

GREENTIP OF THE MONTH

SEPTEMBER



artist: Angela Haseltine Pozzi photo: @JaymiHeimbuch

RE-USE IT!

RE-USING ITEMS IS TAKING ACTION FOR WILDLIFE



Learn about the Community Action Project at oaklandzoo.org

Around the world, people are finding second lives for items that would otherwise be considered trash. In Uganda, the **Community Action Project**, a co-op of local women, make incredible multicolored beads out of recycled magazines and newspapers. These beads are then sold, both locally and abroad, as far away as Oakland Zoo! Also in Uganda, the artisans of **Leopard Village** create woven tote bags from pallet strapping, the thick plastic straps that holds items down during shipping. And at **Proyecto Titi** in Colombia, the women of Los Limites create Eco-mochilas – durable, reusable bags – out of recycled plastic bags. Each one of these creative crafts allows the people of the area to generate income while reducing their dependency on environmental resources, **which has a direct and positive influence on the wildlife with whom they share the land.** Now it's your turn! What can you come up with from items you might consider trash?

GET THE FACTS

- 100 million empty ink cartridges end up in landfills every year in the US – more than one per second
- Americans recycle or donate only 15% of used clothing, and the rest—about 10.5 million tons a year—goes into landfills
- Furniture is the number one least-recycled item in a household; EPA reports that furniture accounts for 9.8 million tons of household waste annually
- 9 of the 10 largest landfills in the US will reach maximum capacity in less than 50 years



EASY WAYS TO RE-USE AT HOME

- **Reuse envelopes and scrap paper** for notes, coloring pages, or draft printing.
- **Use resources** such as Costco or a local printing place to refill your printer cartridges.
- **Thrift!** Second hand stores are a great place not only to get quality “new” items, but also to donate clothes or other things that you no longer use.
- **Host a clothing swap!** Tired of your clothes that are still in good shape? Have some friends bring over their unwanted items and see what you can swap.
- **Don't dump your furniture or appliances!** Sell it on craigslist, donate it to East Bay Depot for Creative Reuse, or contact EcoHaul to come pick it up.
- **Look into swap networks** such as Yerdle, Peerby, Freecycle, and others to borrow, share or swap items rather than purchasing new ones .
- **Fix not buy!** Have an item that isn't working but otherwise is in good condition? See if it is repairable. Often times it is cheaper to repair than to replace.



CONSERVATION
SOCIETY OF
CALIFORNIA
TAKING ACTION FOR WILDLIFE

OAKLAND ZOO