



# How We're Working Together to Make Sustainability Affordable

2022



# Our progress at a glance



## PROGRESS IN PACKAGING

Reduced our use of plastic and increased the recyclability of our packaging so more than 62% of ALDI-exclusive packaging is now reusable, recyclable or compostable. **NEW Announced a new commitment to eliminate all plastic shopping bags from stores by the end of 2023.**



## CUT OUR CARBON

Continued to purchase green electricity to cover 100% of our energy consumption. Transitioned to environmentally friendly refrigerants in nearly 500 stores.



## THINK BEYOND THE BIN

Donated over 33 million pounds of food through our partnership with Feeding America and 72 thousand pounds of household products through our partnership with Good360.



## SOURCING RESPONSIBLY

Currently, 53% of everyday ALDI coffee products come from sustainable sources.

For more information about our corporate responsibility and sustainability efforts, visit <https://corporate.aldi.us/en/corporate-responsibility/>.



*Last year, we set ambitious, science-based sustainability goals to help us accelerate the positive impact we're already making on our planet's resources and the people who depend on them. We take a lot of pride in the progress we've made toward these goals, while also maintaining the affordability of our products so you can be more sustainable too.*

– Jason Hart, ALDI CEO



# Rethinking packaging to protect the future

## GOALS: Progress in packaging

- Reduce packaging materials by 15% and make 100% of ALDI-exclusive packaging reusable, recyclable or compostable by 2025.
- **NEW** Use 20% post-consumer recycled (PCR) content, that is, material that has already been tossed into the recycling bin by consumers, in our plastic packaging by 2025.
- **NEW** Eliminate all plastic shopping bags from stores by the end of 2023.

## PROGRESS



Reduced our plastics and transitioned packaging to other materials so more than 62% of ALDI-exclusive packaging is now reusable, recyclable or compostable.



37 tons of material removed by transitioning product labels to more sustainable alternatives.



19,000 tons of packaging has been shifted to recyclable alternatives.



1 million trays removed from asparagus packaging.



99% of apparel items use cardboard sleeves instead of plastic.



20 tons of plastic packaging removed from nonfood products.



30% less packaging used on the lids of baby wipes.

## WE'RE COMMITTING TO ELIMINATE ALL PLASTIC SHOPPING BAGS FROM OUR STORES BY THE END OF 2023!

We've already saved an estimated **15 BILLION BAGS** from landfills and oceans by charging for plastic bags at checkout. With our new commitment, we estimate removing an additional **4,400 TONS OF PLASTIC** from circulation each year.



## PACKAGING INITIATIVES

We're currently testing a reduced plastic packaging format for produce items. We also offer sustainable ALDI Finds, including reusable straws, reusable sandwich/snack bags, so customers can **"PURCHASE WITH A PURPOSE."** Furthermore, all ALDI-exclusive food and nonfood everyday items contain a How2Recycle logo to help do our part to increase recycling rates.

We've also worked with the Food Industry Association to develop a **SUSTAINABLE PACKAGING PLAYBOOK** that provides guidance for suppliers on circular packaging initiatives to improve progress across all industries, including grocery. Learn more about our packaging initiatives [here](#).



### How2Recycle

Empowers consumers with smarter recycling labels.

# Big steps toward a smaller carbon footprint

## GOAL: Cut our carbon

Reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 26% by 2025.

## PROGRESS



Installed rooftop solar panels on additional ALDI buildings, bringing our total to over 120 stores and 12 distribution centers producing and consuming green electricity from solar power. We plan to install solar panels on an additional 60 stores and one new distribution center in 2022.



Installed first company wind turbine in Dwight, Illinois.



Leading the industry with nearly 500 stores (and counting) using refrigerants that have near-zero global warming potential, and 51% of potential carbon emissions have been saved due to our continued transition to natural refrigerants and phase-out of harmful refrigerants.



## ENSURING OUR CARBON EMISSIONS DON'T GROW WITH US

We're one of the fastest-growing retailers in the country, but we are making sure our carbon emissions don't grow with us. Our new and remodeled stores use **environmentally friendly building materials** and feature **energy-efficient HVAC systems** and **LED lighting**. Several of our regional distribution centers, as well as our corporate headquarters in Batavia, Illinois, have even begun adding **electric vehicle charging stations**.



## KEEPING THINGS COOL WITHOUT WARMING THE CLIMATE

We're testing a smart building automation system to minimize wasted energy with the lowest possible emissions, bringing us closer to our zero carbon vision. We're purchasing green electricity to **OFFSET 100% OF OUR USAGE FROM THE TRADITIONAL ELECTRIC GRID** and adding rooftop solar panels on our stores and distribution centers to minimize our impact on the environment.

## NATURAL REFRIGERANTS ARE A SIGNIFICANT FOCUS FOR ALDI

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) GreenChill program has recognized ALDI as a grocery industry leader for reducing harmful refrigerant emissions. In fact, **ALDI EARNED MORE EPA GREENCHILL STORE CERTIFICATIONS IN 2020 AND 2021 THAN ALL GROCERY RETAILERS** in the nation combined! Learn more about our emissions reduction goal [here](#).



# Ramping up efforts to reduce loss and waste

## GOALS: Think beyond the bin

- By 2025, we will achieve zero waste in operations by diverting 90% of our waste from landfills through recycling, donation and organic recycling programs.
- We aim to reduce our food waste by 50% by 2030.

## PROGRESS



Diverted 74% of operational waste companywide.



A nonfood donation pilot program in select stores has resulted in more than 72,000 pounds (and counting) of nonfood donations.



Donated 33M+ pounds of food to our donation partners.



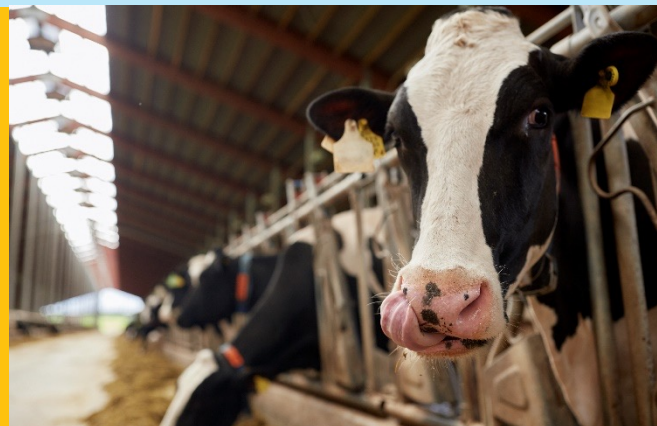
Composted nearly 870 tons of food between the ALDI Test Kitchen and select stores.



Recycled nearly 350,000 tons of material that would have otherwise gone to landfill (this has avoided the greenhouse gas emissions equivalent of almost 10 million gallons of gasoline per month!).

## FUN FACT

Did you know uneaten baked goods could become a cow's lunch? In 2021, our stores **donated more than 135 tons of excess baked goods** to be converted to animal feed.



## MORE OF WHAT YOU WANT: LESS WASTE

**NEARLY 40% OF ALL FOOD IN THE U.S. IS WASTED** according to Feeding America, our longstanding partner in the fight against hunger. Food waste occurs at every stage in the supply chain — from farming to shipping, manufacturing and in our homes. This doesn't count all the nonfood waste that also ends up in landfills.



**We try to avoid waste as much as we can at ALDI.** We have donation and diversion programs for food and other products to help us reduce food and operational waste. Select ALDI stores in five states and counting are **TESTING A PROGRAM TO DONATE NONFOOD ITEMS** that can no longer be sold.

Some of our stores in Chicagoland and northern Illinois are launching an organic recycling **PILOT PROGRAM TO TURN FOOD THAT WOULD OTHERWISE GO TO WASTE INTO COMPOST AND ANIMAL FEED.** We're developing pricing and markdown tools that will help reduce food loss and waste and even prevent excess buying from the onset.

**To further our commitment to reduce food loss and waste, we recently joined USDA and EPA's U.S. Food Loss and Waste 2030 Champions program.** Learn more about our waste and recovery efforts [here](#).

# Sourcing responsibly

## GOALS:

- 100% of our Barissimo coffee products, including everyday items and ALDI Finds, will be certified as sustainably sourced by 2025.
- Strengthen our requirements to source all fresh, frozen, farmed and wild seafood from fisheries that are third-party certified as sustainable or from Fishery Improvement Projects (FIPs) by the end of 2025.
- Commit to eliminate deforestation in our high-priority supply chains by the end of 2030.
- Convert to Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO)-certified palm oil derivatives and fractions for all nonfood products by the end of 2024.
- Use recycled or certified cotton to produce ALDI-exclusive apparel and home textile products by 2025.

## PROGRESS



53% of everyday ALDI coffee products come from sustainable sources.



100% of everyday items made of wood or pulp are certified as sustainably sourced from well-managed forests.



100% of Simply Nature-branded coffee products come from sustainable sources.



100% of the palm oil used in private label products is certified sustainable by the RSPO.



Increased supply chain transparency through a partnership with the Ocean Disclosure Project.



Established new responsible sourcing requirements for our food products containing fish and seafood ingredients.



Photo credit: Fair Trade USA

## PARTNERING WITH SUPPLIERS TO OFFER PRODUCTS THAT DO GOOD FOR PEOPLE AND THE PLANET

We're doing this so shoppers can feel confident their purchases positively impact people, land and communities. Our **PARTNERSHIPS WITH FAIR TRADE USA, FAIRTRADE AMERICA AND RAINFOREST ALLIANCE** certify that select ALDI products are certified fair trade and sustainably sourced to help farmers and community development projects across the globe. For example, a coffee farmer in Peru, who was navigating challenges such as drying and storing beans properly, used community development funds to help reinvent his infrastructure and improve the quality of his coffee.

We also provided funds for a farmer in Colombia who was strained by worker health issues and poor wastewater management to upgrade his coffee processing setup and improve worker livelihoods.\* [Learn more about our supply chain efforts here.](#)

*\*Funds used on projects are not limited to premium earned from a single retailer and/or in a single year.*



## Giving back to help build stronger, healthier communities

ALDI gives back. From corporate donations and volunteering to responding to natural disasters, here are a few ways we had a positive impact on the people and communities we serve in 2021. Learn more about our community engagement efforts [here](#).



27.7M meals provided to Feeding America food banks by our stores in 2021.



# \$600,000

donated to support Feeding America and other organizations to help with food insecurity and disaster relief efforts.



# \$1M+

donated to Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation to help families battling pediatric cancer.

# \$128,000

raised to help offset travel expenses for Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation families seeking care.



# \$100,000

donated to



in Chicago to support its social justice and racial equity efforts.



# 400+

employee donations matched, resulting in nearly

# \$50,000

going to nonprofit organizations.

# \$1M

donated to National Urban League to support its mission.



National Urban League

# \$50,000

ALDI Scholarship program launched in partnership with the Hispanic Scholarship Fund, which has assisted 23 students to date.

