

ACTIVITY 1: WASTE MANAGEMENT PYRAMID

- PREVENTION:** The best approach is to reduce waste generation at its source, including minimizing packaging and using products with longer lifespans.
- PREPARING FOR REUSE:** Extending the life of items or materials through reuse is more sustainable than disposal, involving repurposing, repairing, or donating items.
- RECYCLING:** Materials that cannot be prevented or reused should be recycled whenever possible, converting waste materials into new products.
- RECOVERY:** When recycling is not feasible, energy or valuable materials can be recovered from waste through processes like incineration or anaerobic digestion.
- DISPOSAL:** Waste is disposed of in landfills as a last resort, with proper disposal methods essential to prevent environmental harm.

TO PRINT

WASTE PREVENTION

This function aims to minimize waste generation at its source by reducing the waste produced and avoiding unnecessary or excessive consumption. It encourages practices such as product design for durability and reuse, promoting sustainable consumption patterns, and implementing measures to prevent or minimize waste generation in various sectors.

PREPARING FOR REUSE

Reuse involves extending the lifespan of products or components by using them again for their original purpose or repurposing them in different applications. Waste generation is reduced by reusing items, resources are conserved, and the need for new products and raw materials is minimized.

RECYCLING

It involves collecting, sorting, and processing waste materials to produce new products, materials, or substances. Helps conserve resources, reduce energy consumption, and minimize the extraction of virgin materials from the environment. It is an essential step in closing the loop of material flows and moving towards a circular economy.

RECOVERY

Includes energy recovery through waste-to-energy processes, such as incineration with energy generation or anaerobic digestion, which produces biogas for energy production. Other forms may involve the extraction of materials or substances from waste for reuse or recycling.

DISPOSAL

It refers to the safe and environmentally sound management of waste that cannot be prevented, reused, recycled, or recovered. It may also include landfilling, which involves permanently containing waste in landfills designed to minimize environmental impacts.