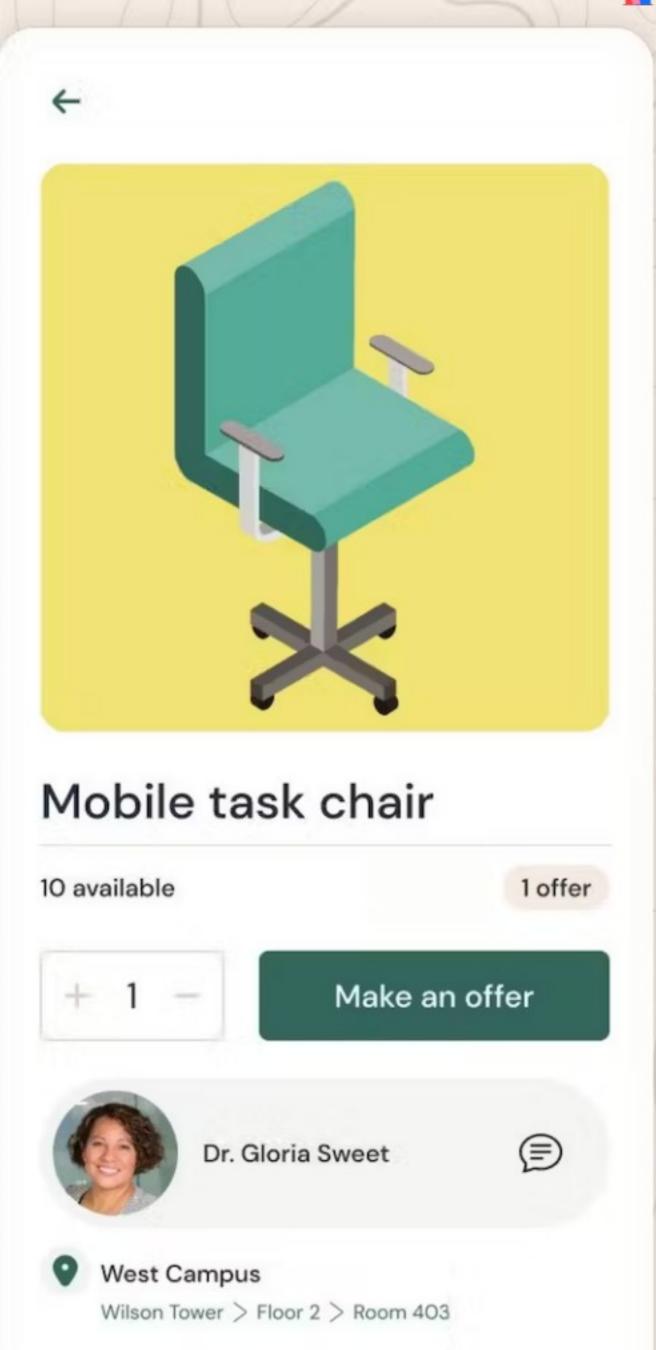
Rheaply's hosted webinar will be starting soon...



### Rheaply

# How reuse is driving sustainability at UChicago





Keller Knoll
Customer Success Manager
Rheaply



Valentina Rappa
Circular Economy Strategist
Rheaply

### Introducing the presenters



Keller Knoll
Customers Success Manager
Rheaply

Manages client relationships for Rheaply's existing customers, expanding and maximizing their use of the Rheaply Platform to grow the impact of circularity within their organizations.

Background in circularity in the food system through upcycling byproducts into usable food products in local ecosystems. Experience in managing client relationships in various capacities in the tech industry.



Valentina Rappa Circular Economy Strategist Rheaply

Leads Rheaply's Sustainability Consulting services, developing reuse strategies and programs that advance our users' experience on the Rheaply Platform.

Background in environmental engineering and industry experience with plastic waste in the environment, the circularity of plastics, and sustainability strategy and reporting.



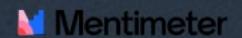
### Agenda

- 1. Introducing Rheaply and our work with UChicago
- 2. Circular economy foundations and in practice
- 3. Deep dive into reuse
- 4. Reuse activity
- 5. Call to action
- 6. Questions





# Introducing Rheaply and our work with UChicago





Hi, we're Rheaply.

## We're on a mission to build a community where every workplace resource finds its next use.

Founded in 2016

\$18.73M in asset value

150+ ecosystem partners \$30M from top-tier investors

Trusted by resourceful companies

Google



Goldman Sachs













## Rheaply for UChicago: A platform for resource exchange

#### How it works

Available to all UChicago students, faculty and staff at all Chicago campuses

Cleaning out your space? Replacing equipment that still works? Surplus items taking up valuable space? Post it on Rheaply!

Supply chain issues delaying an order? Need something fast? No budget? Check Rheaply to see if what you need is already available on campus for free!



- Save money
- Improve efficiency
- Make smarter purchases
- Boost collaboration
- Increase sustainability
- Expand your network

## Rheaply at UChicago: Jan - May 2023

515 users

total from UChicago campuses

54 offers

made on the Rheaply Platform this year \$26,220

value identified this year

\$7,030

value recaptured this year

59

new listing made this year

300

Items exchanged

2,027 lbs

weight identified this year

828 lbs

weight recaptured this year

34% of the new posts made this year had both Market Value and Weight included

That's roughly the weight of a grand piano!



## The Rheaply Platform



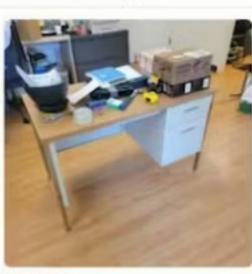


Brackets, Standards and Shelving Free . Used - Good Main Campus > TAAC



Electronics Fun Lab Research Manufacturing & Industrial Motors Workspace

Free-standing File Cabinets 5 drawer Free | Used - Good Main Campus > Culver Hall



Free Desk! Free - Used - Like new or open box Main Campus > Anatomy Building



UV resistant dessicator cabinet Free - Used - Good

Main Campus > Cummings Life Sciences Center



Plastic Test Tubes, Funnels and Caps Main Campus > Judd Half



Free 1/2 inch-1 1/2 inch Binders Main Campus > Pick Hall Whole Building



Coffee Filters Main Campus > Chicago Lying-In Hospital



Office desk stuff Free - Used - Like new or open box Main Campus > Billings



GBO 655209 Microplate, 96 well, PP, Fbottom, Black Free - Used - Like new or open bax Main Campus 3 Knapp Center for Biomedical Discov...



Metal Folding Chairs Free + Used - Acceptable Main Campus > Rocketeller Memorial Chapel



24x 500GB 7200RPM Sun Hitachi Deskstar SATA drives

Main Campus > Joseph Regenstein Library





File Cabinet Main Campus > Goldblatt Pavillios



4 HP & Next Day Ink Cartridges Main Campus > Goldblatt Psvillion



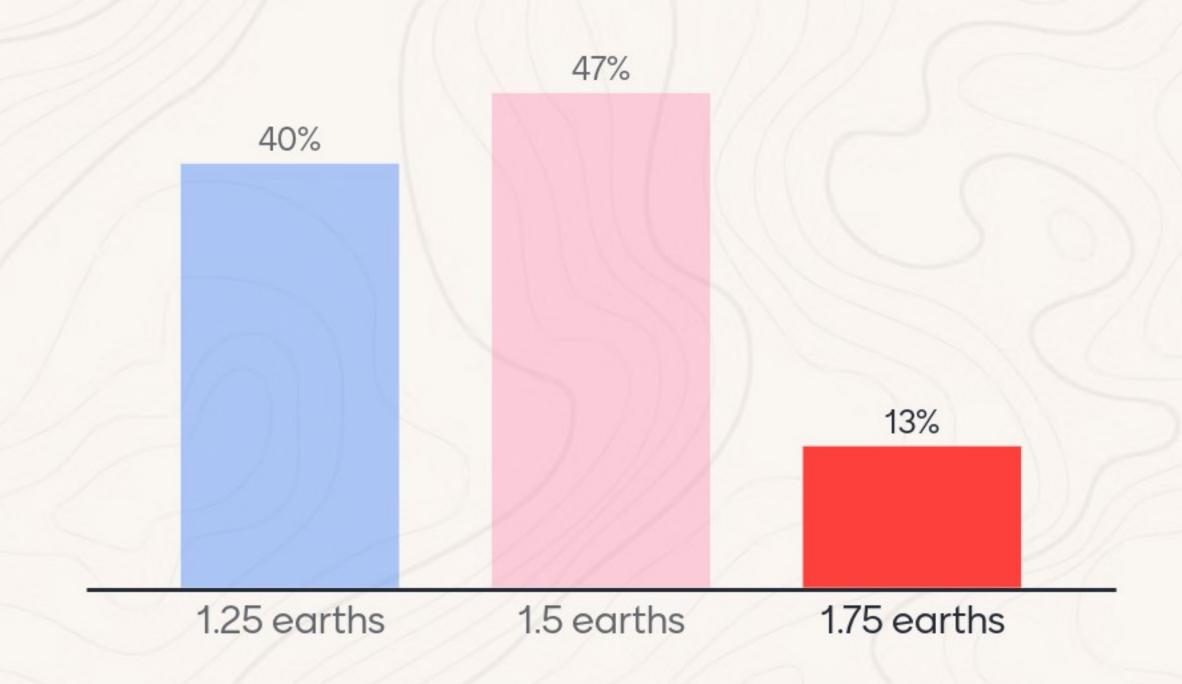
Main Campus > Foster Hall





# Setting the stage with foundational terminology

Every year we out-spend the earth's resources. In 2022, how many earths did we use to support our annual resource consumption?





### Reuse

The repeated use of a product or component for its intended purpose without significant modification.

In plain words: Using an item multiple times for the same use. Avoiding any changes to the item in between uses, except for small adjustments and cleaning to prepare for the next use.

How it connects to UChicago: Students, faculty, and staff can reuse furniture, lab equipment, supplies, and more. This extends the useful life of equipment, reduces business spend, and avoids the manufacturing of a new product.

Source

## Linear economy

An economy in which finite resources are extracted to make products that are used - generally not to their full potential - and then thrown away ('take-make-waste').

It is a wasteful and polluting system that degrades natural systems.

Source

In plain words: The economic system that we currently live by. We take resources from the earth, make products with them, sell those products for a profit, and throw away the products after use.

How it connects to UChicago: Students, faculty, and staff across UChicago can break the current linear economy model of purchasing new furniture, lab equipment, and supplies by sharing goods across the university.

## Circular economy

A systems solution framework based on three principles, driven by design: eliminate waste and pollution, circulate products and materials (at their highest value), and regenerate nature.

In plain words: An economic system aimed at eliminating waste and promoting the continual use of resources.

How it connects to UChicago: UChicago contributes to the circular economy through its reuse marketplace housed on the Rheaply Platform. Students, faculty, and staff can continuously circulate furniture and equipment across the university.

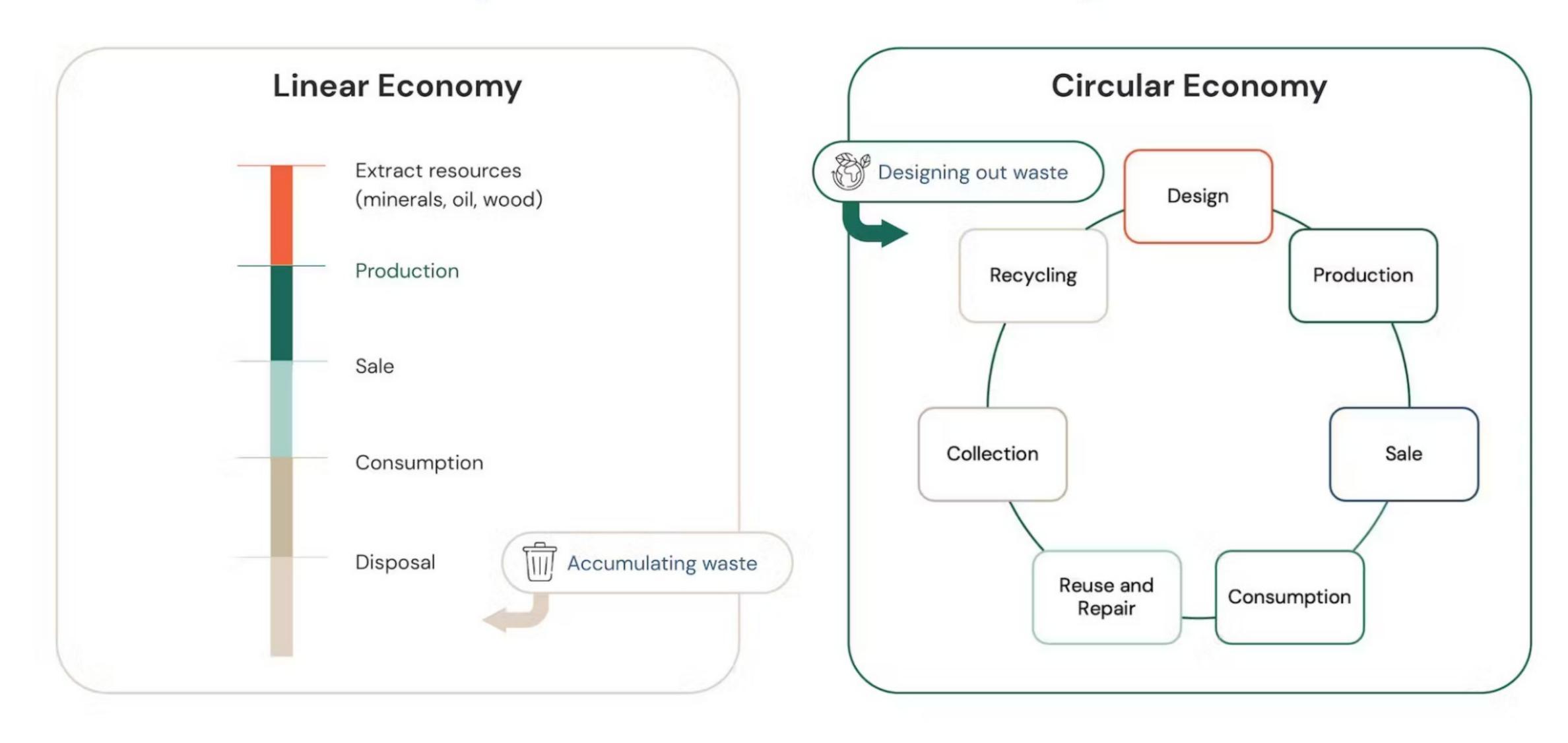
Source





# The circular economy in theory and practice

### Linear economy vs. circular economy



## The three principles of a circular economy



Eliminate waste and pollution

Circulate products and materials (at their highest value)

Regenerate nature

## Circulate products and materials - Ecovative

### Designing products for recirculation!

Compostable packaging made from:

- Parts of crops that are not edible
- Mushroom roots acts as a glue

Mimics expanded polystyrene but can be used to produce fertilizer after use.





### Environmental benefits of a circular economy

#### Reduce carbon emissions

Potential to halve carbon
dioxide emissions in Europe
by 2030, compared to today's
levels

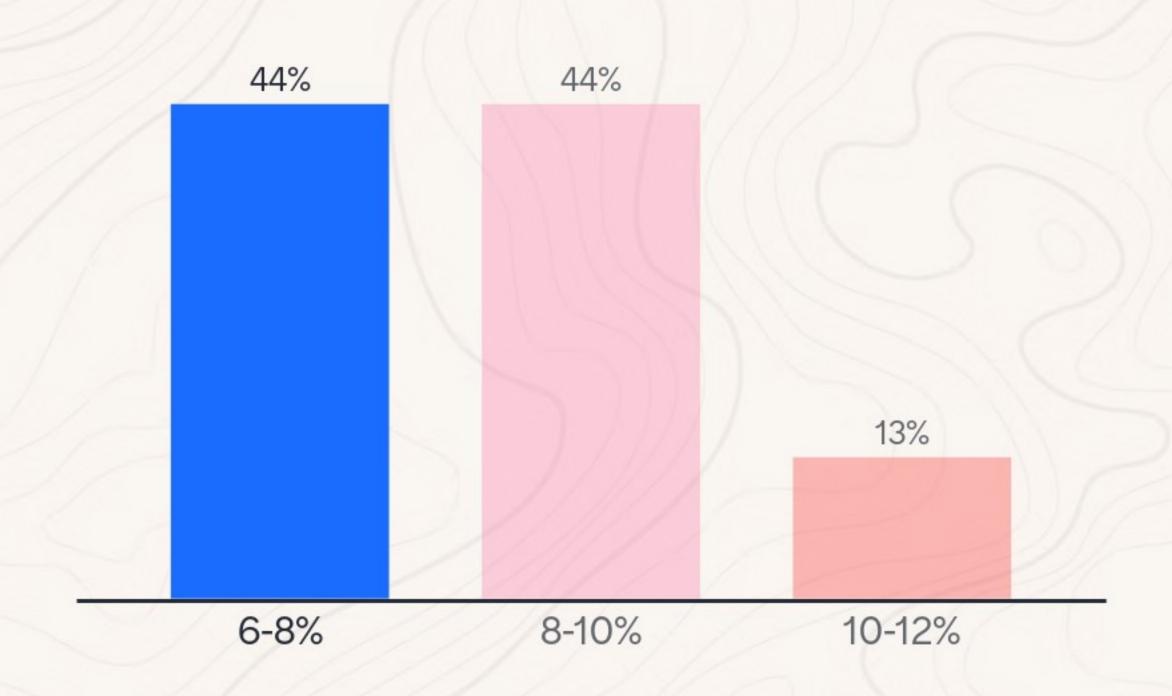
## Improve land productivity and soil health

Eliminate the need for chemical fertilizers by returning biological materials back to the soil.

## Reduce material consumption

Cut down the consumption of car and construction materials, fertilizers, fuels, and other materials by 32% by 2030.

In 2018, Circle Economy reported that the global economy was 9.1% circular. How circular do you think the global economy is now?



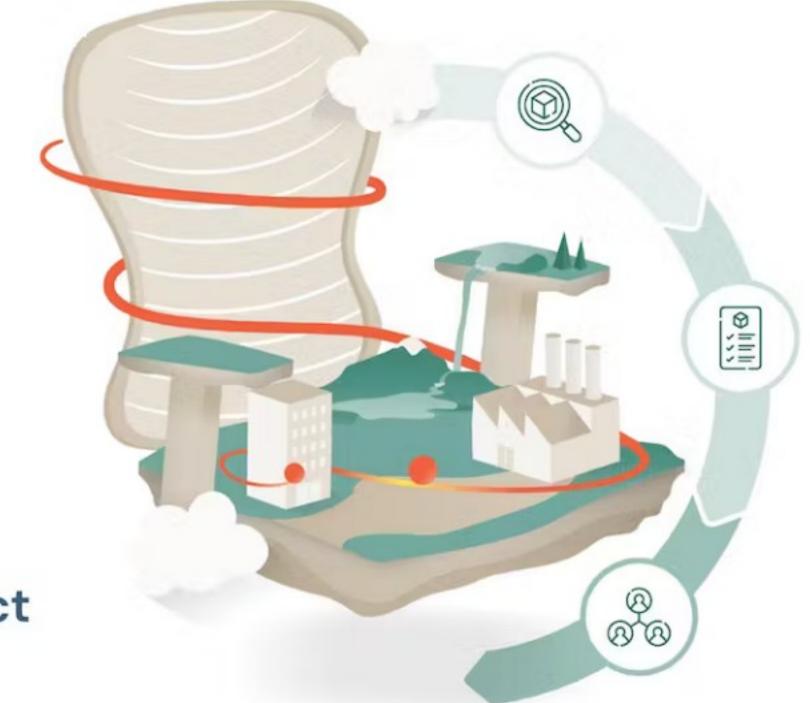






## Deep dive into reuse

## The role of reuse: Extend the life of a product before breaking it down and recycling its parts.



## Purchasing used and recirculating existing products:

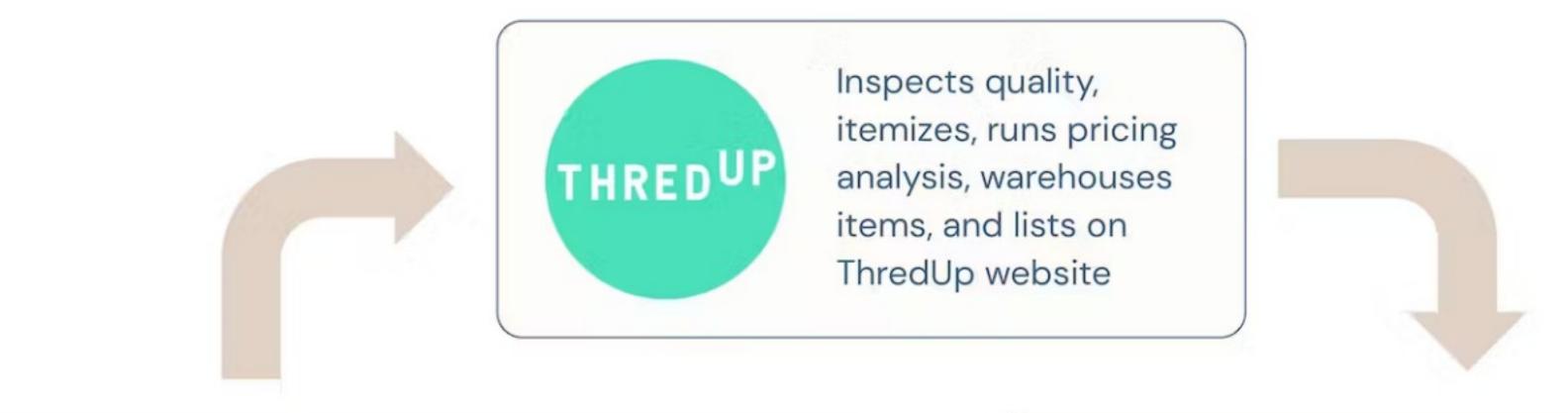
- Reduce the production of new products
- Use your existing inventory for as long as possible
- Consider Environmentally
   Preferred Purchasing agreements

## Reusing consumer product packaging:

- Refill reusable containers at home or in stores
- Return packaging through at-home and in-store services



### A business built on reuse: threadUP







### Campus sustainability initiatives promoting reuse

### Reuse programs support:



### Zero waste goals

- Diverts waste from landfills, waste-to-energy, and the environment
- Reduce carbon emissions associated with alternative disposal methods



### Sustainable procurement goals

- Purchase used equipment or recirculate equipment you already own
- Reduce carbon emissions associated with manufacturing new equipment

### **UChicago Sustainability Plan**

- Area #4 Waste Reduction:
   Reduce the amount of total
   landfilled waste
- Area #8 Environmentally
   Preferable Procurement:

Reduce the environmental impact of products and services throughout the University supply chain



### Helpful resources

The Circular Economy in Detail (Ellen MacArthur Foundation)

<u>Circularity Gap Report 2023</u> (Circle Economy)

Circular Economy Disclosure in

Corporate Sustainability Reports

(Journal of Sustainable Production and
Consumption)

<u>Upstream Innovation</u> (Ellen MacArthur Foundation)

Completing the Picture: How the
Circular Economy Tackles Climate
Change (Ellen MacArthur Foundation)

The Circular Economy and Reuse (Ellen MacArthur Foundation)





## Reuse activity

## What are the most common items you need for your department?





# What do you do with your department equipment at the end of each semester? If you don't reuse items, why?

offer on the listserve
haz waste for unused chem
use until consumed
store it give it away
e-waste yes
recycle old exam papers
leave furniture out

Would you use the Rheaply Platform at the end of this semester to give away items you no longer need? If not, why?

absolutely

yes is there a size limit can rheaply pick up

not everyone is on it can you share food







## Call to action

### Challenge

Join our upcoming training!

#### Create an Account

- Register at app.rheaply.com
- Complete your Profile
- O Review the About Page

Challenge! Tell 3 friends to make a Rheaply account over the next two weeks

### Create a Listing

- O Click Create
- O Complete Create Post Form
- OClick Publish!

Challenge! Create 5 listings over the next two weeks

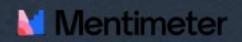
### Submit an Offer

- Interact with posted Listings
- Find a listing you like
- Click Make Offer!

Challenge! Review the UChicago inventory and make offers on items you need



## Questions





Thank you!

Learn more at rheaply.com