

## INFOGRAPHIC



### OUR WASTE IS TRASHING OUR CLIMATE

DID YOU KNOW THAT SLASHING YOUR TRASH ALSO HELPS LOWER CLIMATE-DAMAGING EMISSIONS?

#### BURNING TRASH LEADS TO CARBON POLLUTION

Trash incinerators in the U.S. released the equivalent of

**12M tons**

of carbon dioxide in 2016 alone – more than half of which came from plastics.



It would take **182 million**

trees grown for 10 years to soak up that much carbon pollution.

Waste incinerators release as much as

**2.5x more**

carbon pollution than coal-fired power plants (per unit of electricity generated).



#### WE CAN DO BETTER

Phasing out incineration can save

**3-5x more**

energy than can be generated by burning waste.



#### BURYING TRASH LEADS TO CARBON POLLUTION

Municipal solid waste landfills are the

**3rd largest**

source of methane emissions in the U.S.



Over a 20-year period, methane is

**84x more**

damaging to the climate than carbon pollution.



Organic waste, like food scraps and yard clippings, is the primary driver of methane production in landfills.



#### WE CAN DO BETTER

Keeping organic waste out of landfills through composting, food donations, and food waste laws, can help lower landfill methane emissions and reduce climate damage.