MARAMATAKA CALENDAR 2023

te kaunihera ā-rohe o matamata-piako district council

He karere mai te Koromatua
Message from the Mayor

The world of waste minimisation is an interesting space to be a part of. My roles as chairman of the Agrecovery Foundation, District Councillor and now Mayor have exposed me to its challenges.

Waste minimisation isn't just for people who care about it – it's something we all need to work towards. The evolution of consumerism has created a 'throw-away society' which in technical terms is known as a linear economy, where we have mined, used and thrown away resources.

A circular economy is the concept of making resources go for a couple more rounds before throwing them out, ideally ending up back at the source and avoiding landfill. For example buying food, eating food, composting food scraps and then using the compost to grow more food.

Councils have a role in providing sustainable and affordable waste services to their communities. Statistics show that we have been recycling more but unfortunately the tonnage to landfill has also increased per capita. In the long term, this isn't sustainable as the cost of sending rubbish to landfill is getting more expensive and there are also rising costs with the Emissions Trading Scheme levy and the cost of transportation.

Numerous articles have featured in the media on a broad variety of ways to reduce waste going to landfill. Composting food and garden waste rather than putting it in the rubbish bag is a good one but I acknowledge not everyone may be able to easily do this. However sending this type of waste to landfill, which is often 40% of the contents of rubbish bags, unfortunately has a negative environmental impact by creating methane.

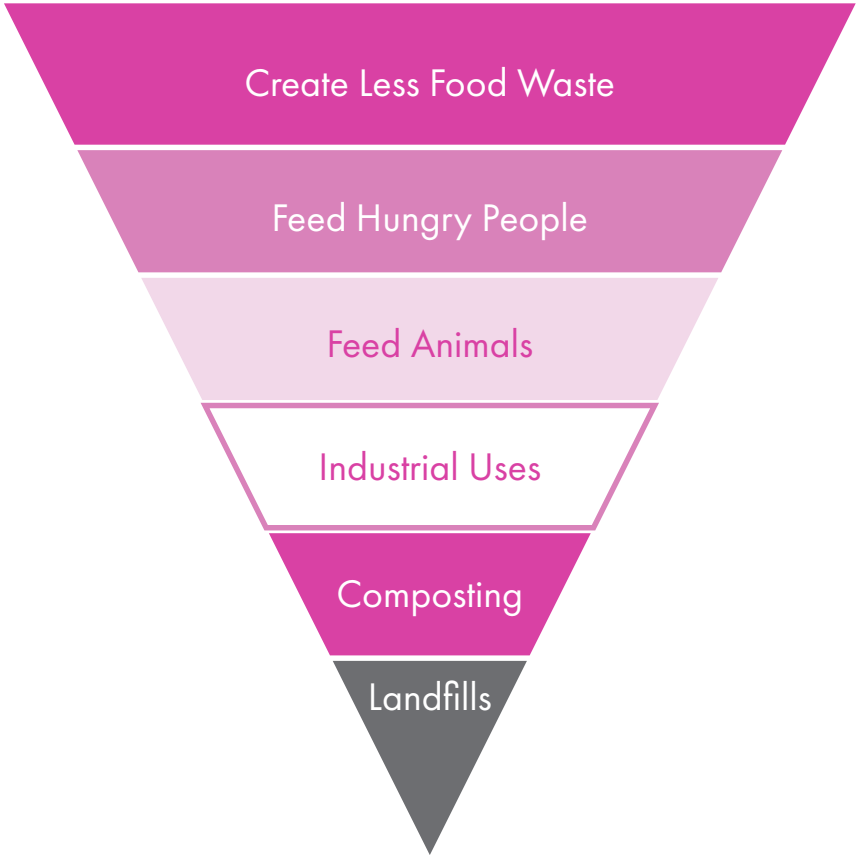
The changes to kerbside collections in 2023 should make it easier for everyone to divert kitchen waste from landfill with a dedicated food scraps bin. This will be turned into a high grade compost that can be returned to the soil and close the circle.

In the meantime, let's find ways to waste less food at home.

Adrienne Wilcock
Mayor

WE CARE.

Keeping food waste out of landfill



There are plenty of ways we can reduce food waste at home and help keep it out of landfill. This model shows ways to dispose of food waste. The top 'Create less food waste' is the most preferable option while the bottom 'Landfills' is the least preferred. Keep an eye out for mini triangles throughout the calendar showing what level is being used.

HAKIHEA
DECEMBER 2022

Rātapu Sunday	Rāhina Monday	Rātū Tuesday	Rāapa Wednesday	Rāpare Thursday	Rāmere Friday	Rāhoroi Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23 Council Offices Shutdown 12 noon	24
25 Xmas Day Transfer Stations Closed	26 Boxing Day Transfer Stations Closed	27 Xmas Day observed	28	29	30	31

Te Aroha **Matamata** Incl. Waharoa, Walton **Morrinsville** Incl. Waihou, Waitoa, Tahuna

Rubbish **Recycling**

Transfer stations opening hours: **10AM – 4PM**

- **Te Aroha:** Wed, Fri & Sun
- **Matamata:** Tue, Wed, Thu, Sat & Sun
- **Morrinsville:** Mon, Tue, Thu, Sat & Sun

Create less food waste
&
Feed hungry people

Ngā mea kei a koe

Know what you've got

Take stock of what you already have to avoid overbuying - you may be surprised by what you find at the back of the pantry!
Buying in bulk can help save money - check out the food storage tips page for ways to store and save.
You can also donate food items that are still good but you don't think you'll use to a local food bank or community cupboard rather than throwing them away.

KOHITĀTEA
JANUARY

Rātapu Sunday	Rāhina Monday	Rātū Tuesday	Rāapa Wednesday	Rāpare Thursday	Rāmere Friday	Rāhoroi Saturday
New Year's Day Transfer Stations Closed 1	New Year's Day Observed Transfer Stations Closed 2	New Year Holiday Observed 3	4	5	6	7
8	Council Offices Open 9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	Auckland Anniversary Day 30	31				

HUI-TANGURU
FEBRUARY

Rātapu Sunday	Rāhina Monday	Rātū Tuesday	Rāapa Wednesday	Rāpare Thursday	Rāmere Friday	Rāhoroi Saturday
			1	2	Note the change to rubbish & recycling days due to holidays 3	4
5	Waitangi Day 6	7	8	9	Note the change to rubbish & recycling days due to holidays 10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	Last day to pay your rates 27	28				

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Create less food waste

Kia rautaki, kia kore utu

Plan and save

Plan out the meals you want to eat for the next few days or week ahead. A good place to start is with recipes that use food items you already have - check out **mpdc.nz/lesswaste** for recipe and meal planning ideas. If you're buying in bulk try to find recipes that use the same ingredients in lots of different ways.

POUTŪ-TE-RANGI
MARCH

Rātapu Sunday	Rāhina Monday	Rātū Tuesday	Rāapa Wednesday	Rāpare Thursday	Rāmere Friday	Rāhoroi Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

PAENGA-WHĀWHĀ
APRIL

Rātapu Sunday	Rāhina Monday	Rātū Tuesday	Rāapa Wednesday	Rāpare Thursday	Rāmere Friday	Rāhoroi Saturday
30						1
Daylight Saving ends 2	3	4	5	Term 1 ends 6	Good Friday All transfer stations closed 7	8
Easter Sunday 9	Easter Monday 10	11	12	13	Note the change to rubbish & recycling days due to holidays 14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	Term 2 starts 24	Anzac Day Transfer Stations open from 1pm 25	26	27	Note the change to rubbish & recycling days due to holidays 28	29

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Create less food waste

Ngā tohutohu pātaka kai
Food storage tips

Keep bananas out of the fruit bowl

Gas released from fruits such as apples and pears causes bananas to ripen faster. Once bananas are ripe they release this gas as well - causing the whole fruit bowl to get ripe/ overripe really quick. Keep them out of the fridge but away from other fruit.

Tahi

Keep potatoes and onions separate

It may be convenient to keep them together because they both need to be in a cool, dark place - but when they're together they release moisture which makes them sprout faster. Unwashed potatoes can also last up to three times longer than washed potatoes!

Rua

Store bread in the fridge or freezer

The climate in NZ means that bread doesn't store very well in the pantry and can go mouldy very quickly. If you keep bread in the freezer you can toast it from frozen in the morning - but if you're packing sandwiches in the morning you might want to leave some in the fridge.

Toru

Keep veggies sealed in the fridge

For many vegetables, storing them uncovered in the fridge means they will go off faster (loose carrots, celery etc. in the veggie drawer)
A good method to try is storing veggies in an airtight container with a paper towel to absorb moisture - even lining your veggie drawer with paper towels can help.

Whā

HARATUA
MAY

Rātapu Sunday	Rāhina Monday	Rātū Tuesday	Rāapa Wednesday	Rāpare Thursday	Rāmere Friday	Rāhoroi Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Mother's Day 14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	Last day to pay your rates 25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

PIPIRI
JUNE

Rātapu Sunday	Rāhina Monday	Rātū Tuesday	Rāapa Wednesday	Rāpare Thursday	Rāmere Friday	Rāhoroi Saturday
				1	2	3
4	Kings Birthday 5	6	7	8	Note the change to rubbish & recycling days due to holidays 9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	Last day to apply for a rates rebate 30	

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Create less food waste

MAHI MAI
USE BY

You've got until the end of this date to use or freeze the food

VS

PAI MAI
BEST BEFORE

You can eat food past this date if it looks and smells fine – it just might not be at its best quality

HŌNGONGOI
JULY

Rātapu Sunday	Rāhina Monday	Rātū Tuesday	Rāapa Wednesday	Rāpare Thursday	Rāmere Friday	Rāhoroi Saturday
30	31 Last day to register your dog					1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14 Matariki	15
16	17 Term 3 starts	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29

HERE-TURI-KŌKĀ
AUGUST

Rātapu Sunday	Rāhina Monday	Rātū Tuesday	Rāapa Wednesday	Rāpare Thursday	Rāmere Friday	Rāhoroi Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25 Last day to pay your rates	26
27	28	29	30	31		

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Create less food waste

Ngā āhuatanga tunu kai

Creative cooking

There's a lot we can do with food 'scraps' to reduce waste and save money - bread can have a second life as breadcrumbs or rusks, overripe fruit can be used in smoothies, ice blocks or baking and veges past their prime plus vege peels can become soup, stock or chips. Head to **mpdc.nz/lesswaste** to find more creative cooking ideas.

Too many food scraps? No time for extra cooking? Check out what can go in your new food scraps bin at **mpdc.nz/kerbside**

MAHURU
SEPTEMBER

Rātapu Sunday	Rāhina Monday	Rātū Tuesday	Rāapa Wednesday	Rāpare Thursday	Rāmere Friday	Rāhoroi Saturday
					1	2
Fathers Day 3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	Term 3 ends 22	23
Daylight Savings Starts 24	25	26	27	28	29	30

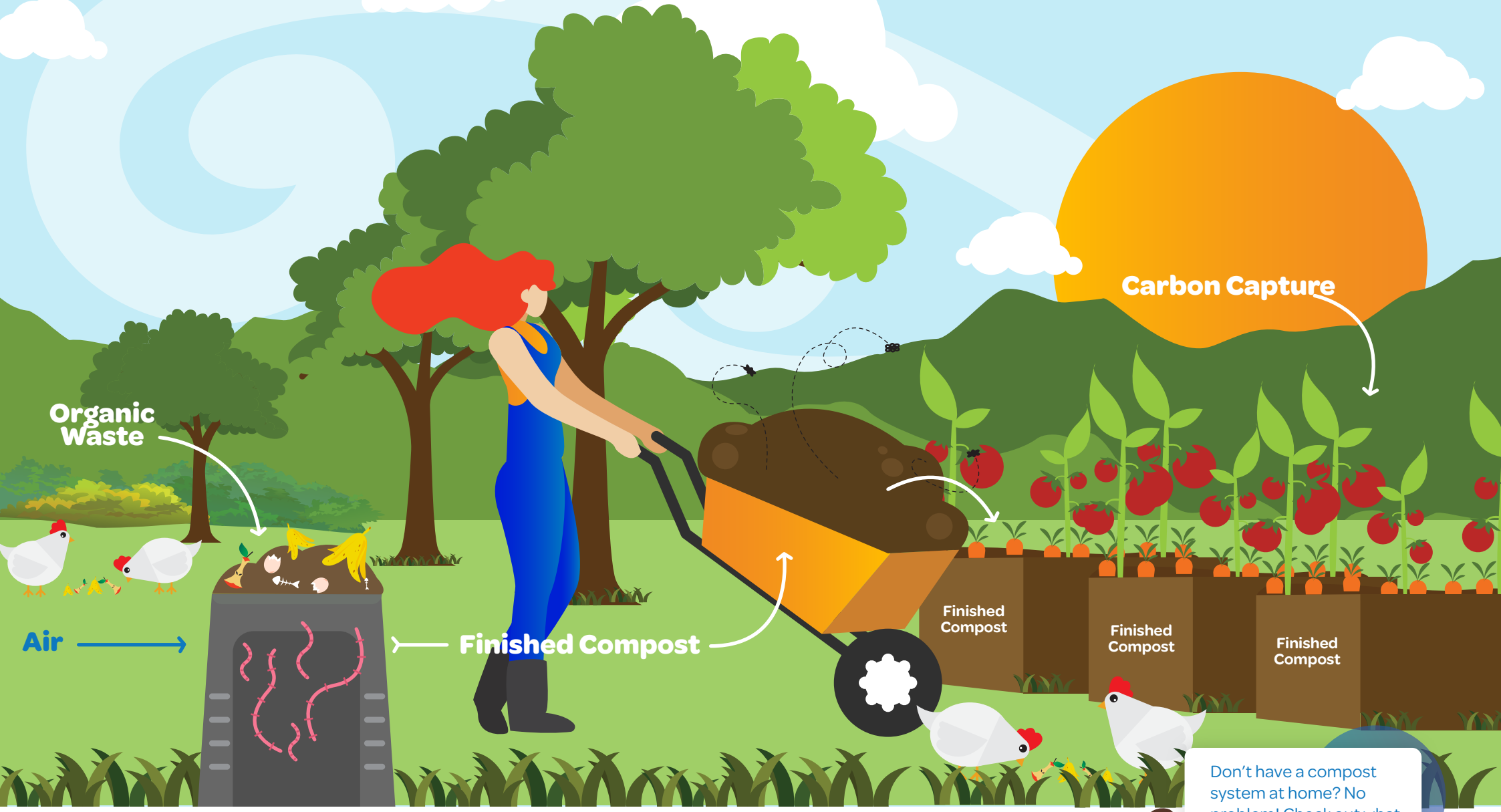
WHIRINGA-Ā-NUKU
OCTOBER

Rātapu Sunday	Rāhina Monday	Rātū Tuesday	Rāapa Wednesday	Rāpare Thursday	Rāmere Friday	Rāhoroi Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	Term 4 starts 9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	Labour Day 23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Wondering where the kerbside pickup symbols have gone? We're changing the way we process waste – check out more at mpdc.nz/kerbside and pick up a new calendar with updated kerbside pickup dates from September 2023.

To get up to date kerbside collection reminders – download

Antenno
Be informed. Get involved.



Feed Animals & Composting

Te mahi wairākau Composting

When food scraps break down in a compost system they don't make methane like they would if buried in a landfill. This makes composting an awesome way to reduce the impact of food waste and also make your own compost for the garden rather than buying it in. There are composting methods to suit every household - check out **mpdc.nz/lesswaste** for more info.

Don't have a compost system at home? No problem! Check out what can go in your new food scraps bin at **mpdc.nz/kerbside** - this will be made into compost as well!

WHIRINGA-Ā-RANGI
NOVEMBER

Rātapu Sunday	Rāhina Monday	Rātū Tuesday	Rāapa Wednesday	Rāpare Thursday	Rāmere Friday	Rāhoroi Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27 Last day to pay your rates	28	29	30		

HAKIHEA
DECEMBER

Rātapu Sunday	Rāhina Monday	Rātū Tuesday	Rāapa Wednesday	Rāpare Thursday	Rāmere Friday	Rāhoroi Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21 Term 4 ends	22	23
24	25 Christmas Day Transfer Stations Closed	26 Boxing Day Transfer Stations Closed	27	28	29	30

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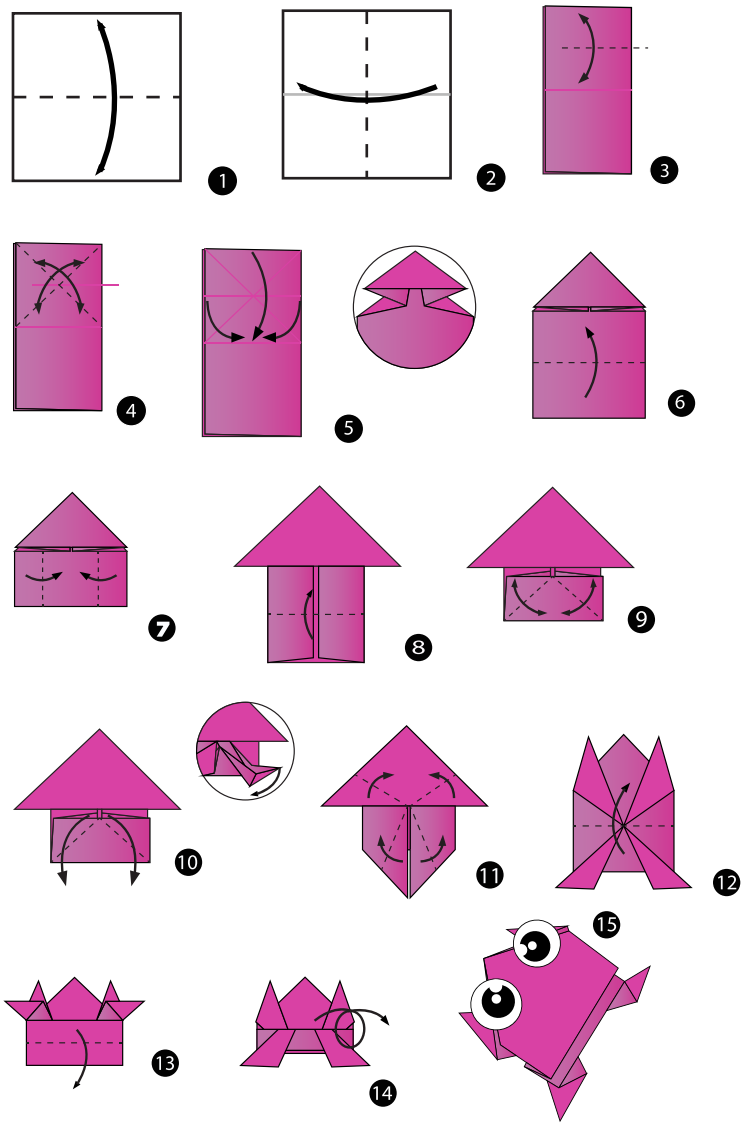
Time to find new ways!

There's always a way to help our planet. We can create new things from used items and give them a new purpose (like this calendar)

Let's try an origami jumping frog!