GW Single-Use Plastics Plan
June 2021
DRAFT

The George Washington University Single-Use Plastics Plan

Building upon the past decade of sustainability progress, in June 2020, the George Washington University Board of Trustees Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) Task Force charged the university with addressing the environmental impact of single-use plastics at GW. Taking on this challenge, President Thomas LeBlanc committed to eliminating single-use plastics throughout GW as part of the university's larger commitment to circularity, a leading sustainability concept that seeks to separate economic activity from the consumption of finite resources to prevent waste and pollution, keep items and materials in use, and regenerate natural systems.

GW students and leadership have been engaged in dialogue around the single-use plastics issue since 2019. In response to calls to action from GW students, Mark Diaz, Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, convened a Single-Use Plastics Task Force in September 2020 to build a comprehensive effort to eliminate single-use plastics within university operations. EVP & CFO Diaz is committed to making GW a leader in the elimination of single-use plastics. This commitment to eliminate single-use plastics applies to all three GW campuses: Foggy Bottom, Mount Vernon, and Virginia Science and Technology, as well as GW-owned or leased education, research centers, and other properties.

Single-use plastics (SUPs) are non-essential, non-compostable disposable plastic products with an intended lifespan of one use, i.e., one meal/one drink, or disposed of within 24 hours.[1] GW is committed to eliminating the following SUPs on campus; however, over time, this list may expand to include other single-use plastic items:

- Single-use plastic utensils;
- Single-use plastic beverage bottles of any size and for any kind of beverage;
- Single-use plastic straws & stirrers;
- Single-use plastic food service ware (cups, plates, bowls, trays, sauce dishes, lids);
- Single-use plastic clamshells & to-go containers; all polystyrene (Styrofoam and similar) food service products;
- Single-use plastic-lined cups and bowls (coffee cups, soup bowls, snack boats);
- Single-use plastic-wrapped condiments, sauces and seasonings (butter, jelly, peanut butter, creamers, sugars, salt, pepper);

[1] Post-Landfill Action Network, "#BreakFreeFromPlastic Campus Pledge". Available at: https://www.postlandfill.org/bffp-pledge/.

- Individually packaged items with bulk alternatives (napkins, oyster crackers, individually wrapped fresh baked goods, mints, toothpicks);
- Single use hot beverage packets unnecessarily packaged in plastic (K-Cups, plastic-wrapped tea bags);
- Plastic shopping bags;
- Plastic-wrapped giveaways; and
- Plastic layered sachets (small plastic packages containing small amounts of consumer goods such as condiments, detergents, or shampoos).

Readily available alternatives exist for many of the items included in this list. For example:

- Bottled beverages are available in single-serve aluminum cans, glass bottles, in powder form that can be mixed in a reusable bottle or cup, or in bulk containers;
- tensils, straws and stirrers, to-go containers, and food service ware can be replaced by reusable or by compostable items;
- Individually packaged items like condiments, sauces and seasonings, napkins, hot beverage packets, and crackers are available in bulk packaging; and,
- Plastic-wrapped giveaways can be commissioned and ordered with limited packaging, and given out without any additional wrapping.

GW's Single-Use Plastic Task Force will monitor items going forward, and welcomes input from the GW Community on potential items to add to the elimination list.

The Single-Use Plastics Plan -- this document -- outlines how GW has approached the elimination of single-use plastics. It details the action items, targets, and key performance indicators that GW will use to motivate and monitor our progress toward the goal of eliminating single-use plastics on campus, specifically the SUPs located above. Both this and the Single-Use Plastics Elimination Guide are aligned with the GW Single-Use Plastics Policy, which lays out restrictions and guidance regarding single-use plastics for the GW Community, and with the GW Single-Use Plastics Compliance Guidance, which outlines the mechanism for compliance with the Single-Use Plastics Policy.

Section 1: Why eliminate single-use plastics?

Plastic Pollution

GW strives to have a positive impact on the local, regional, and global environment, and eliminating ubiquitous pollutants such as single-use plastics will impact the environment swiftly and positively.[2]

Plastic pollution, which is dominated by SUPs, is a serious concern in marine as well as terrestrial ecosystems. A 2015 study estimated that, of 275 million metric tons of plastic waste generated in coastal cities, 4.8 to 12.7 million MT entered the ocean. By 2050, experts estimate that, absent greater action, the ocean is expected to contain more plastics than fish by weight.[3]

In addition to being an unsightly addition to beaches and coastal communities across the globe, marine life consumes plastics both in large pieces and as microplastics, both which are harmful. Closer to home, the Anacostia River in Washington D.C. is one of the only rivers in the U.S. to be designated by the EPA as impaired by trash, including SUPs.[4]

While plastic manufacturers may intend for their products to be recycled instead of winding up in terrestrial or marine ecosystems, the likelihood of a single-use plastic item being successfully recycled may be quite low, depending on the item. Sometimes this is because the kind of plastic is not readily recyclable, or is not readily recyclable in a specific municipality. In other cases, it is because the item is contaminated with food or liquid (such as an unwashed takeout container) or because the item causes operational issues (such as single-use plastic grocery bags, which clog recycling machinery).[5]

Overall, the amount of recycled plastics (both single- and multi-use plastics) is small. In 2018, only 8.7% of all plastics were recycled in the U.S, with single-use polyethylene terephthalate (PET) bottles and jars recycled at a higher rate of 29.1%. This higher rate

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[2] Potomac Conservancy, "Ask an Expert: Why is Plastic Pollution Increasing in Virginia?" February 6, 2020. Available at: https://potomac.org/blog/2020/3/1/plastic-pollution-virginia.
[3] World Economic Forum, "The New Plastics Economy: Rethinking the Future of Plastics." January 2016. Available at http://www3.weforum.org/docs/WEF_The_New_Plastics_Economy.pdf.
[4] Fenston, Jacon, "The Anacostia River is Full of Tiny Shards of Plastic". *DCist*. June 13, 2019. Available at: https://dcist.com/story/19/06/13/the-anacostia-river-is-full-of-tiny-shards-of-plastic/.
[5] Department of Public Works, "Requirements for Plastic Bags and Wraps." Available at: https://dpw.dc.gov/plasticbagremoval#:~:text=Plastic%20bags%2C%20wraps%2C%20and%20film,and%20safety%20hazards%20to%20employees.

of 29.1%, however, does not include wrappers, bags, or other sources of single-use plastics.[6]

Microplastics

When not properly recycled or disposed of, plastics remain in the environment for a long time, often degrading into small pieces called "microplastics."[7] About the size of a sesame seed, these pieces are both ingested and inhaled by people and animals.[8] There is emerging evidence that these particles could leach bisphenol A and phthalates, which are known to interfere with hormones; styrene, linked to a range of health issues including nervous system problems; and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), linked to cancer among other health conditions.[9] Evidence suggests that water bottled in plastic has double the microplastic level of tap water. Microplastics may also disrupt local food webs, particularly in marine ecosystems.[10] Finally, due to their size, microplastics are extremely difficult to remove from the environment.[11]

Equity

The manufacture and disposal of single-use plastics is also an equity issue. Plastic resin, the feedstock for single-use and other plastics, is produced in petrochemical factories. In the United States, the majority of these facilities are built in low-income communities and communities of color, particularly in Texas and Louisiana (also known as "Cancer Alley" for the health impacts of the extractive industry in the area).[12] These communities are burdened with regular, high exposure to health-impairing toxic chemicals in their ecosystem, not to mention the impacts of catastrophic accidents at

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[6] Environmental Protection Agency, "Plastics: Material-Specific Data". Available at: https://www.epa.gov/facts-and-figures-about-materials-waste-and-recycling/plastics-material-specific-data#:~:text=While%20overall%20the%20amount%20of,plastic%20containers%20is%20more%20significant.

[7] European Chemicals Agency, "The Problem With Microplastics". European Union. Available at: https://chemicalsinourlife.echa.europa.eu/the-problem-with-microplastics.

[8] National Ocean Service, "What are microplastics?" National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Available at: https://oceanservice.noaa.gov/facts/microplastics.html.

[9] Consumer Reports, "You're Literally Eating Microplastics. How You Can Cut Down Exposure to Them". *The Washington Post*. October 7, 2019. Available at: https://www.washingtonpost.com/health/youre-literally-eating-microplastics-how-you-can-cut-down-exposure-to-them/2019/10/04/22ebdfb6-e17a-11e9-8dc8-498eabc129a0_story.html.

[10] Jambeck, Jenna R., et al. "Plastic Waste Inputs From Land Into the Ocean". *Science* Vol. 347, Issue 6223, pp. 768-771. February 13, 2015. DOI: 10.1126/science.1260352

[11] Jambeck, Jenna R., et al. "Plastic Waste Inputs From Land Into the Ocean". *Science* Vol. 347, Issue 6223, pp. 768-771. February 13, 2015. DOI: 10.1126/science.1260352

[12] Larson, Hillary. "The Deep Injustice of Plastic Pollution". Sierra Club. July 30, 2020. Available at: https://www.sierraclub.org/articles/2020/07/deep-injustice-plastic-pollution.

these factories.[13] Byproducts from the process may also be illegally disposed of on land and in waterways.[14] These facilities also emit greenhouse gases, in addition to toxins.[15]

There are also equity concerns associated with the disposal of single-use plastic. If not successfully recycled domestically, SUPs enter the international waste stream, where they end up overwhelming waste markets and ecosystems in lower-income countries as part of the global recycling market.[16] Essentially, the U.S. is exporting the environmental and health consequences of plastic disposal, which include respiratory illnesses from burning or processing plastic as well as negative economic impacts on tourism due to the quantity of plastic waste in the environment. Experts estimate that between 20% - 70% of plastic that enters global recycling facilities is unusable, which means it simply becomes waste in a new location.[17]

Climate Change

Finally, the manufacture and potentially even the disposal of plastics increases the amount of greenhouse gases released into the environment, accelerating climate change. The process of creating single-use plastics and plastics more generally generates greenhouse gases at every point in its life cycle: from drilling for raw materials, to the energy used and emitted during the refining process, to disposal.[18] If plastic production and use continue to grow, emissions from this process could reach 1.34 gigatons annually.[19] Carol Muffett, Head of the Center of International Environmental Law, has stated that “the plastics crisis is a climate crisis hiding in plain

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[13] Morath, Sarah J. “Insight: Plastic Pollution is an Environmental Justice Issue”. *Bloomberg Law*. july 14, 2020. Available at: https://news.bloomberglaw.com/environment-and-energy/insight-plastic-pollution-is-an-environmental-justice-issue.

[14] Larson, Hillary. “The Deep Injustice of Plastic Pollution”. Sierra Club. July 30, 2020. Available at: https://www.sierraclub.org/articles/2020/07/deep-injustice-plastic-pollution.

[15] Larson, Hillary. “The Deep Injustice of Plastic Pollution”. Sierra Club. July 30, 2020. Available at: https://www.sierraclub.org/articles/2020/07/deep-injustice-plastic-pollution.

[16] McCormick, Erin, et al. “Where does your plastic go? Global investigation reveals America’s dirty secret”. *The Guardian*. June 17, 2019. Available at: https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2019/jun/17/recycled-plastic-america-global-crisis.

[17] McCormick, Erin, et al. “Where does your plastic go? Global investigation reveals America’s dirty secret”. *The Guardian*. June 17, 2019. Available at: https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2019/jun/17/recycled-plastic-america-global-crisis.

[18] Lindwall, Courtney, “Single-Use Plastics 101”. National Resources Defense Council. January 09 2020. Available at: https://www.nrdc.org/stories/single-use-plastics-101#:~:text=Put%20simply%2C%20single%2Duse%20plastics,wrappers%2C%20straws%2C%20and%20bags.

[19] Hamilton, Lisa Anne, et al. “Plastic & Climate: The Hidden Costs of a Plastic Planet.” Center for International Environmental Law et al. May 2019. Available at: https://www.ciel.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/Plastic-and-Climate-FINAL-2019.pdf.

sight."[20] Research also suggests that when plastic is exposed to sunlight as it degrades in the environment, it releases the greenhouse gases methane and ethylene.[21]

Section 2: The Solution: A New Perspective

The solution to the single-use plastics crisis is eliminating our dependency on these products, and embracing a circular economy. The circular economy is a regenerative model that seeks to separate economic activity from the consumption of finite resources in order to design out waste and pollution, keep items and materials in use, and regenerate natural systems.[22] Within the circular economy, products are designed to be used multiple times, and if they are intended to be discarded after one use, they should not be made of material that pollutes the environment for thousands of years.

Although GW faces many significant challenges as an open campus situated in an urban environment, GW is working diligently to accomplish the aims laid out in the GW Roadmap to Zero Waste, which was published in fall 2016. The Zero Waste or Circularity approach has led to GW reducing the amount of waste sent to landfills while increasing recycling, reuse and composting. The university hired experts and formed a cross-functional team to address this initial effort, and is seeing results with a decrease in waste to landfill and an increase in recycling. This approach mimics the way waste is treated in nature by thinking of used materials, garbage and discards as potential resources for others to use. The university has made significant progress in developing initiatives for reduction, reuse and recycling.

Creating a circular economy at GW supports our efforts to eliminate single-use plastic because it allows us the opportunity to examine all of the waste generated at GW, and how to make best use of it. In order to successfully eliminate single-use plastics, GW will need to switch to reusables in many cases, but in other cases GW may need to explore switching to substitutes, such as aluminum cans instead of plastic beverage bottles, or compostable utensils and service ware instead of single-use plastic utensils and service ware. Simply throwing aluminum cans or compostable meal service ware in

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[20] Joyce, Christopher, "Plastic Has a Big Carbon Footprint — But That Isn't The Whole Story," *NPR*. July 9, 2019. Available at: https://www.npr.org/2019/07/09/735848489/plastic-has-a-big-carbon-footprint-but-that-isnt-the-whole-story#:~:text=Christopher%20Joyce-,Plastic%20Has%20A%20Big%20Carbon%20Footprint%20%E2%80%94%20But,Isn't%20The%20Whole%20Story&text=Koji%20Sasahara%2FAP-,By%20one%20estimate%2C%20emissions%20from%20producing%20and%20incinerating%20plastics%20could,U.S.%20%E2%80%94%20between%20now%20and%202050.

[21] Isola, Monica. "Plastic Contributes to Global Warming as is Breaks Down, Researchers Find," *Yale Climate Connections*. November 7, 2018. Available at: https://yaleclimateconnections.org/2018/11/common-plastics-emit-global-warming-pollution/.

[22] Ellen MacArthur Foundation, "Concept: What is a circular economy? A framework for an economy that is restorative and regenerative by design". Available at: https://www.ellenmacarthurfoundation.org/circular-economy/concept.

the landfill instead of single-use plastics is not GW's goal; instead, GW intends for recycling, composting, and communications to support the proper reuse, regeneration, or disposal of alternatives to single-use plastics.

The circularity approach guides the single-use plastic elimination effort through the following four steps:

- ***Eliminate* plastic**: Eliminate plastic packaging around obvious items like bananas, which have a natural protective peel.
- ***Reuse* items:** Discard items like plastic pens or smartphone cases only when they have reached the end of their life.
- ***Redesign* products:** Items like surgical gloves are intended to be single use for health and safety reasons. Redesign these items to use a material that is biodegradable.
- **Find opportunities to *alternate*:** Switch to a reusable product whenever possible, like opting for a reusable water bottle, utensils, or service ware set over single use plastic bottles and service ware.

The following plan lays out GW's strategy for eliminating single-use plastics, and is intended to help connect the GW community to this effort. It includes concrete targets with accompanying deadlines, as well as key performance indicators with which to track progress.

Section 3: GW's Commitment to Eliminating Single-Use Plastics

GW students and leadership have been in dialogue about the problem of single-use plastics since 2019. In response to student demand, in early September 2020 a management level taskforce was convened by GW EVP & CFO Diaz to build a comprehensive plan to eliminate single-use plastics within university operations as a means of doing business better and contributing to meeting the sustainability commitments from the ESG Task force made in June 2020. The Take Back the Tap (TBTT) student organization was also engaged and this plan is aligned with their priority initiatives.

The Student Association passed a resolution on October 19, 2020 to "promote sustainability by reducing and eventually eliminating single-use plastic water bottles across campus, while also advocating for increasing refill stations in every dorm or building by the 2022 academic year". The resolution included providing a reusable bottle to all incoming students. In February 2021, GW President LeBlanc announced that GW would eliminate single-use plastics.

Implementation

GW leadership convened a group of staff from across the university to tackle the nuts and bolts of eliminating single-use plastics on campus. This group, the Single-Use Plastics Task Force, evaluated and prioritized the primary sources of single-use plastics at the university to be *vending, events, dining, departmental purchases and retail partners.*

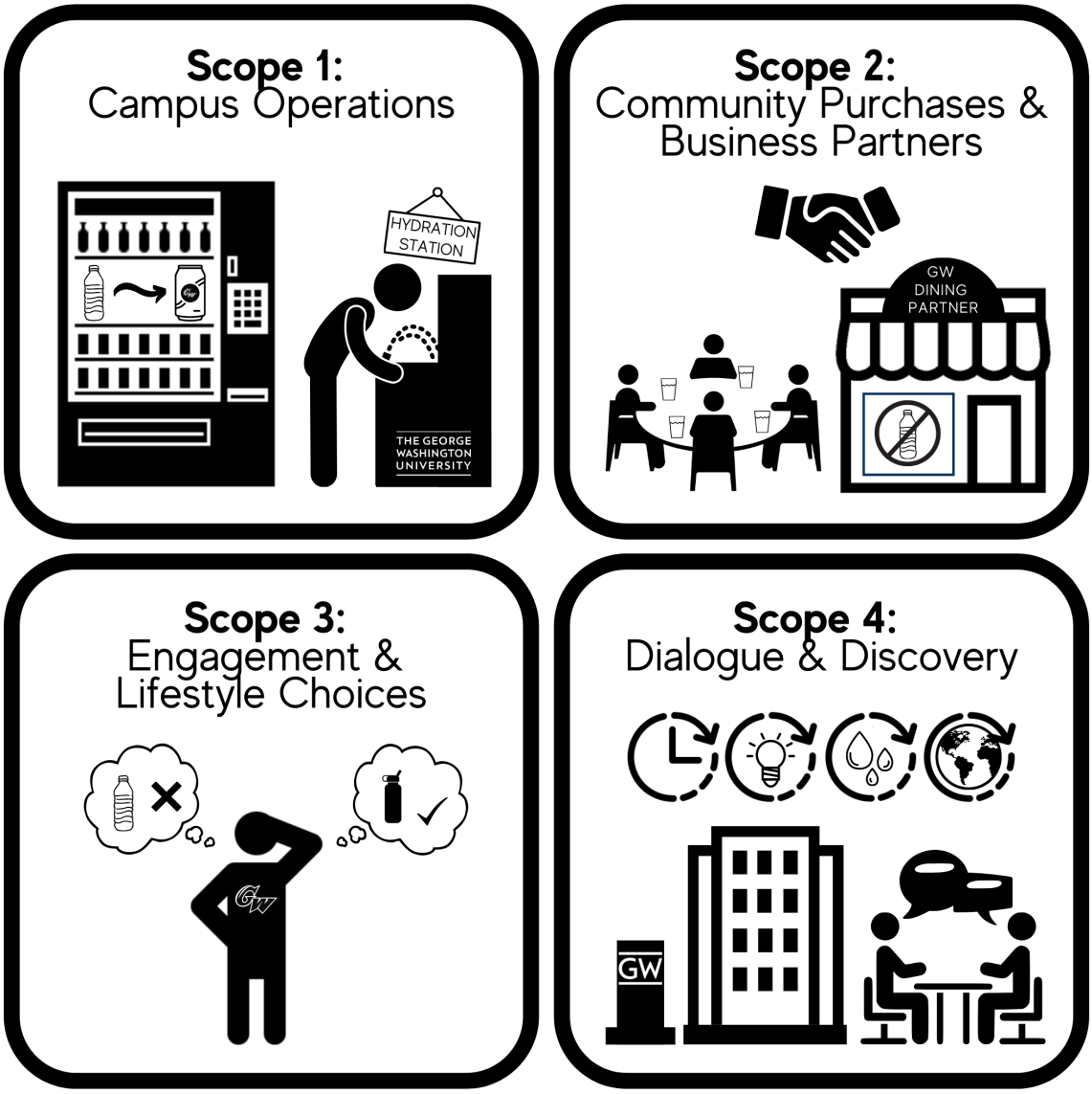
Although the Single-Use Plastics Task Force prioritized water and beverage bottles in response to student demand, actions also include other single-use plastics such as utensils and service ware, packaging, and event takeaways, as appropriate. Opportunities have also been identified related to future on-campus dining solutions. Essential items such as personal protective equipment and single-use plastic items within research are not yet considered in this elimination effort.

A significant success factor to the effort of phasing out single-use plastics involves the development of a university-wide single-use plastics policy which reiterates the university commitment to phasing out single-use plastics, ties to regulations as appropriate and provides the implementable guidelines and processes for the GW community that will be required to achieve the necessary operational transition.

Communication, outreach, and advocacy are also key components to the success of doing business better and contributing to meeting GW's ESG and sustainability commitments. As such, the university is launching a behavior change campaign.

The elimination of single-use plastics is part of GW's intent to contribute to a circular economy that is regenerative, keeping products in use. The university is making upfront investments in the elimination initiative and anticipates seeing savings over the long term. Generally, sustainability initiatives can lead to cost savings over time by reducing waste, cleanup costs, health impacts, and increasing efficiency in resource use.

The Plan encompasses four scopes that will be addressed in concert. The scopes address single-use plastic choices that are within GW's control, as well as choices made by the GW Community (faculty, students, staff, and contractors), all of whom make consumption decisions. As part of the fourth scope, GW hopes to use its platform as an institution of higher education to generate dialogue and discovery with researchers, partners, and society to identify broader solutions to the challenge of single-use plastics and the vision for a circular economy.



Scope 1: Campus operations

The university has already begun to address the single-use plastics under the control of centralized units in campus operations. This scope prioritizes eliminating plastic beverage bottles and supporting the reuse of water bottles, utensils, and service ware by:

- Providing the incoming class of GW students with a reusable beverage bottle and/or reusable utensils and service ware for meals on the go;

- Providing all on-campus faculty, staff, and returning and graduate students with a reusable bottle to ensure that everyone has the resources to join this effort;
- Expanding water bottle refill stations in outdoor locations, to all residence halls, and to all campus buildings;
- Replacing and retrofitting plastic bottle vending machines with can vending machines (aluminum cans can be recycled indefinitely, unlike plastic);
- Identifying alternative solutions to water bottles in emergency provisions; and,
- Developing the resources and infrastructure, such as space for back- and front-of house composting, needed to properly dispose of single-use alternatives to plastics, such as compostable material.

Scope 2: GW community purchases and business partners

The university has issued a policy that prohibits purchases of single-use plastics across the GW Community. The university is working with business partners who operate on or near campus to encourage them to offer alternatives to single-use plastics. The action items in this scope include:

- Issuing a policy to prohibit purchases of single-use plastics by the GW Community, including departments across the university, and student groups. The GW Community should also inform their visitors of the policy and encourage visitors to comply;
- Working with business partners who operate on or near campus to encourage them to offer alternatives to single-use plastics;
- Continue to provide in-line water systems available for lease and purchase by campus departments, schools, and offices;
- Modifying GW procurement conditions to reduce packaging waste in general and eliminate single-use plastics in packaging;
- Engaging top suppliers on alternatives to single use plastic products and products that address circularity and zero waste, generally;
- Developing alternative water options for athletic events, fundraising events and other large-scale events;
- Identifying ways to support other events such as those hosted by students, departments, schools, and contractors to avoid single-use plastics, including a Green Event Guide tailored towards specific actions organizations can take to host sustainable and plastic-free events; and
- Eliminating single-use plastics in future pouring rights and campus dining contracts.

Scope 3: Engagement and lifestyle choices

Reaching our goal will require all members of the GW community to make adjustments to daily life, choosing to use reusable items over single-use plastics. When the university returns to on-campus learning again, GW will invite students, faculty, staff, visitors, and partners to join the behavioral change campaign and choose to avoid single-use plastics, whether at a university sponsored event or a retail store on or near campus.

Scope 4: Dialogue and discovery

The fourth scope in this process involves embracing the living laboratories on GW's campuses. As a research institution, the university will encourage thought leaders to explore approaches to sustainability challenges and develop further solutions to the global single-use plastics problem. As GW positions itself to be part of the circular economy, items on campus will be developed, used and discarded in a way that ensures no waste and that workers and communities are treated with dignity.

Section 4: Action Items and Key Performance Indicators

The George Washington University has committed to eliminating single-use plastics. This refers to non-compostable, non-essential plastics with an intended lifespan of one use, that have alternatives. As detailed in the previous section, the plan encompasses four scopes of control that will be addressed simultaneously.

Eliminating single-use plastics is a new target (target 5.5) within the GW Ecosystems Enhancement Strategy under Goal 5: Optimize Waste Decomposition and Treatment. For more information and an up-to-date accounting of progress towards GW's sustainability goals, please see the Progress Report to the Ecosystems Enhancement Strategy.

Individual action items will be accomplished by or before a target date, outlined here:

Scope 1: Campus operations

Target	KPI	Target date
Replace/retrofit plastic bottle vending machines with cans	% of buildings where all vending machines have transitioned to can vending	***Complete***
Provide the GW Community with	% of GW Community	Fall/Winter 2021

a reusable bottle	(incoming students, returning students, employees) who receive reusable bottle	and ongoing for incoming students
Expand water bottle refill stations to every building and to outdoor locations	Number of water bottle refill stations installed Number of uses of refill station	Winter 2021 for all three campuses
Develop resources and infrastructure necessary to properly dispose of single-use alternatives to plastics in dining services	Tons of material composted from dining services	2025

Scope 2: GW community purchases and business partners

Target	KPI	Target date
Modify procurement conditions to reduce packaging waste and to prohibit single-use plastics when alternatives are available	% decrease (or increase) in compliance issues found in audit of procurement records from FY22 baseline (annual)	Winter 2020
Issue Single-Use Plastics Policy		Summer 2021
Make in-line water systems available for lease or purchase and installation by GW offices		***Complete***
Eliminate plastic bottled water in emergency provisions where alternatives are available	% reduction of water for emergencies is from alternative sources (metric: per person serving)	Summer 2021
Develop alternative water, service ware, and utensil options for athletic events, fundraising events, and large-scale events	% reduction in plastic water bottles, utensils, and service ware used at large-scale events (metric: per person unit)	Summer 2021
Create guidance to help all events hosted at GW reduce single-use plastics	N/A	Spring 2022
Eliminate SUPs in future pouring rights and campus dining	% decrease (or increase) in compliance issues found in	Fall 2022

contracts	audit of procurement records from FY22 baseline (annual)	
Partner with retail tenants and GWorld partners to encourage the elimination of SUPs	% of tenants, partners, engaged by GW staff % of tenants, partners, who commit to eliminating SUPs	Fall 2024

Scope 3: Engagement and lifestyle choices

Target	KPI	Target date
Behavioral change campaign to encourage the GW Community to avoid single-use plastics	% of students who report using a reusable water bottle, reusable utensils, and reusable serviceware	Spring 2021

Scope 4: Dialogue and discovery

Target	KPI	Target date
Provide living laboratories for exploring the challenges of single-use plastics in partnership with partners and thought leaders	Number of GW research projects, courses, extracurricular projects, and/or events on plastics, zero waste, and circularity (annual)	Ongoing

Section 5: A Call to Action

We encourage you to join the GW effort to eliminate single-use plastics on campus. Our collective efforts provide an opportunity for you to take personal responsibility for your lifestyle choices. By making small changes to our daily lives, we can make a real impact on the health of our community and our environment.

You can reference the Single-Use Plastics Elimination Guide for options and alternatives to single-use plastics in your day-to-day life on campus, including detailed information on hosting events without single-use plastic. You can also use the Green Event and Catering Guide to understand additional tactics to improve the sustainability of events beyond the elimination of single-use plastics. Finally, your office can join the Green Office Network as a way to identify further opportunities to green your office.

Watch GW for reports on progress against the targets for eliminating single-use plastics. By setting ambitious goals and targets around single-use plastics, testing ways to meet them and reporting on our progress, GW will be transparent about progress and challenges.

Finally, please give us your input by emailing sustaingw@gwu.edu. If you have a solution for your peers, co-workers, or community on how to address the single-use plastics problem, we would love to hear it and hope you will put it into action! We also welcome your feedback on the university's progress. Your input is essential to creating healthy and thriving natural systems for all.