neighborhood

Neighborhood Threads

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From Waste to Worth with Neighborhood Recycling

Every year, Neighborhood Recycling processes millions of pounds of post-consumer waste. "Post-consumer waste" is the industry term used to describe the second hand/in-kind donations we receive at Neighborhood Thrift and Blkmktplc., as well as the inventory Neighborhood Recycling picks up from other thrift stores around the valley. This waste is made up of textiles (clothing, bedding, fabric), cardboard, e-waste (electronics and small appliances), and other materials. This is a crucial part of the Neighborhood Industries ecosystem, providing a sustainable way to handle any items we receive that can't be sold and keeping them out of the landfill.



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Neighborhood Recycling increased the total weight of post-consumer waste it diverted from landfills, from 5M pounds in 2023 to 5.8M pounds in 2024. That increase was a result of NI's "Green and Healthy Future" in-kind donation campaign, which began last year, and saw an uptick in the number of in-kind donations collected at Neighborhood Thrift, in addition to servicing the waste from other thrift stores around the area. The "Green and Healthy Future" campaign highlights Neighborhood Industries' commitment to sustainable business operations that leave the neighborhoods we serve better than we found them. Of the millions of pounds of post-consumer waste handled at Neighborhood Recycling, only 3% cannot be recycled and is sent to the landfill.



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Sustainable Style at blkmktplc.

Since opening its doors in December 2019, Black Marketplace Vintage Boutique (Blkmktplc.) has approached its retail operations from a sustainability mindset. Blkmktplc. focuses on sourcing quality pieces, whose potential for a longer lifespan allows them to be "recycled" and worn by multiple owners over the lifetime of each piece. Blkmktplc. encourages shoppers to reimagine their relationship to their clothes and the way they think about getting dressed, encouraging them to make thoughtful purchasing decisions or donate clothing they no longer wear in-store.



And this environmentally-conscious customer base influences the way Blkmktplc. continues to evolve. Noticing how frequently many of their customers opted to forego a shopping bag at checkout, Blkmktplc. recently decided to go "bag-free." Now, instead of offering customers single-use boutique bags, reusable bags sourced from donated inventory are offered to customers who request them. By keeping high quality items in circulation, Blkmktplc. is doing its part to keep post-consumer waste out of our landfills.

You can shop Blkmktplc. at 1525 E Olive Ave. Monday thru Saturday, 11am to 6pm. Or join them for their End of Season Sale on Saturday, April 26, 2025 from 11am to 6pm! Early birds (10am-11am) can shop all clothing inside the store for \$10 apiece, and then 50% off store wide for the rest of the day after 11am. There will also be \$5 bins and \$10 racks in the parking lot outside until 4pm. Don't miss out on your chance to shop Blkmktplc.'s biggest sale yet, and do your part to shop sustainably!





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