# **Corcoran Conversation on Trash, Recycling & Reducing Waste**

[www.rccmn.co/corcoran-recycles/](http://www.rccmn.co/corcoran-recycles/)

# Waste Audit: What is in my trash?

Learn about what is in your waste by going through each room and writing down everything you placed in your waste bins or have set aside to get rid of soon. See what is in your bins by moving items around or dumping the contents onto an open trash bag, tarp or washable surface. You can complete the audit right before you empty your containers into an outside bin or write down items as you throw them away during the week. Make sure to look at all the waste bins you have.

## To complete the chart below:

1. In the first column, write down the room you were in (check your kitchen, bathrooms, bedrooms, laundry room, home office, den, garage, or any other place you collect waste).
2. Write down the item you found in the second column.
3. For the last column, write down how you will dispose of the item (trash, recycling, organics, for donation, etc.).

After you finish the audit, write down a few of your reflections in the space at the end of this document.

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| Room (kitchen, bathroom, etc.) | Item | How do you plan to dispose of it? (trash, recycling, etc.) |
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## Reflection

What kinds of items did you have the most of in the trash?

What surprised you?

What items do you have questions about how to dispose of them?

What new ideas do you have about how you can reduce waste after taking a closer look in your trash?

What new ideas do you have about how our society, businesses and systems need to change to be able to reduce more waste?