

Recycling Tours & Training: Reuse as a way to Reduce
February 22, 2024 - Albuquerque, New Mexico

lunch provided - attendees will use their own transportation for the day – carpooling encouraged

9:00 – 10:30 Goodwill Industries of New Mexico

Tour hosts: Shauna Kastle, President and CEO and Frank Holland, Chief Operations Officer

Attendees will enjoy a behind-the-scenes tour of their San Mateo Goodwill facility. This includes learning about Goodwill’s recycling efforts, what happens to donations that they are unable to sell in the store setting, and their recycling efforts for challenging materials (e.g. hard plastics, glass). Attendees will also learn about Goodwill’s sustainability initiatives and efforts to reduce their environmental impact. At the end of the tour, recycling and sustainable materials management staff will be better suited to educate their residents back home on how to effectively keep items out of the landfill by donating reusable goods to Goodwill, and consider other ways to partner with Goodwill to be solution leaders and innovators leveraging the Goodwill network overall.

Travel from Goodwill to Submaterial 6-10 minutes

10:45 – 11:15 Submaterial

Tour Host: Bridgid Harmon – Marketing Manager

Submaterial is an interior design, art firm that focuses on natural and sustainable materials such as wool felt, cork, and leather. These materials are fashioned by hand into beautifully textured wall art, wallcoverings, panels, screens, and more by their skilled fabricators using environmentally conscious and lean manufacturing processes. Even with all their conservation practices, they have a lot of cast-off materials, mainly scraps of plant-dyed, merino wool felt. In fact, they have truckloads of scrap each month. Their team works diligently to find reuse options for the cast-offs, donating many to local artists and nonprofits and working with local composters to compost organic textiles. Attendees will learn about their products, manufacturing process and discarded material and utilize their discards for a case-study on how to sustainably reuse, repurpose, compost or recycle this material.

Travel from Submaterial to Albuquerque Computer & Electronics Recycling 7-10 minutes

11:30 – 12:15 Albuquerque Computer & Electronics Recycling

Tour Host: Samuel Laing, Vice President

Albuquerque Computer & Electronics Recycling Company provides end-of-life asset management and recycling of electronic equipment. **Albuquerque Computer & Electronics Recycling Co.** They are the only certified electronics recycling company in New Mexico and follow best industry practices for

electronics with reuse being the highest form of recycling followed by recovery and disposal of electronics in an environmentally safe manner. The organization has recycled millions of pounds of electronics and safely diverted e-waste from entering our landfills. They offer public drop off services and provide collection pick up services to businesses, schools, organizations, agencies, and institutions throughout the state (and beyond). Attendees will learn how the company works to reuse electronics first through vigorous testing and refurbishing, and if an electronics recycling collection event could work in their communities.

Travel from Albq Computer & Electronics Recycling to Los Duranes Community Center 13-20 minutes

The afternoon classroom portion will take place at the Los Duranes Community Center Classroom from 12:30-5:00

12:30 – 2:00 Working Lunch (Lunch Provided) Reuse Case Study: Submaterial

Facilitator: Sarah Pierpont, New Mexico Recycling Coalition

During this working, group lunch, the team will evaluate sample discarded, post-industrial items from Submaterial and brainstorm solutions to reuse, repurpose or upcycle the product. This includes identifying potential solutions, infrastructure requirements and funding opportunities. It might also include an upcycled craft project so get ready!!

2:00 – 2:30 Circular Economy

Presenter: Sarah Pierpont, New Mexico Recycling Coalition

This is a term used more and more lately, but what does a Circular Economy really mean? This presentation will explain the concept and highlight successful case studies within New Mexico.

2:30 – 3:30 Reuse in your own refrigerator: food waste reduction best practices

Presenter: Jill Holbert, Retired, City of Albuquerque Solid Waste Department

If launching a community-wide compost operation seems impossible, start smaller. This presentation will teach attendees how to reduce residential food waste and how to make sure that your customers and community can do the same!

3:30 – 4:30 Refill! An easy way to reuse

Presenter: TBD, People and Planet Refill Store Learn how this Nob Hill business runs a profit-for-purpose business model with low-waste products and services and bulk product refill opportunities.

4:30-5:00 Next Steps:

Facilitator: Sarah Pierpont, New Mexico Recycling Coalition

An interactive review of the day and any new information that attendees can take back to their communities. Identification of any follow up or action items for the group.