Waste Management Policy and Experience of Japan



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History of Environmental Policy in Japan

2001 Ministry of the Environment

2000 Basic Act for Establishing a Sound Material-Cycle Society

1993 Basic Environment Act

1971 Environmental Agency



1970 Environmental Pollution Session of the Diet

Air Pollution Control Act Water Pollution Control Act









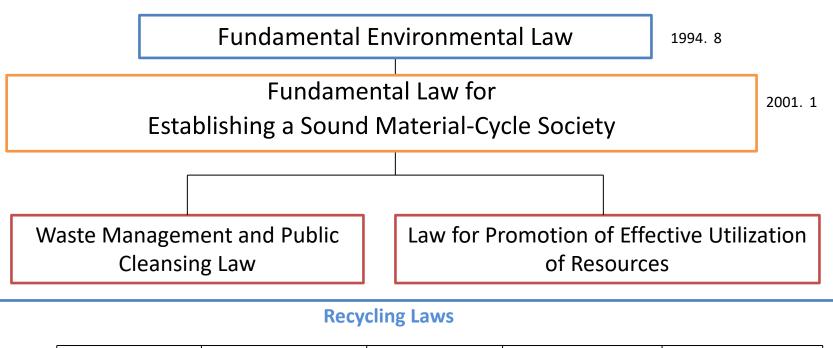


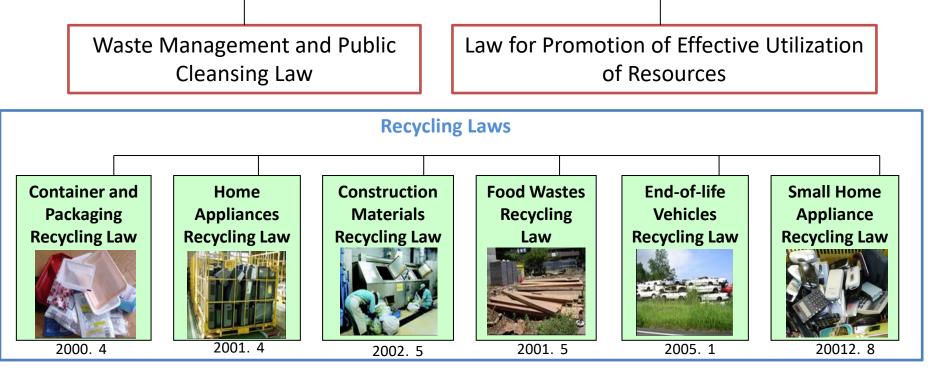


1950's – 1960's Heavy pollution problems throughout Japan



Legislative Framework





Law on Promoting Green Purchasing



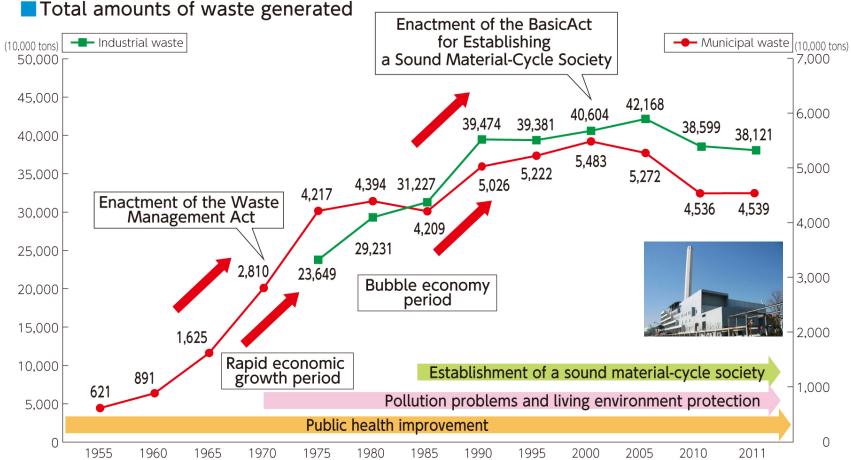
Trends of Wastes





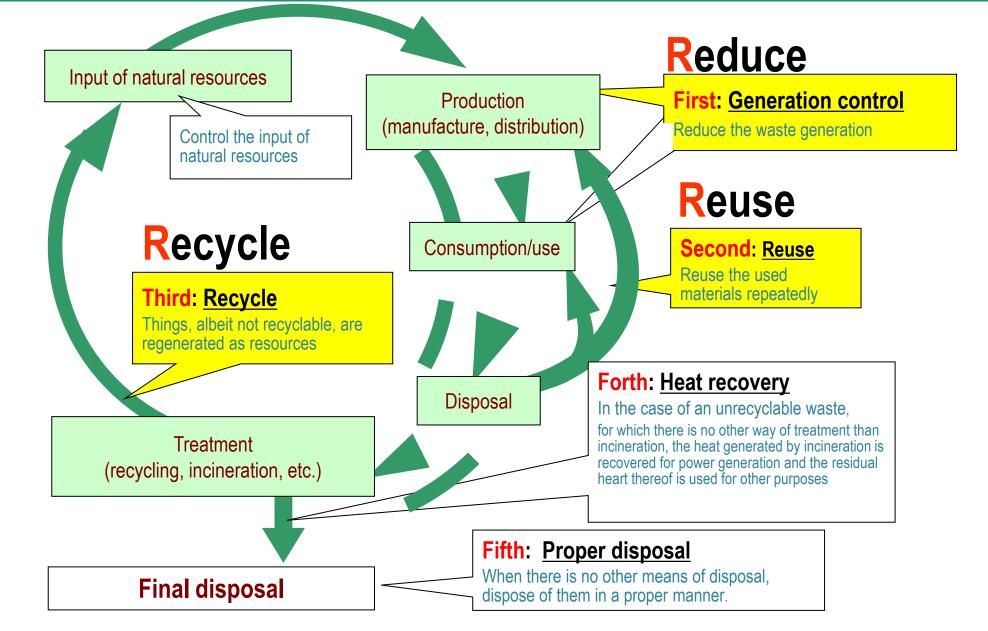








3R (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle)Principle





Measures implemented to solve problems

Sorted collection of recyclable waste Initiatives for promoting sorted waste collection: Cooperation of residents

- Distributed flyers and handbooks to residents to promote their understanding of sorted waste collection.
- Implemented briefings by local government staff for local residents.







3R (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle)

Measures implemented to solve problems

Promotion of understanding among consumers

Local government initiatives:

Recycling programs rooted in local communities

Establishment of recycling centers and recycling plazas

→Raising residents' recycling awareness Helping to promote recycling activities rooted in the local community



Machida Recycling Culture Center



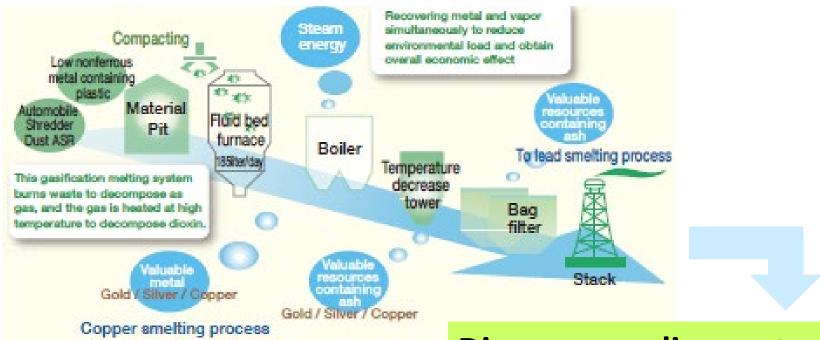
Exhibition hall on the first floor of the Nakano Environment and Recycling Plaza



Recycling basket for old cloths and clothes installed at the Nakano Environment and Recycling Plaza



Material recycling technology of home appliances



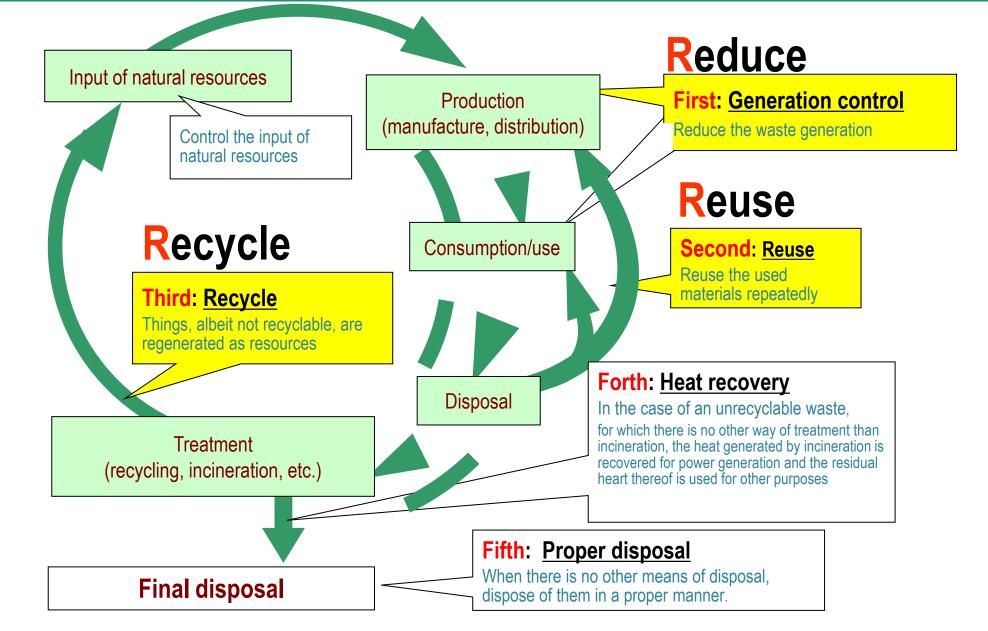
<u>Urban mining: Valuable metals can</u> <u>be recovered</u> through advanced heat and chemical treatment processes, which can be sold ultimately

Diverse recycling materials





3R (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle)Principle





Incineration-Based Sanitation Treatment



Ota Incineration Plant

- Constructed in 2014
- Full continuance combustion fire grate Incinerator
- Incineration capacity; 600 tons/day
- Power generation capacity; 22,800kW

(Photo: Clean Authority of TOKYO 23cities)

Advantages of waste incineration

Reduction of waste volume

Reduce the weight and volume of waste (reduction in volume by 90 to 95%), which can save the lifetime of landfill sites.

Hygienic treatment of waste

Sanitize and stabilize infectious and bio-degradable substances contained in waste

Waste to energy

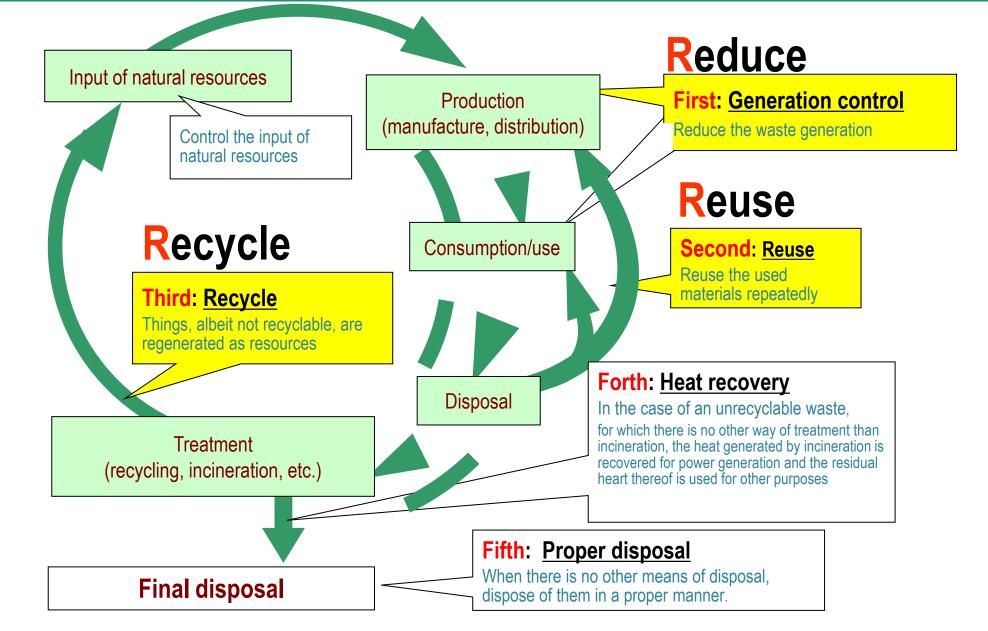
Convert to <u>electricity and hot water</u> used by the facility and neighboring communities

*Urgent power supply in time of disaster





3R (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle)Principle



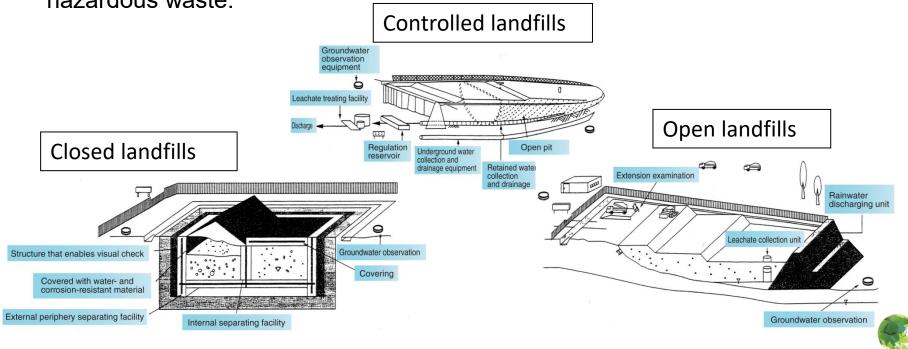


Measures implemented to solve problems

Proper landfilling of hazardous waste

- The Japanese government established assessment standards for hazardous waste, including hazardous heavy metals (such as mercury and cadmium) and organic pollutants (such as PCB) in 1973.
- Three types of final landfill sites were defined in 1977.

→Proper landfilling was promoted according to the assessment standards for hazardous waste.

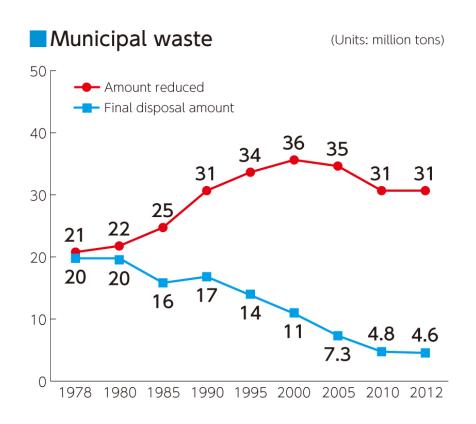


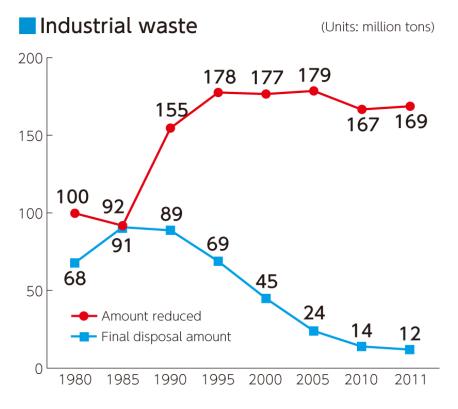


Main Results Achieved by Past Measures

Amounts of final waste disposal and waste reduction

The government has strived to reduce the amount of waste through incinerating and recycling waste, leading to a drastic decrease in final waste disposal.





Source: Compiled from MOE, Survey on the Discharge and Disposal of Industrial Waste (annual editions)

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