

Greenhouse Gases from Waste and Materials Management

The waste management sectors include greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from significant sources such as landfills and wastewater treatment facilities. In addition to emissions from management of waste, the production, transportation and consumption of consumer products also results in emissions (e.g., from fuel use for transport, electricity, etc.). ²



In 2022, the waste sector contributed 2.6% of total U.S. GHG emissions.³



Landfills are the third largest contributor (17%) of methane emissions.



58% of the methane emissions released from municipal solid waste landfills are from food waste.⁴

Ways to reduce GHGs from waste

Develop and expand programs to minimize food waste going to landfills.



Capture methane gas at landfills and wastewater treatment facilities and use it to replace fossil fuels.



Develop and implement programs to prevent waste and reuse products and materials.



BENEFITS TO THE PUBLIC



New green jobs





Increased use of renewable energy by public utilities

- 1 Other sources include commercial composting and standalone anerobic digestion (EPA 2024, Inventory of U.S. Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Sinks)
- 2-3 https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2024-04/us-ghg-inventory-2024-main-text_04-18-2024.pdf
- $4\ \underline{https://www.epa.gov/land\text{-}research/quantifying\text{-}methane\text{-}emissions\text{-}landfilled\text{-}food\text{-}waste}$

Authorized under the Inflation Reduction Act, EPA's Climate Pollution Reduction Grants program provides nearly \$5 billion in grants for states, local governments, Tribes, and territories to develop and implement ambitious plans to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and other harmful air pollution and benefit low-income and disadvantaged communities.



For more information, please visit

Climate Pollution Reduction Grants | U.S. EPA

