



STARBUCKS®

# GREENER APRON

# Action Guide



# Contributing Positively in Your Community and for the Planet

As individuals, we often feel that we must take massive action to make a difference. That feeling can lead us to do the complete opposite, nothing at all.

It's important to remember that your small day-to-day actions add up and that you are not in this alone! You are joined by many others who are also taking small actions to contribute positively and the combined power of everyone results in a big impact.

Make sure to acknowledge any emotions that come up and come back to revisit this checklist whenever you need a little inspiration. You have already taken the first few steps, now keep going!



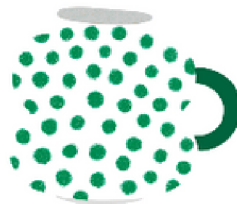
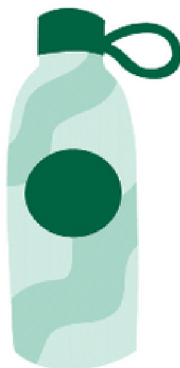




## AT HOME

There are many choices you can make right at home that will have a positive impact. Changing our own habits little by little and encouraging our family and friends to make small changes can make a big difference. Start with these small steps!

- Research your local recycling and composting systems to understand what can be accepted in each bin and how to prevent contamination of recycling streams.
- Find reusable alternatives to non-recyclable products like zip lock bags, straws and napkins.
- When shopping, bring your own reusable bags and choose products with less packaging or with packaging that can be recycled in your area.
- Reduce food waste by meal planning before you head to the grocery store to avoid overbuying.







## AT HOME

- Use coffee grounds in your plants if you don't compost. If used properly, grounds can supply nutrients and you will help keep them out of the landfill.
- Take shorter showers! Create a 5-minute playlist of your favorite songs and hop out once it's over.
- Head to the carwash instead of hand-washing. This can help save water and prevent chemicals from contaminating our waterways.
- Use your dishwasher! This can significantly reduce your household water use, compared to washing dishes by hand.
- Unplug your devices and appliances when not in use to help reduce energy and carbon emissions.
- Wash your clothes in cold water. This requires less energy than using heated water and cleans just as well.  
BONUS: Wash only when you have full loads!
- Place reminders around your home to help your family and roommates save energy and water and reduce waste.



## IN YOUR COMMUNITY

Taking action in our communities looks different for everyone. Maybe you want to organize a cleanup or participate in one – there are many great ways to make a difference! Remember that all movements for positive change are made up of smaller actions taken by ordinary people.

- Donate any items you might not need or use, such as clothing or furniture, to a local organization.
- Organize a swap in your community where everyone brings in their unwanted items to trade with others.
- Research and learn about your city's recycling policies and create a local guide for your neighbors.
- Volunteer at a local community garden. If there isn't one nearby, consider starting your own!  
BONUS: Donate used coffee grounds from your local store for compost.





## IN YOUR COMMUNITY

- Learn about your local waterway. Learning about the quality of your local water, what issues exist and what's being done to restore or protect waterways will make you more aware of the sustainability issues in your area.
- Host a river, lake or beach cleanup in your community to keep your local watersheds clean.
- Share the information and tips you've learned with your neighbors, family, co-workers and friends.  
BONUS: Share about your sustainability journey on social media to inspire others!
- Use Your Voice! Your local government is often responsible for waste and water policies in your community and they want to hear from you.  
BONUS: Visit [Fuelourdemocracy.com](https://fuelourdemocracy.com) or the [Community Champion: Advocating in Your Community](#) course on Starbucks Global Academy to learn more.



Check out all Community  
Champion course offerings on  
Starbucks Global Academy





## IN YOUR STORE

If you are a Starbucks partner, there are many ways you can contribute to our environmental promise to give more than we take from the planet. Make sure to talk to your leader about other ways you can support your store's sustainability plan.

- Remind customers of the reusable personal cup discount. This can be a big driver in customers adopting reusables.
- Keep For-Here Ware available for partners and customers to use. If your store doesn't have any, ask your store manager to order some.
- Always use a personal cup or For-Here Ware for your partner shift beverages and encourage other partners to do the same.
- Ensure FoodShare donations are ready for pickup by following your store's daily routine.
- Review the Waste & Recycling App on the store iPad to see what services are available at your store.





## IN YOUR STORE

- Ensure your store is using correct waste signage and colored bags for the front and back-of-house to help your store accurately sort waste.
- Flatten, consolidate and recycle all of your store's cardboard.
- Activate or participate in the Grounds for Your Garden program in your store.
- Perform a store walkthrough to ensure there are no water leaks and water isn't running continually in your sinks, toilets or landscaping.
- Use the dishwasher as a dishwasher and run full loads. It not only sanitizes but also washes the dishes and uses less water than using the three-compartment sink.
- Replace refrigerator gaskets when needed. A damaged gasket takes more energy because the refrigerator must work overtime to hold cool temperatures.
- Host a sustainability coffee tasting and focus on a specific topic that resonates with you, like reducing waste. You can even include your customers!
- Join the Partners for Sustainability Network, a partner-led group on a mission to educate, empower and engage Starbucks partners to drive sustainable change.

# Thank You!

Thank you for using your time to learn more about sustainability and how we are taking action at Starbucks. You have already taken the next step by making a plan on how YOU will take action as an individual and in your community. Together, we will make a difference because every action matters!

If you want to dig deeper into community engagement and how to best support the causes and places that mean the most to you, check out the [Community Champion collection](#) on Starbucks Global Academy.

