, and more.
- Buy Nothing: Connect with others in your community to reuse existing items before purchasing new or throwing away
- Freecycle Front Door: Connect with others in your community to reuse existing items before purchasing new or throwing away
- Midtown Lending Library : The Midtown Neighborhood Association has created a tool lending library
- Little Free Library: Borrow, share, swap books with neighbors
- GR Outside Gear Library
- Kent District Library & Grand Rapids Public Library
- Thrift shop or buy vintage

**Refurbish/Repurpose** – *Turn that trash into treasure!*

- Learning from Scratch: re-claimed affordable materials for education and arts
- Pitsch Wrecking: salvage shop
- Habitat for Humanity ReStore: building materials

**Repair** – Learn a new skill by fixing instead of replacing

Home Repair Services – Resources for Homeowner – [workshops](#)

[iFixit: The Free Repair Manual](#)

## **Recycle**

### **Recycle at Frost!!**

Terra Cycle: various packaging – see current list

NexTrex: plastic film recycling

Paper Gator: paper recycling

Trick or Trash: Halloween candy wrapper recycling

### **Recycle at home!!**

Reimagine Trash: a comprehensive searchable list of what to recycle and where in Kent County

Recycle Search: Comprehensive searchable list of what to recycle and where in Michigan

Beyond the basics:

- Clothing/Textiles – H&M will take any brand clothing item, even if it is not in great condition.
- Carseats: - [The Only Nationwide Safety Car Seat Recycling Program](#) – This program has a fee associated
- Eye Glasses Recycling - All Grand Rapids Ophthalmology locations take old glasses. [Glasses Drop-Off - GR Lions Club \(grandrapidslionsclub.org\)](#)
- Contact Lens Terracycle drop off - Arsulowicz Eye Care, 3935 Lake Michigan Drive, N.W. (Box located just inside their door and takes contact lenses, plastic film, pods, and cardboard packaging, any brand.) **NOTE** Grand Rapids Ophthalmology also will take contact lens waste but will **ONLY** accept Bausch and Lomb contact lens packaging.
- Electronics Recycling - Comprenew - <https://comprenew.org/> - List of some of the things you can recycle: *Computers, Computer Monitors, Laptops, CRT Monitors and TVs, Flat-Screen Monitors and TVs, Hard Drives & Data Devices, Printers & Scanners, Copiers, Network Equipment, Telephone Systems, Healthcare Tech & Medical Electronics, Fax Machines, Air Conditioners, Microwaves, Cell Phones, Paging & Call Systems, Sound & Audio Equipment, Batteries (NOTE- I know there is a charge to take batteries).*

4186 Plainfield Ave NE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49525  
616.226.6638

629 Ionia Ave SW  
Grand Rapids MI 49503  
616-451-4400  
Monday – Friday 9am to 4pm

1454 28th St SE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49508  
616.243.5310  
Monday – Saturday 10am to 6pm

- Bicycles
  - Upcycle Bikes refurbishes used bikes (adult bikes only) and offers transportation freedom for Grand Rapids area community members in need. <https://www.upcyclebikes.org/>
  - The Motion Initiative accepts donated bicycles to refurbish and then resell at a fair price to the surrounding community. Youth are invited to participate and learn how a business and workplace function by taking part in all aspects of the bike shop while participating in all the TMI programs. The bike shop also acts as a very cool and safe place to hang out, build relationships, and have some fun. (Note: I do think this is a religious non-profit <https://mibikes.org/>)
- Hazardous Chemicals - Safe Chem - Accepted chemicals: *home and garden products, garage & automotive materials, workshop and painting supplies, and more*. Please check out their website for information on how to dispose of some of the chemicals they do NOT accept (such as latex paint). <https://www.reimaginetrash.org/safehomes/safechem/>
  - **SafeChem Household Hazardous Waste and Swap Shop**  
1045 Wealthy St. SW, Grand Rapids, MI 49504  
**Mondays:** 1:30-5:30pm, **Wednesdays:** 7:30am-11:30am, **Thursdays:** 1:30-5:30pm  
**Every second Saturday of the month:** 8:30-11:00am

Composters:

-New Soil: Commercial composting service for businesses and restaurants.

-Organicycle: Curbside compost pick-up services for both residents and businesses. They also do yard waste collection.

-Wormies: Residential food scrap collection service and a drop-off location, plus waste consulting for homes and businesses.