



# **Ecobrick Manual**

Prepared for Franklin County Solid Waste Created by Christine Argus

## **Instructions**

Making an ecobrick is simple and requires few materials. Your commitment to making one will contribute to a planter at Lakeview Park. Please read this manual in full to get involved!

## **Required Materials**

- A stick
- An empty, transparent 500ml or 16.9 fl oz plastic bottle
- Clean, dry plastic waste
  - o Bags
  - o Straws
  - Wrappers
  - o Styrofoam
  - Packaging
  - Clear plastic

#### **Procedure**

The handbook linked <u>here</u> is recommended for your understanding of ecobrick procedure, too. For the best ecobrick, it is recommended that the steps below be followed in order:

- 1. Save up clean and dry plastics
- 2. Commit to a specific bottle to pack plastics in
- 3. Get your stick ready
- 4. No glass, paper, metal or biodegradables
- 5. Start by picking and adding a color to fill the bottom of your bottle with
- 6. Pack the bottle tight, pressing plastics down and mixing plastics as you go
- 7. Repeat steps until bottle is compact and filled with plastic
- 8. Screw the cap on your ecobrick
- 9. Inscribe what you would like on the exterior of your bottle
- 10. Take your ecobrick to the dropoff location

Dropoff location for ecobricks Franklin County is collecting is 321 West Main St, Frankfort, KY.

For updates on the project following your dropoff, please visit here to subscribe to our newsletter. We are also frequently posting updates on our social media.

Instagram @franklinco solidwaste | Facebook Franklin County KY Solid Waste

### Things to Know

#### **Choosing your Stick**

Make certain you pick a stick that is a good size and shape. When it comes to picking the stick you use to pack plastic into your ecobrick, please ensure that it is not sharp. Sharp cornered sticks can rupture your bottle, which will require you to start all over again. Know that bamboo and wood make the best sticks. You will likely want your stick to be twice the length of your bottle and wide enough to fit in its opening for the most efficient ecobrick.

#### Screwing on the Cap

Once your bottle is packed as solid as possible, it would be time to cap it. Please be certain that your ecobrick is not packed to overflowing. Rather, there should be about 1-2cm of empty space between the cap and the plastic inside of your bottle. If the plastic packed inside is even slightly pressing up against the lid, the pressure will eventually crack your ecobrick over the years.

#### **Inscribing on your Ecobrick**

There are many things you can inscribe on your complete ecobrick. You can write down the amount of plastic collected, your name, or the date. Many ecobrickers choose to include a quote or vision on their bottles. Our only recommendation is that when you are inscribing on your bottle, you use bold colored enamel paint, oil paint, or nail polish. You can definitely use a permanent marker or a label but it will not last as long. If you prefer something that will carry your legacy with it, choose wisely! Your ecobrick will last a long time.

## **Questions & Concerns**

If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to Christine Argus or Ally Hall.

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