



# Drivers of our Recycling Challenge

***Civil Rights, Utilities, Economic Development, and Arts Committee  
Seattle City Council***

***Heather Trim***

***Zero Waste Washington***

***May 31, 2019***

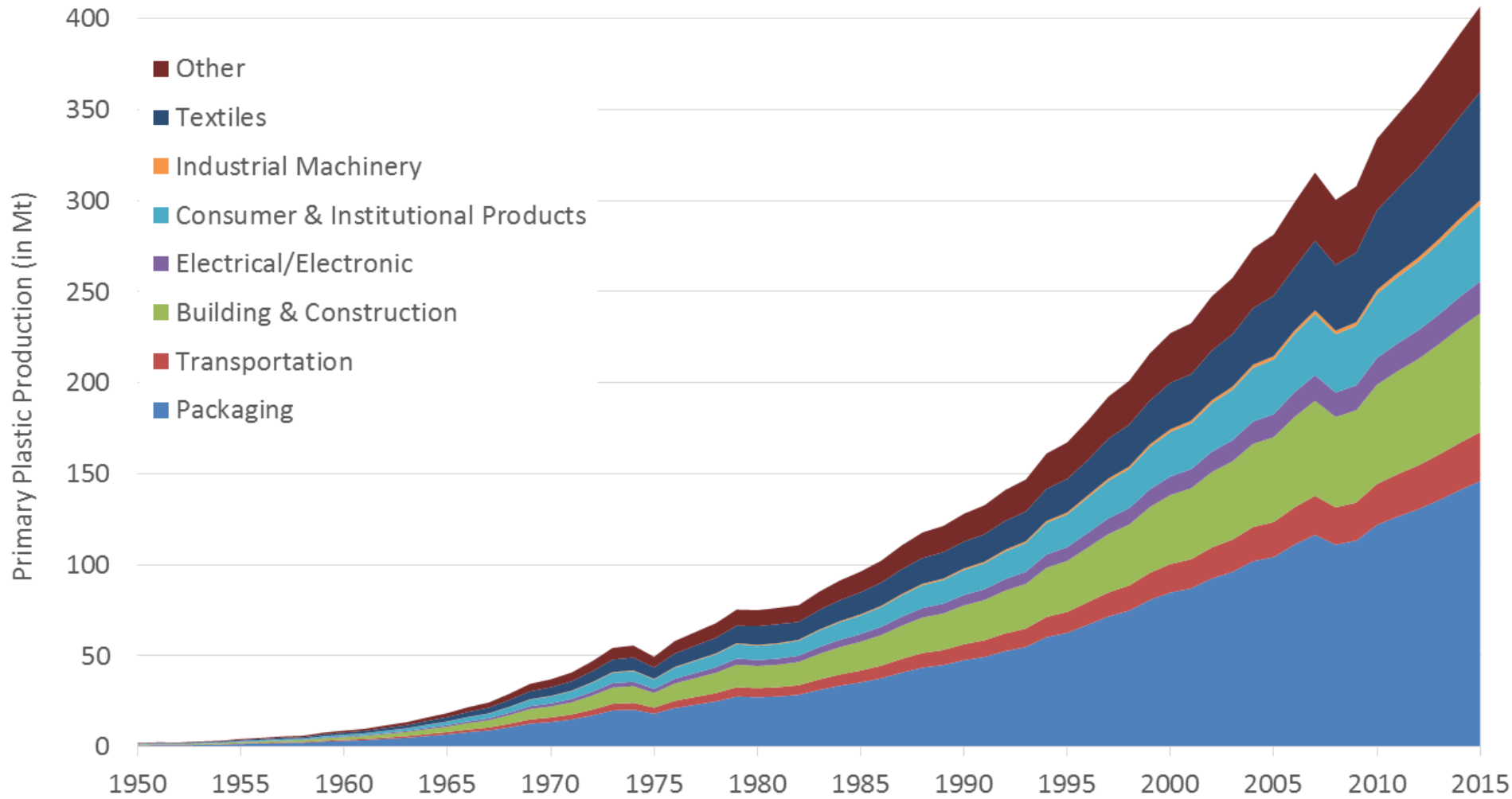
***[www.zerowastewashington.org](http://www.zerowastewashington.org)***

# Overview

- Plastics problem
- Consumer confusion
- Recycling operations
- Markets
- Legislative bills



# We Live in A Plastic Era







30%

plastics is used for packaging





**New plastic packaging keeps coming into the market**

# Consumer Confusion



3 second shrug





Is it compostable or not?

# China National Sword







Shanghai Daily

# 60% of waste



[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Bales\\_of\\_PET\\_bottles\\_2.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Bales_of_PET_bottles_2.jpg)





# Bans

- 24 types of commodities
  - 0.05% contamination standard







**Contamination: 11-20%**





**WM**  
WASTE MANAGEMENT  
Last year we recycled  
enough paper to save  
over 41 million trees.

**WM**

Think Green.

USDOT 318373











# Bags and film gum up equipment



# Solutions





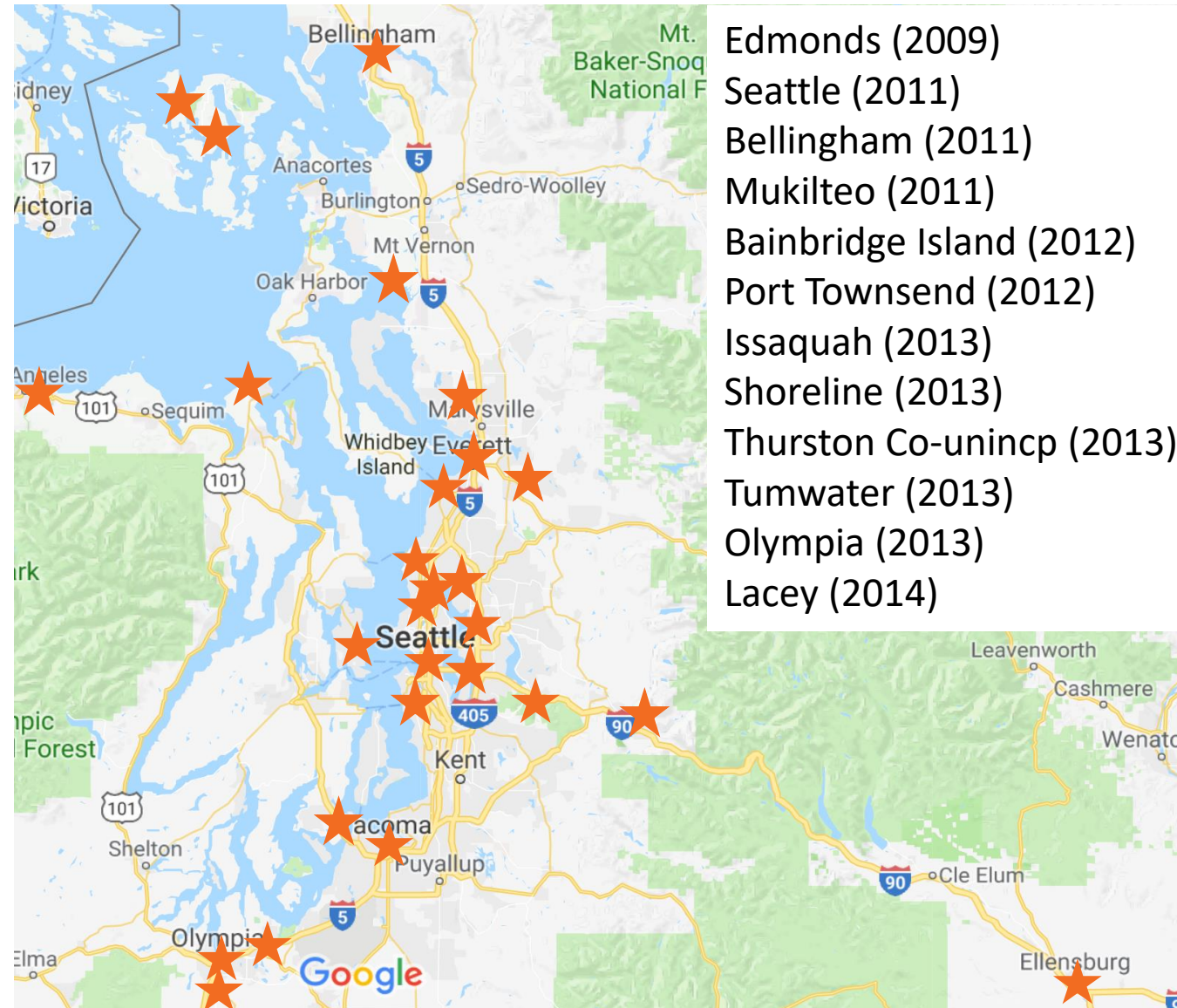


**Reduce the use of unnecessary plastics**

**Build markets and restore our recycling system, creating jobs in WA**



# 28 WA Reusable Bag Ordinances



- Edmonds (2009)
- Seattle (2011)
- Bellingham (2011)
- Mukilteo (2011)
- Bainbridge Island (2012)
- Port Townsend (2012)
- Issaquah (2013)
- Shoreline (2013)
- Thurston Co-unincp (2013)
- Tumwater (2013)
- Olympia (2013)
- Lacey (2014)
- Lake Forest Park (2018)
- Mercer Island (2014)
- Kirkland (2015)
- Ellensburg (2016)
- San Juan Co-unincp (2016)
- Tacoma (2016)
- Friday Harbor (2017)
- Quil Ceda Village (2017)
- Port Angeles (2018)
- La Conner (2018)
- Kenmore (2018)
- North Bend (2018)
- Everett (2018)
- Gig Harbor (2018)
- Burien (2019)
- Snohomish (2019)
- Bremerton (on deck)





# Reusable Bag Bill for Washington State

***(SB5323)***

**Zero Waste Washington | Surfrider Foundation | Seattle Aquarium  
| Puget Soundkeeper Alliance | Environment Washington**

# Update Seattle's ordinance





# “To go” containers”

Seattle

Bainbridge Island

Edmonds

Gig Harbor

Friday Harbor

San Juan County

Issaquah

Port Townsend

Lake Forest Park

Burien (on deck)







Cottonelle

Cottonelle

Bala Tissue

Bala Tissue

Bala Tissue

Bala Tissue

Bala Tissue

Bala Tissue

Bala Tissue

Bala Tissue

Bala Tissue

KIRKLAND  
purified water

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# Refill stations



# Refill App

Find **water** on the go

Download the app to find free Refill Stations on a street near you.



With over 14,000 Refill Stations nationwide, refilling your water bottle for free has never been easier. Simply tap the app, find your local Refill Station and get **fresh drinking water on the go**.



Build markets and restore our recycling system,  
creating jobs in WA



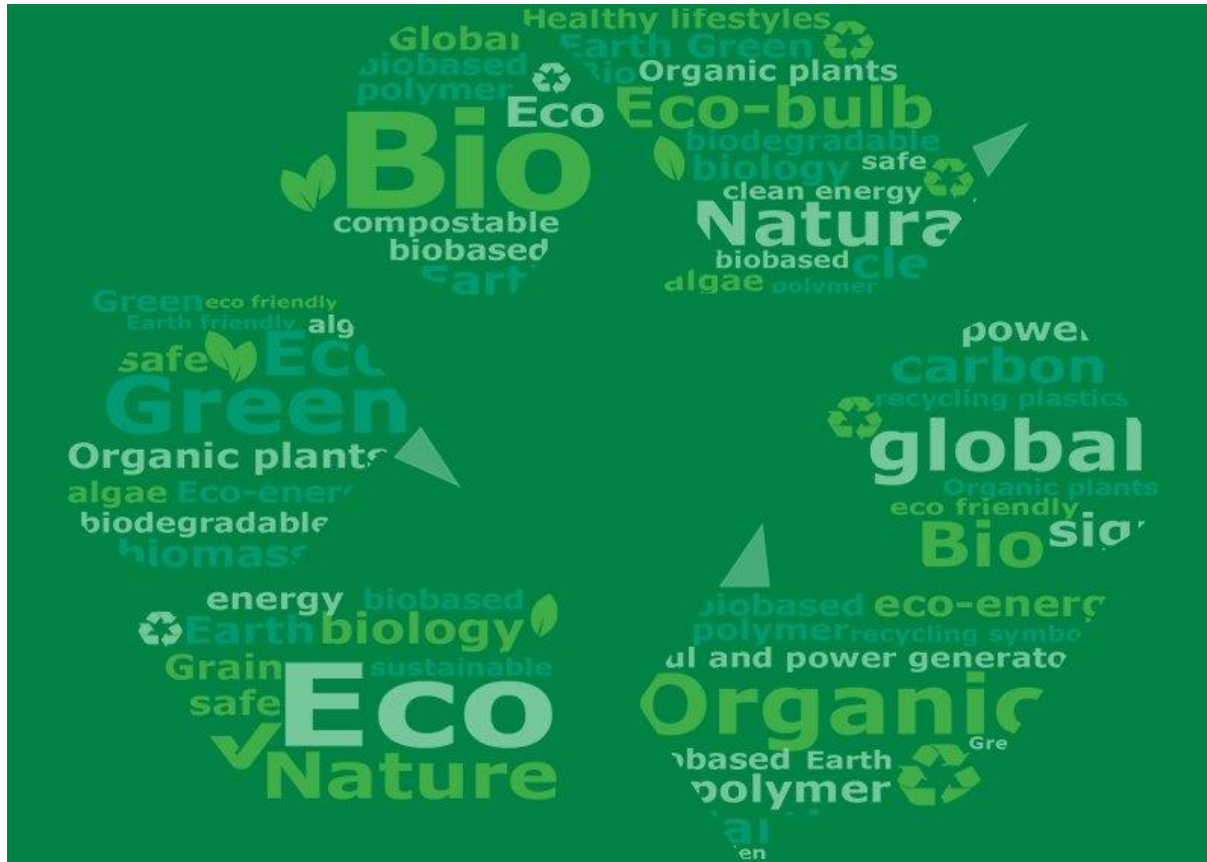
Plastic Packaging  
Stewardship

**Manufacturers and  
brand owners pay  
for program that  
manages  
plastic packaging  
at end of life  
(*SB 5397*)**





# Compostable packaging labeling law (HB1569)



The bill takes effect on **July 1, 2020**

# Food Waste Reduction Law

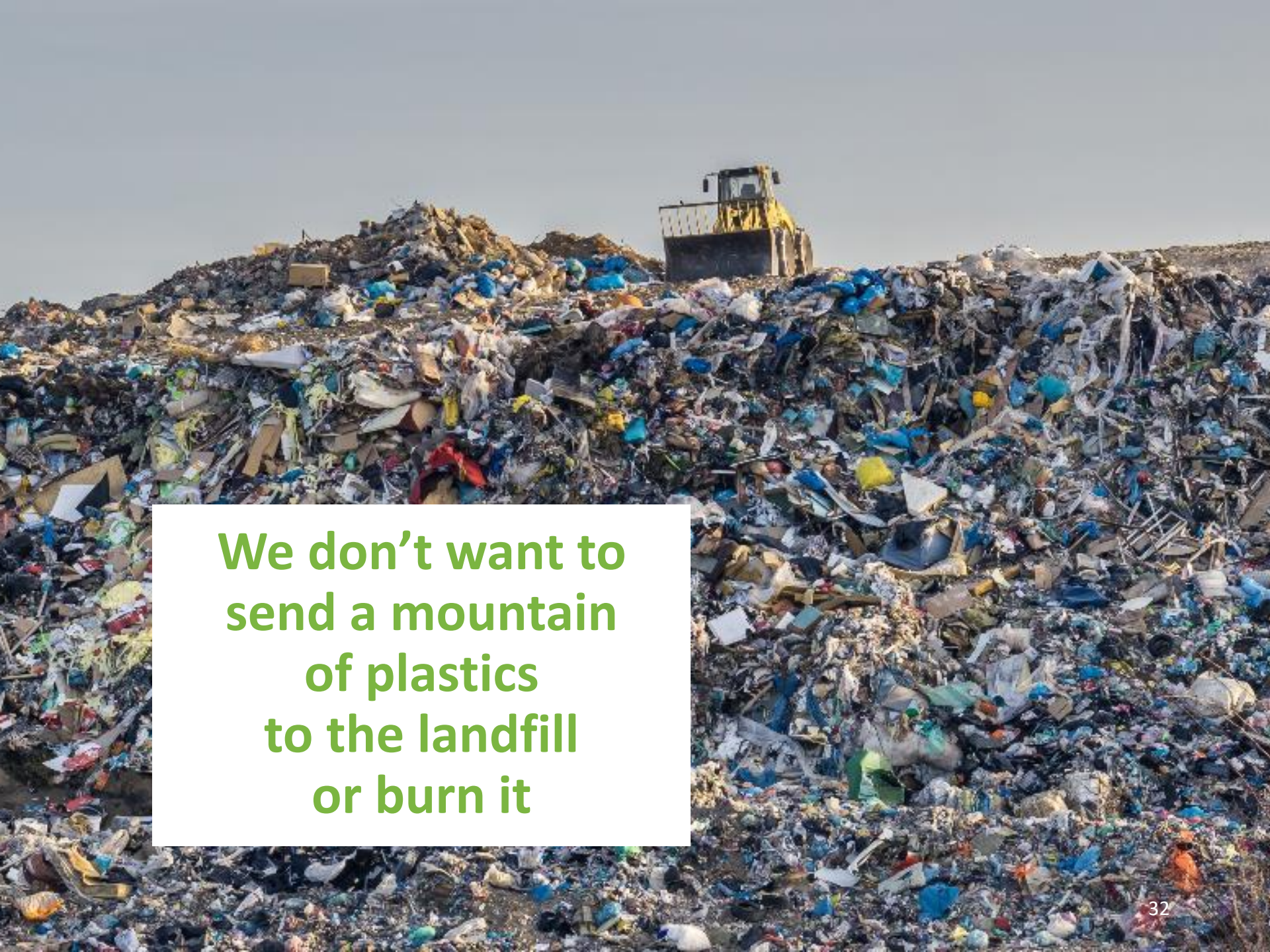
*(HB1114)*



Halve food waste by 2030







**We don't want to  
send a mountain  
of plastics  
to the landfill  
or burn it**



# Thank You



***Zero Waste Washington***  
***[www.zerowastewashington.org](http://www.zerowastewashington.org)***