People in the U.S. are using **390,000,000** plastic straws per day.*

It takes up to **200 YEARS** for plastic straws to decompose.*

Plastic straws are the **11th most found item in ocean trash.***

Microplastics are often ingested by marine life - **endangering their lives.***

*Get Green Now
Zero-Landfill Brand Merchandising

As your brand partner, we make sure your merchandise experiences are also great brand experiences. This commitment goes much deeper than the product. Our sustainable decoration and distribution operations honor your brand values as well. The following describes several Staples investments that make your merchandise investment more sustainable and enable us to achieve zero-landfill status this year.

Materials Reduction via Packsize Technology

We Eliminated Plastic Shipping Bags and Reduced Packing Material Consumption over 25% with Packsize®

Packsize® technology uses cartonization logic from our ERP system to instantly cut and assemble precisely customized cartons. This enables us to ship every order in the smallest carton possible, creating significant ecological efficiencies.

- 25% reduction in pre-dimensioned carton purchasing
- 100% elimination of plastic shipping bags through use of custom sized corrugate boxes
  - All shipments previously shipped in bags now ship in recycled and recyclable corrugate
  - Reduces labor by enabling 100% automation of package weight, dimensioning and labeling
- Packsize corrugate is made from recycled post-consumer waste
- Reduction in box dimensions reduces corrugate use
- Smaller, fuller packages reduce both corrugate use and package fill material use
- Smaller, fuller packages weigh less and are transported with more density, making logistics more fuel efficient

These “before and after” images show the dramatic reduction in material needed when boxes are precisely customized by Packsize. Less corrugate is used, less void packing material is used, and freight trucks are packed more densely and efficiently, reducing per-package fuel consumption.
Packsize® Technology increases sustainability throughout the distribution process. Clicking any of the pictures will take you to a video outlining how this technology dramatically reduces material usage.

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Energy Reduction

We Reduced Electrical Consumption 13% in 2018

In 2018, we reduced energy consumption 13% over 2017 while simultaneously increasing fulfillment output. Three primary investments drove substantial efficiencies.

- LED Lighting & Motion Detection Upgrades—We updated production, warehousing and office lighting with motion-detecting LED fixtures. This replaced 750 conventional fixtures and 6,000 fluorescent bulbs
- Variable Speed Air Compressor—The new compressor produces 50% efficiency vs. its predecessor
- Energy Management Technology—The new system distributes heating and cooling by need rather than maintaining a constant temperature in our 500,000 square-foot facility

Recycling

We Will Attain Zero-Landfill Status in 2019 While Eliminating or Recycling Over 1 Million Pounds of Plastics & Paper

Last year, we implemented a new recycling process and installed a new baling system that will enable us to achieve zero landfill this year.

- Corrugate is auctioned off to recyclers
- Non-recyclable waste is incinerated for power generation
- Cafeteria food waste is composted

In 2018, We Recycled

- 825,000 lbs. Corrugate
- 50,000 lbs. Plastics & Paper

Our 2018 Investments Allow Us to Eliminate the Following In 2019

- 140,000 lbs. Corrugate
- 7,000 lbs. void fill
- 25,000 lbs. plastic

A new Variable Speed Air Compressor halves the electricity usage of its predecessor.
Sustainable Decoration

Staples performs decoration using water-soluble inks and sustainable practices so apparel production does not contradict your brand’s reputation, values or standards in any way.

Staples uses Rutland ® Inks, which are tested by independent third parties and certified not to contain the following:

- PVC
- Chlorofluorocarbons (CFC)
- Alkylphenol ethoxylates (APEO)
- Nonylphenol (NPEO)
- Octylphenol Ethoxylates (OPEO’S)
- Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAK), TBBPA, DecaBDE, or HBCDD
- Organotins
- Latex
- Ozone depleting chemicals according to CONEG

Staples also recycle materials used for decoration.

- Plastics get sold to Van’s Recycling
- Paper is sold to Van’s Recycling
- Spent batteries, waste ink, and spent lamps are recycled by Stericycle

Additionally, we sample of our waste water and have the samples analyzed by TestAmerica to make sure we are EPA compliant.