

**THANK YOU
METROPOLITAN MAYORS
CAUCUS & THE
ENVIRONMENTAL
COMMITTEE!**

REPAIR CAFÉ

Joliet Junior College

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JOLIET
JUNIOR COLLEGE
— 1901 —

AGENDA

- What is a Repair Café / fair
- Purpose
- History
- Joining Repair Café
- Why?



WHAT IS A REPAIR CAFÉ OR REPAIR FAIR?

Free meeting places
where skilled volunteers
bring their own tools to fix
items and teach
attendees how to do it
themselves.





1. Check in for free



2. Wait your turn



3. Fix the item with a volunteer



4. All done!



WHY DO WE DO IT?



Fosters appreciation for
personal possessions



Reduces avoidable waste &
saves people \$\$\$!



Facilitates knowledge transfer
of invaluable repair skills



Engages community of all ages





**AND IT'S GREAT
FUN FOR
EVERYONE!!!**

STATIONS INCLUDE BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO...

Romeoville Repair Cafe

JEWELRY



Romeoville Repair Cafe

BICYCLES



Romeoville Repair Cafe

SMALL FURNITURE & MISCELLANEOUS



Romeoville Repair Cafe

TEXTILES & CLOTHES



Romeoville Repair Cafe

ELECTRONICS



Romeoville Repair Cafe

CERAMICS



FINDING VOLUNTEERS



Romeoville
REPAIR CAFE  **NO WAY! TOSS IT?**

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
for Romeoville Repair Cafe
Saturday, April 12 from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Romeoville Repair Café, hosted at Joliet Junior College North Campus, needs dedicated community members with passion and proficiency to fix items or to help out at the front desk. Fixers can be professional or just handy at repairing household items such as:

• Clothing/textiles	• Leather/shoes
• Bicycles	• Jewelry
• Electrical appliances	• Ceramics
• Furniture/wooden objects	• Instruments

Mandatory On Boarding
March 29 · 10:00 - 12:00 pm

To learn more or to sign up as a volunteer, email Ashley.klinder@jjc.edu or scan this QR code:



About the Repair Café: Beginning in Amsterdam, Repair Café is a global movement to actionize a circular economy, keep repairable items from entering landfill, and to teach repair skills in a modern way all while strengthening community bonds. Support the cause by volunteering with us, donating online, or visiting repaircafe.org/en.

ROMEOVILLE | REPAIR CAFE

Finding Volunteers

- Find Fixers with a variety of skills to repair and Helpers to make data collection smooth
 - More skills = more stations = more repairs!
- Reach out to retired community, local repair shops, local school faculty/staff, and any handy/craftspeople in the neighborhood
- Use online forms to sign up: *Microsoft Forms*
 - Advertise for volunteers: Facebook, local news paper: *Herald News*, radio: *WJOL*
- Interview to learn about their proficiency and personality

WORKING REPAIR CAFÉ

- Volunteers arrive before the event begins to unpack the items/tools they brought from home.
- Fixers have stations where they keep their tools and perform repairs.



WORKING REPAIR CAFÉ

- Attendees will enter with their broken items, check in, and **sign house rules.**
- Attendees wait in chairs until the Fixer they need is available.
- Fixers complete repairs to the best of their and record whether they were able to fix it.



DIAGNOSING REPAIRS

- If the repair will take more than 2 hours, do partial repairs or recommend repair shops
- Sherlock Holmes Mentality
- Diagnose using a process
 - You break it, I Fix it knows!
 - Repair guides - Repaircafe





REPAIR CAFE

"They're all about repairing things (together)."

HISTORY

- 1st Repair Café began in Amsterdam on October 18th, 2009
- Martine Postma began the Repair Café International Foundation non-profit in 2011

REPAIR CAFE

Home Visit Join About



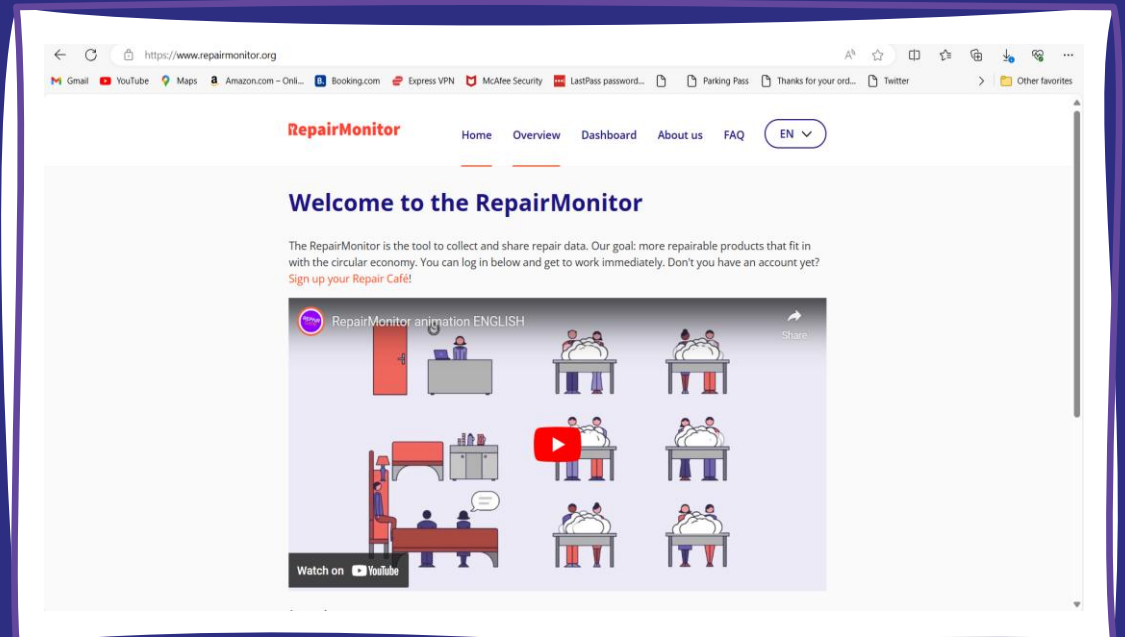
Visit one of our 3627 Repair Cafés

[Learn more here!](#)

WHY REPAIR CAFE?

- Recognizable global movement to bring repairing back in a modern way
- Affordable—voluntary donation to join and free for attendees
- Able to join Repair Monitor and contribute to the public and global data collection on repairability and sustainability of items

Romeoville
REPAIR
CAFE



WHY IS REPAIR CAFÉ SO REPLICABLE ?

- **Access to Repair Café materials makes starting your own easy!**
 - The 27 page Repair Café manual is *excellent!*
 - Step by step instructions with timelines, material guidelines, tips on finding donors, volunteers, and more
 - Marketing templates
 - Volunteer and event flyers, social media posts, editable logos and more

Visit repaircafe.org/en

REPAIR CAFE

ORGANISE
YOUR OWN
REPAIR CAFÉ

The tried and tested
Repair Café manual



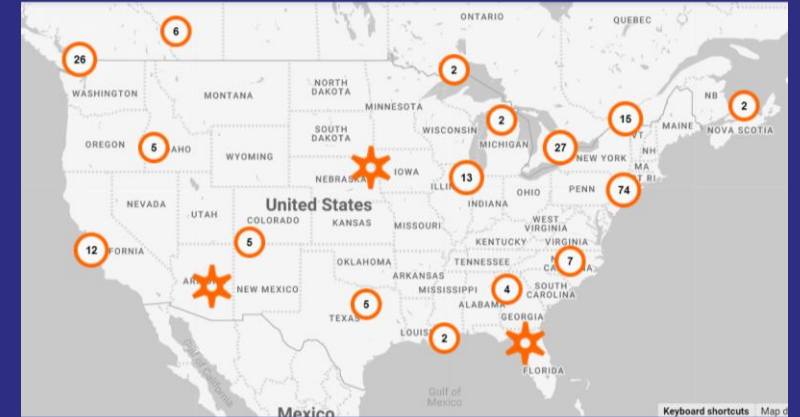
Toss it? No way!

REPAIRCAFE.ORG/EN



JOINING REPAIR CAFÉ

- Visit a Repair Café near you – 5 in Illinois
 - Experience from organizers, Fixers, and Helpers
 - Event layout
 - Types of repairs already available
- Register for free on their website
 - Voluntary donation
 - Access to pre-made marketing material, Repair Café Manual, international repair community, and more!



Visit one of our 3202 Repair Cafés

PLAN

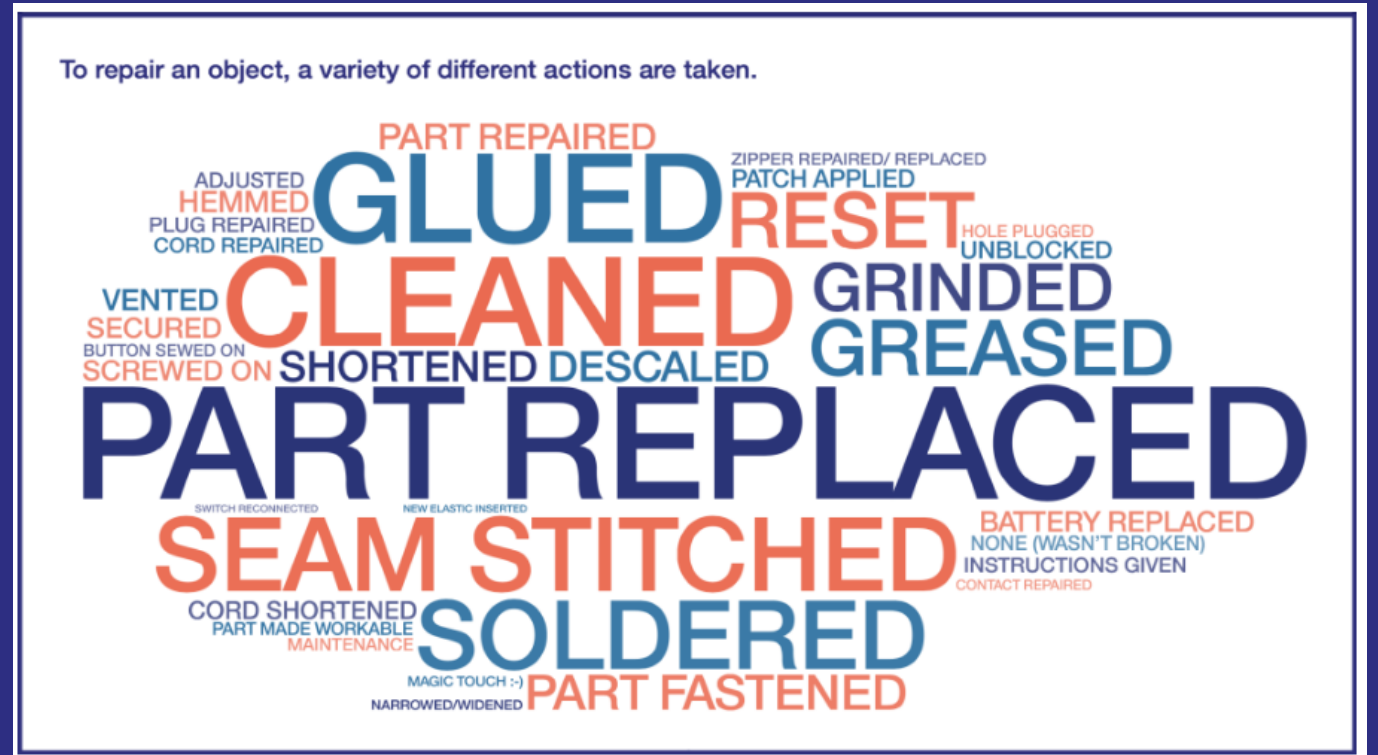
In the lead-up to each Repair Café meeting, lots of things have to be done and organised. We have itemised all these one-off and recurring activities below. The following pages give more information on how and why and what as regards all these points.

Full step by step plan available by signing up for Repair Café!



GLOBAL DATA COLLECTION

- Repair Café's *RepairMonitor* data collection tool allows organizers to add to the global data accumulated about the sustainability and repairability of items.
- Products, brands, what is wrong with the item, can it be fixed

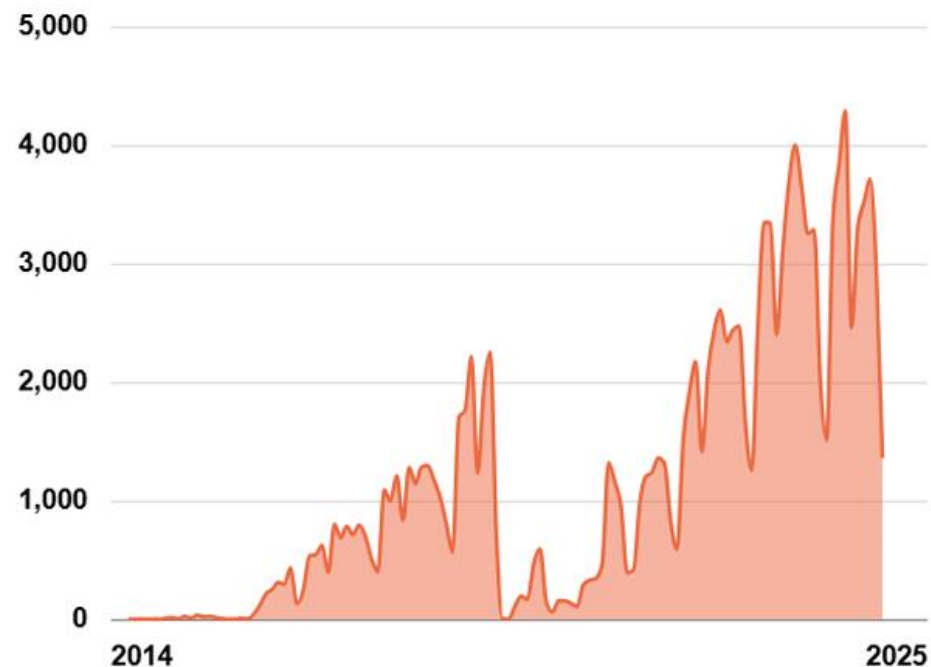


Most common repairs performed at Repair Cafés,
repaircafe.org/en

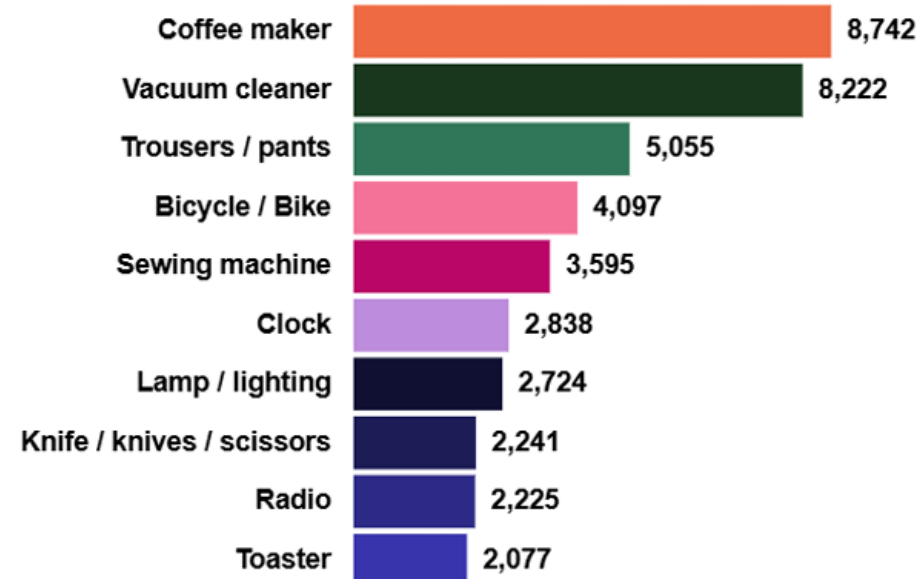


Number of repairs

Total: 138,993

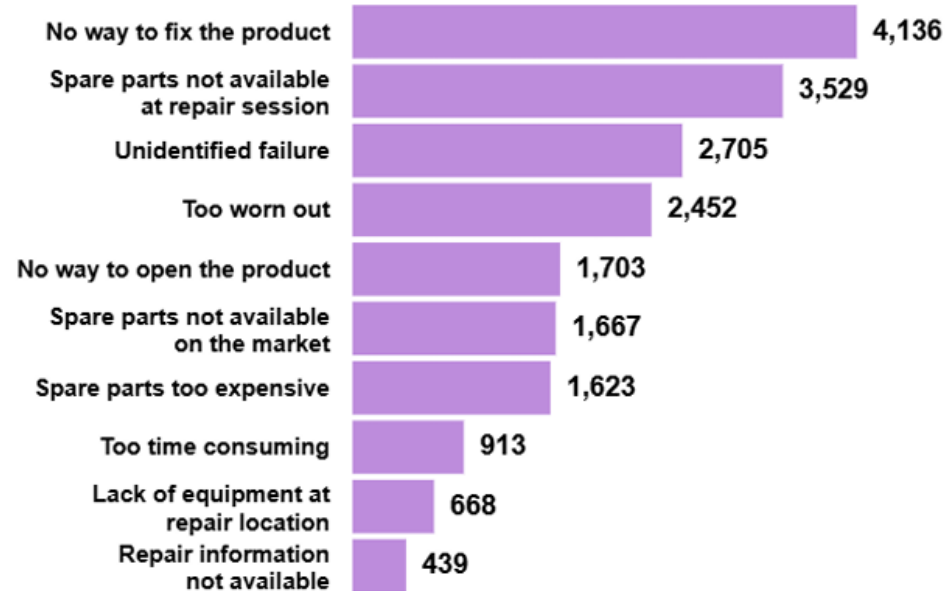


Most presented products

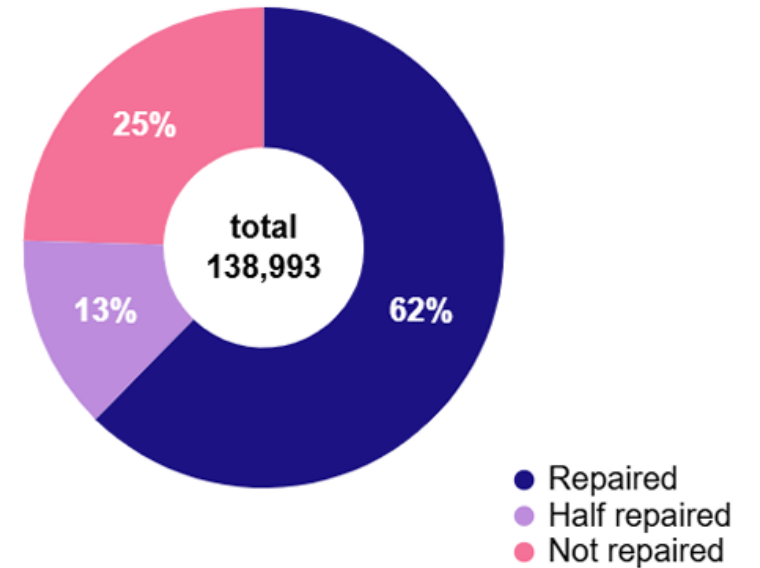


Updated May 18, 2025 from 389 Cafés. Visit openrepair.org or repairmonitor.org for more data

Reasons for failure of repair



Success rate



Updated May 18, 2025 from 389 Cafés. Visit openrepair.org or repairmonitor.org for more data



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

- **Goal 8:** Skill transfer empowering entrepreneurship and local businesses.
- **Goal 9:** Maintaining technical repair knowledge in a modern way.
- **Goal 11:** Engaging all ages in sustainable lifestyles.
- **Goal 12:** Accessible community based solution to repairing broken stuff.
 - **Target 12.5:** “substantially reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse”
- **Goal 13:** Providing a free space for community members to act toward reducing landfill waste.



8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE



11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES



12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION

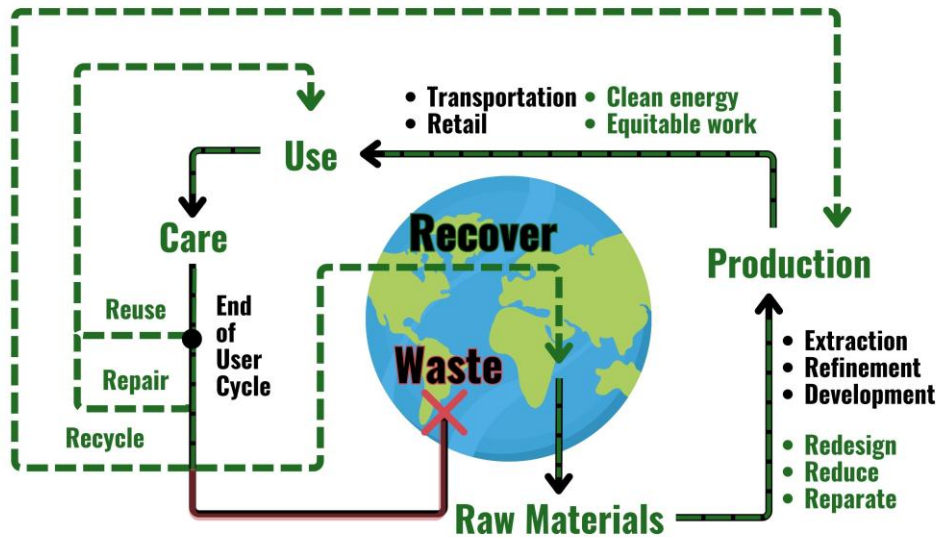


13 CLIMATE ACTION



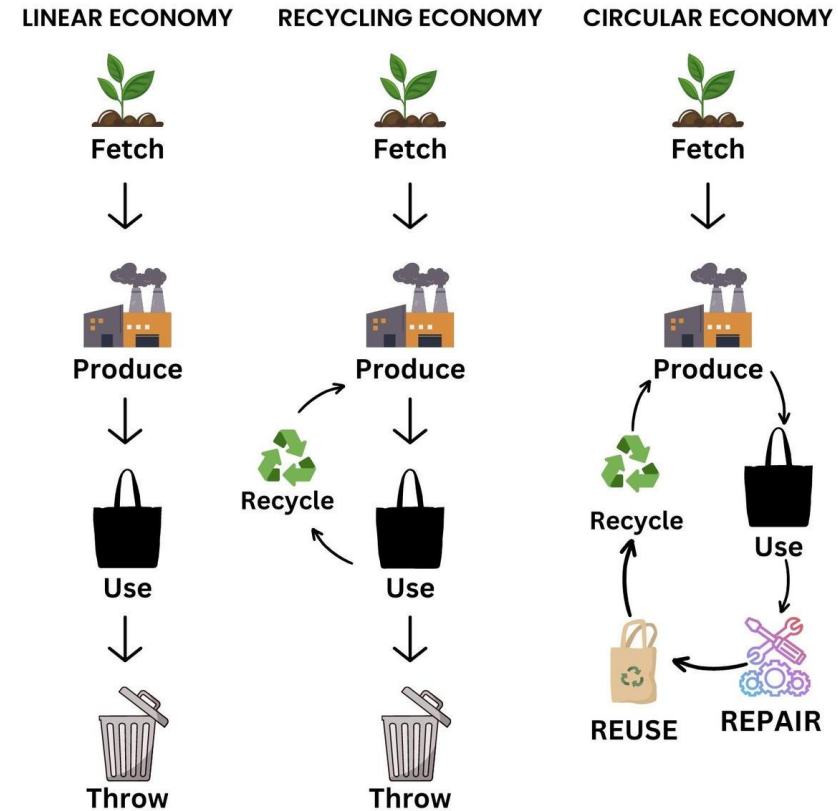
CIRCULAR ECONOMY

- Extends product life cycle
- Minimizes waste generation
- Reduces strain on resources



Linear & Circular Economies

LINEAR VS RECYCLING VS CIRCULAR ECONOMY



Take, Make, Waste
Vs
Recover, Make, Reuse



ZERO WASTE

- Minimizes household objects from going to landfill
 - There are 42 landfills in Illinois with a statewide life expectancy of 21 years (Illinois Environmental Council, 2023)
- 2 Million small appliances are thrown away by Americans a year (Consumer Reports, 2023)
 - Only 12% of people attempt to repair (Consumer Reports Right to Repair Survey, 2021)



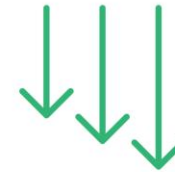
RETHINK



REFUSE



REPAIR



REDUCE



REUSE



RECYCLE

ZER  **WASTE**
ILLINOIS

Illinois Sustainable Technology Center,
Technical Assistance Program



RIGHT TO REPAIR

- Makes Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs) responsible for excessive waste due to lack of repairability
 - Combats Planned Obsolescence and poor durability
 - Sanctions access to OEM manuals and materials required to do repairs
- New York, Minnesota, California, Colorado, and Oregon have Right to Repair laws
- SB2680 is Illinois's Right to Repair Act introduced 1/10/24, by sen. Laura Fine



EU Parliament adopted “right to repair” in April 2024

WHAT'S THE SECRET SAUCE?

- A reliable space
- An organizer/coordinator
- A Hardy Crew!!
- Coffee



There are many ways to run successful community repair spaces! Repair events can be one off or weekly. It's all about the engagement from the volunteers and community.

You're going to hear all the different ways repair café's are run in Illinois!



THANK YOU!

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