THE ACTION
Ban plastic bags and/or Styrofoam or other single use plastic sold in Evanston.

THE IMPACT
Protects natural resources and reduces waste created. Banning forces producers to redesign products so that single-use plastics are not manufactured.
THE ACTION
The government can require manufacturers to be responsible for recycling or reusing the items they make or sell when they are no longer able to be used.

THE IMPACT
Manufacturers would then have to pay for the costs of collecting, transporting, recycling, and disposing of their items at the end of their use. Manufacturers would take responsibility for their items and design them in a more environmentally and socially responsible way.
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THE ACTION
The city, in partnership with Evanston organizations and businesses, agree to no longer buy disposable items like bottled water or plastic utensils.

THE IMPACT
Reduces the amount of waste generated at an organization but will require finding better alternatives for disposable and single use items. Could initially be costly but could lead to less trash collections which could save money.
THE ACTION
Create a Library of Things where people can borrow items for no charge. A Library of Things loans out items like kitchen appliances, tools, electronics, and recreational equipment.

THE IMPACT
Prevents people from having to buy new items that they may only use occasionally. It also gives people access to items that may be too expensive for them to afford on their own.
THE ACTION
Establish repair clinics and workshops where residents can bring in broken items and get help fixing them.

THE IMPACT
Reduce the amount of things sent to the landfill and create a culture of repair throughout the community where people can share skills and socialize.
THE ACTION
Ban the disposal of food waste in garbage containers.

THE IMPACT
This would increase participation in Evanston’s composting program and reduce the amount of methane produced from the breakdown of food in landfills. It would also encourage food related businesses to analyze how much food they buy and throw out and to find alternate ways to dispose of it like food donation. However, a ban only addresses one source of waste.
THE ACTION
Enforce a pay as you throw policy (PAYT) where residents and businesses are charged for the collection of waste based on the amount they throw away.

THE IMPACT
Residents would think more about their purchases and the end-of-use for the items they buy. It could lead to an increase in littering and illegal dumping and could penalize residents and businesses who are unaware of the lower cost options.