



# Climate Action Plans & Organics Management Strategies



**Thank you  
for joining me**



**Dan Bacehowski, Materials Management Planner**



# Climate in the news.



**WASTE DIVE** Deep Dive Library Events

M&A ESG Workforce Collection Recycling Organics Landfill Energy

## Republic Services ESG reports call out growing risks from extreme heat, rainfall

These chronic climate risks could interrupt business, diminish productivity, risk worker safety and damage facilities, according to analysis in two 2021 ESG reports the company recently released.



**CNN** Weather Audio Live TV Log In

## Climate

Climate change weaves through our daily lives — from global politics and business to sea levels and weather to the clothes we wear and the food we eat.



**The shocking numbers behind the Lake Mead drought crisis**



**NASA** GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE Vital Signs of the Planet

NEWS | December 14, 2022

## NASA Sensors to Help Detect Methane Emitted by Landfills



Explore 



U.S. Department of Defense

SPOTLIGHT

## Tackling the Climate Crisis

The planet's changing climate has a significant effect on Defense Department missions, plans and installations. DOD is elevating climate change as a national security priority, integrating climate considerations into policies, strategies and partner engagements.

[f](#) [t](#)



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ALASKA Published December 14, 2022 12:10pm EST

## Seabirds are dying from starvation on AK coast

Dead seabirds collected on AK coast reveal perils of climate change

Associated Press

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**EPA** United States Environmental Protection Agency

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## EPA Releases Final Strategic Plan to Protect Public Health, Address Climate Change, and Advance Environmental Justice and Equity

March 29, 2022

### Slide 3

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- BK0** <https://www.cnn.com/specials/world/cnn-climate>  
Bartelt, Kate, 2022-12-16T19:57:35.731
- BK1** [https://climate.nasa.gov/news/3241/nasa-sensors-to-help-detect-methane-emitted-by-landfills,](https://climate.nasa.gov/news/3241/nasa-sensors-to-help-detect-methane-emitted-by-landfills/)  
Bartelt, Kate, 2022-12-16T19:59:22.718
- BK2** <https://www.defense.gov/spotlights/tackling-the-climate-crisis/>  
Bartelt, Kate, 2022-12-16T20:02:31.440
- BK3** <https://www.foxnews.com/us/seabirds-dying-starvation-ak-coast>  
Bartelt, Kate, 2022-12-16T20:04:22.615
- CE4** [[@Gillespie, Maggie](#)] what do you think for graphics on pulling headlines in? see examples in other comments  
Cook, Emilee, 2022-12-23T19:26:11.895

# What is the role of the waste industry in climate action planning, specific to organics management?



Waste Must be  
Collected, but can it  
Become Carbon  
Neutral?



Potential to Impact the  
Quality of our Daily  
Lives &  
Human Health

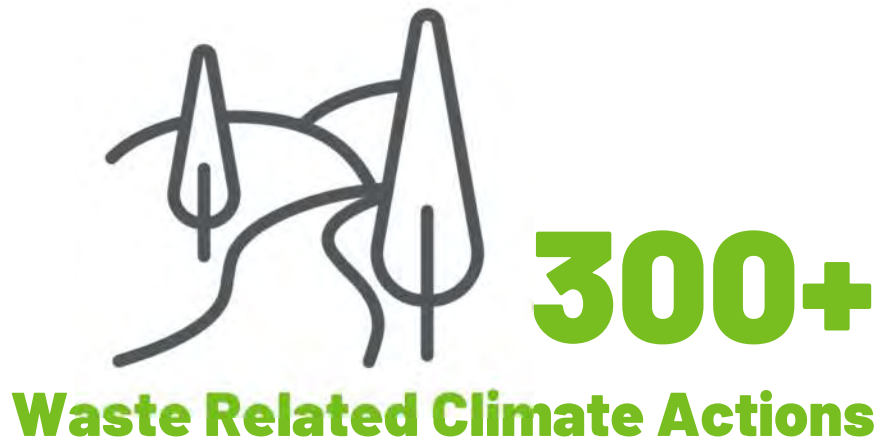


Effect of Waste on  
Climate & Environment

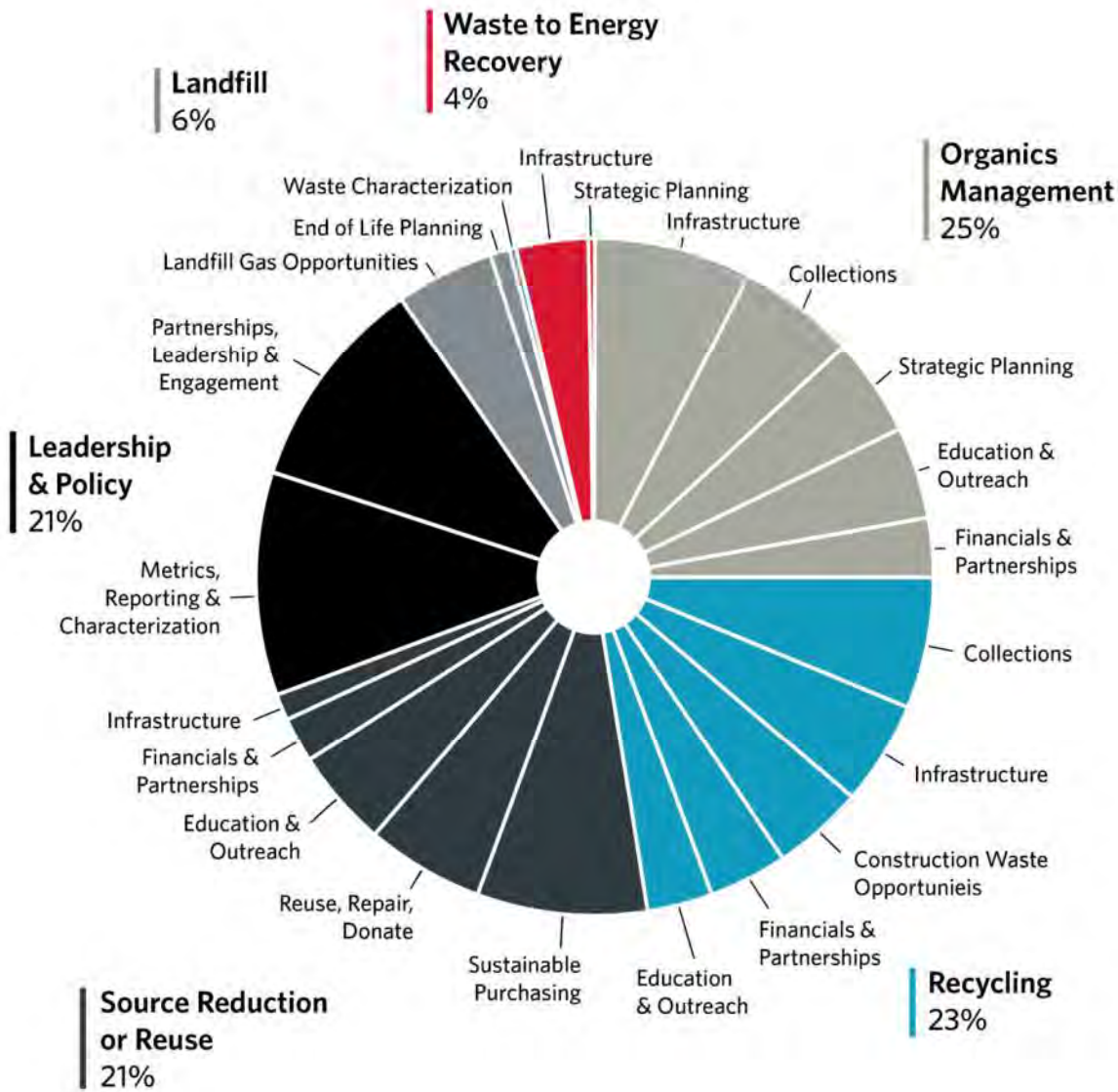
# The Research



## What we learned.



Embedding waste management strategies into regional decarbonization plans is pivotal for long-term climate resiliency.



**Climate action plans through the lens of a solid waste planner.**



## How does this apply to you?

- The conversation is occurring now
- Your residents are asking for services
- Opportunities exist for shared programming/ education
- Solid waste programming and organics management can be part of the climate solution



## Slide 8

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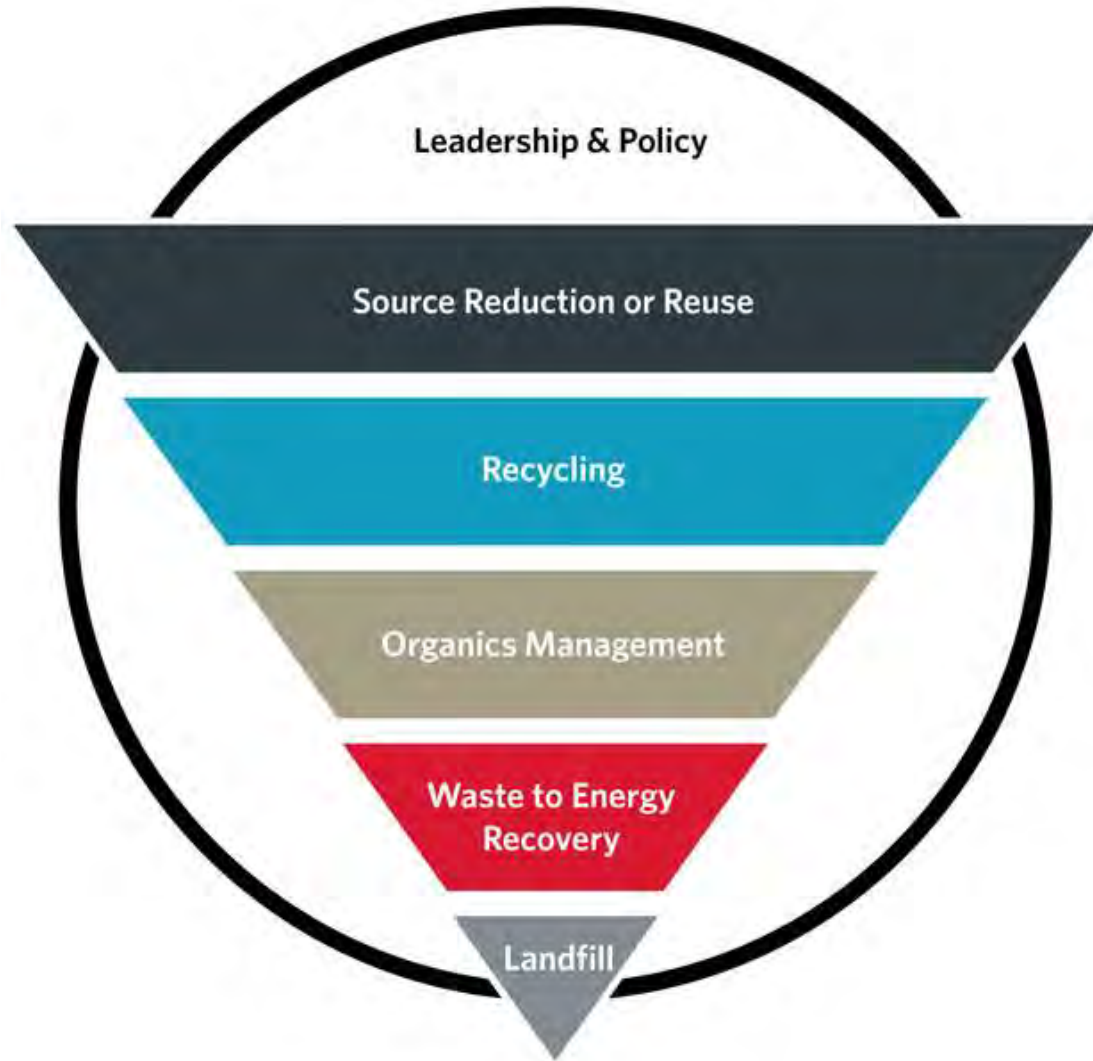
**EA0** Different photo - organics or climate related  
Erickson, Amanda, 2023-03-17T17:43:30.797

# RESEARCH FINDINGS

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## Interesting Discoveries

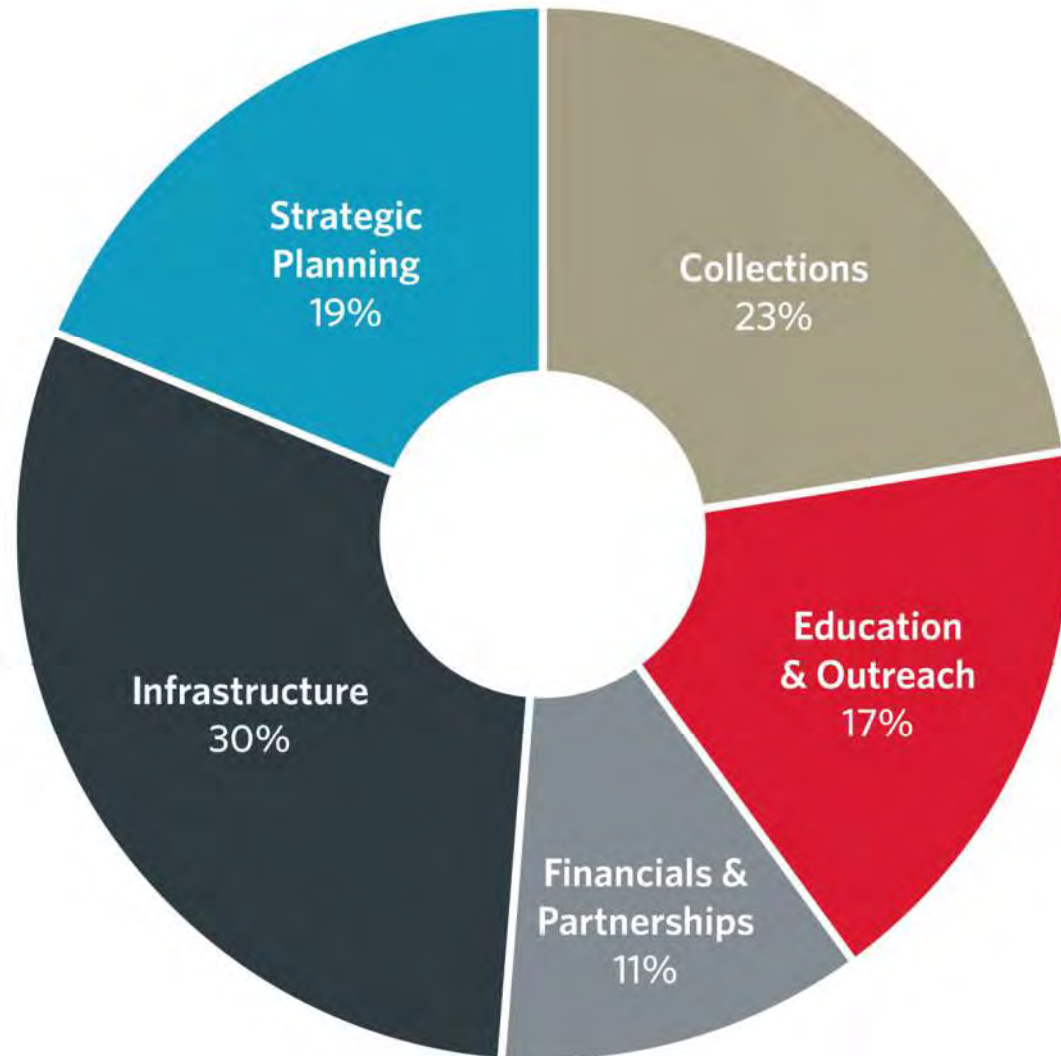
- No *one* solid waste solution is available
- 70% of Climate Action Plan solutions align with Waste Management Hierarchy
- Waste-related solutions address multiple facets of ESG



# RESEARCH FINDINGS

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## Organics Management





## Plan Categories **Strategic Planning**

- Big picture planning for organics waste
- Utilize existing or create new policies including EPA food hierarchy
- Food waste prevention
- Regional planning
- Diversion potential that results from strategies
- **Study Example**  
Austin, TX: Encourage state to ban yard waste to landfill





## **Plan Categories** **Financials and Partnerships**

- Fewer specific strategies but this fits into many other categories
- Local partnerships both public and private
- Counties supporting city development of organics programs





## Plan Categories Collections

- Evaluate, develop, implement, expand, or mandate a collection program
- Both food and yard waste
- Curbside or drop-off programs
- All have the potential to divert waste and reduce climate impacts
- **Study Example**  
City of Portland, OR: Mandatory (commercial) or voluntary (multifamily) organics collection program





## Plan Categories Infrastructure

- When is infrastructure development needed?
- Largest category within organics climate actions
- Compost and anaerobic digestion
- Develop and support markets for finished compost
- Local processing capacity
- **Study Example**  
Fort Collins, CO: Help develop food scraps composting and anaerobic digestion facilities







## Plan Categories **Education and Outreach**

- Provide education and outreach about programs, benefits, and climate impacts
- Include businesses in organics programs
- Incentives for participation
- Focus on home composting
- Food waste prevention campaign
- **Study Example**  
Ann Arbor, MI: Implement home composting education and outreach program, and incentivize participation in the program





## **Case Study** **Cedar Rapids Linn County Solid Waste Agency**

- Strategic Planning: Forward 2044 Report including SROI, EJ Analysis, Siting Analysis and Technology Review
- Infrastructure: Identified as next key step in process
- Financials & Partnerships: Creating committees for action items
- Education and Outreach: Ongoing task
- Collections: Identified as a limitation and need for partnership



**Questions?**



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