

The Waste-Climate Connection

What do the “4Rs”—Reduce, Reuse, Recycle and Rot (compost)—have to do with climate change? A lot! Some of those connections are illustrated below. To learn more, visit www.wastediversion.org.

COMPOSTING



Processing organic materials by composting creates much less methane than putting them in the landfill.



Composting creates a nutrient-rich soil amendment that helps depleted agricultural soil capture and hold more carbon.

REDUCING, REUSING & RECYCLING



Emissions related to raw material extraction are virtually eliminated with recycling & reuse.



Minimizing waste minimizes transport-related emissions.



Less energy is used in the manufacturing process when products are made from recycled materials rather than virgin materials.



Reducing, reusing and recycling means more trees and other vegetation are left intact, allowing them to absorb carbon dioxide.

