

Tehama County: Reuse and Repair Final Report

I. Background

The volume of waste entering local landfills is on the rise. With the trends of overconsumption and fast fashion, consumers are geared to value quantity over quality and are accustomed to throwing away an article of clothing or an electronic device the minute it is torn, damaged, or broken. This leads to an unprecedented amount of items ending up in the landfill despite the oftentimes useful life still remaining. CalRecycle's Recycling Market Development Zone (RMDZ) Program combines recycling with economic development to fuel new businesses, expand existing ones, create jobs, and divert waste from landfills.

II. Project Introduction

Funded by technical assistance from the RMDZ Program, CPSC, on behalf of Tehama County, identified and promoted businesses offering reuse/repair services to the community. Through this research, CPSC partnered with the Tehama County Library to offer support to their existing reuse/repair programs and public events.

Project Overview

1. Published **articles with local news outlet** to promote the library's events.
2. Purchased **books, toys, and mending supplies** for the library branches.
3. Created **patches with the library logo** from a local embroidery business.
4. Partnered with a **local videographer** to promote County businesses & library.
5. Supported 3 **of the library's reuse/repair events.**
6. Bought **denim repair kits** for residents to borrow at the library.

Objectives & Evaluation Metrics

<p>I. Research reuse and repair businesses for a database and potential collaborations.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 32 local businesses in the zone • 19 reuse/repair businesses in the zone
<p>II. Develop outreach materials, including list of existing resources.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9 existing County resources added • 17 nonprofits, school clubs, and stakeholders identified
<p>III. Expand public access to repair campaigns such as promoting via social media or supporting a program to expand their repair services.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8 social media posts • 59 items purchased to support library's campaigns • 4 reuse/repair businesses promoted via professional video
<p>IV. In-person “Repair/Reuse Education” event and other outlets to educate the public on waste diversion campaigns.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 interviews with local businesses • 3 repair/reuse education events through the library • 80 attendees at 3 events • 19 direct phone calls to local businesses to inquire about video interviews and event participation
<p>V. Promote the outcomes through local and regional media outlets.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 articles published in local news outlet; 1 advertisement placed • 5 professional videos • 31,659 engagements on a total of 5 boosted posts

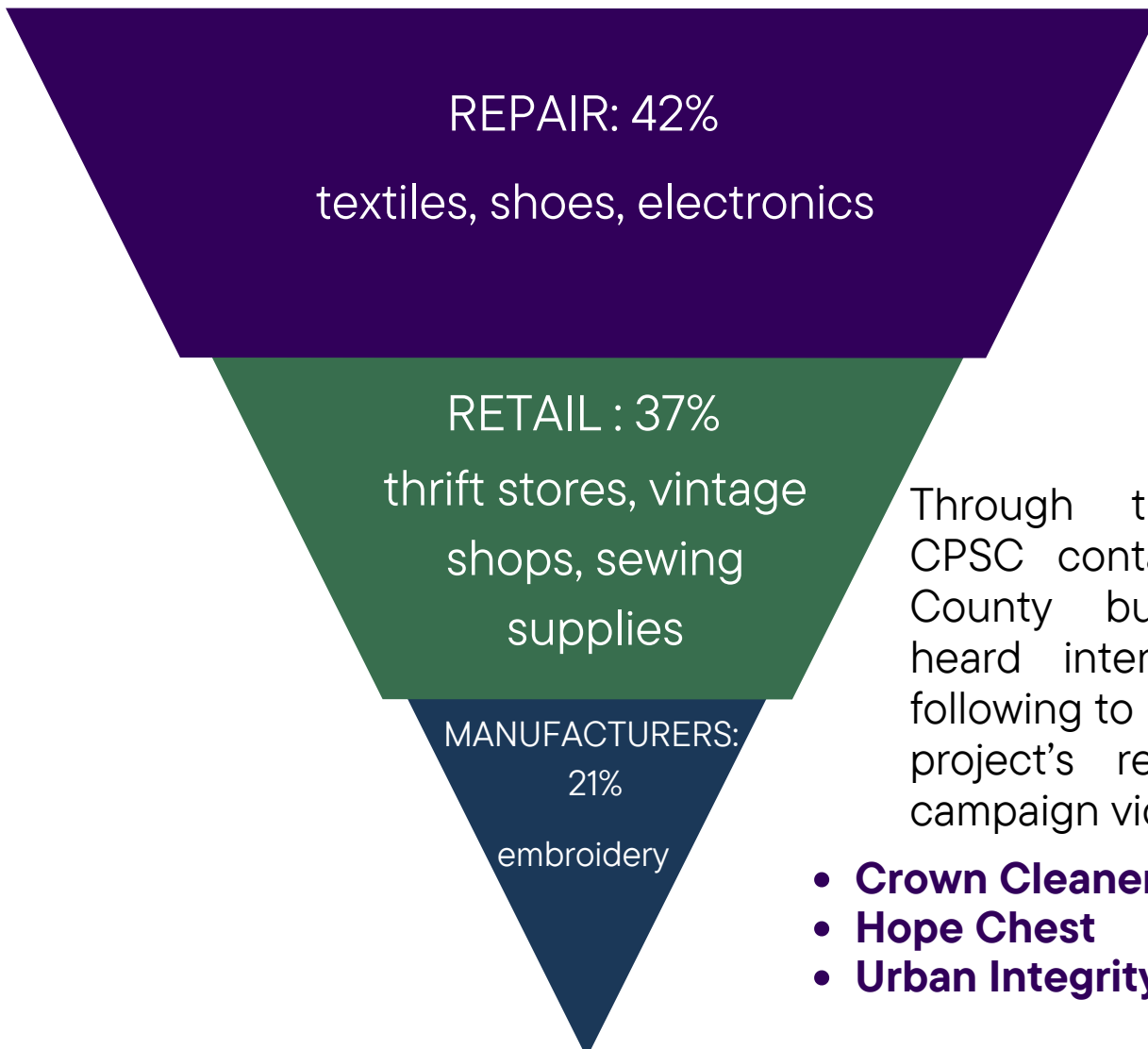
Reuse & Repair Businesses

CPSC compiled a database of Tehama County's **19 reuse and repair businesses** working with textiles or electronics including:

- **The Thrift Store**
- **American Embroidery Mart**
- **Amazing Finds**
- **Modern Cleaners**
- **Free Wheel Connection**
- **Hard Drive**
- **Little Shop of Hoarders**
- **We Sew 4U**



The 19 businesses can be broken down into the following categories: **repair, retail, and manufacturers.**



Through this database, CPSC contacted Tehama County businesses and heard interest from the following to be a part of the project's repair & reuse campaign videos:

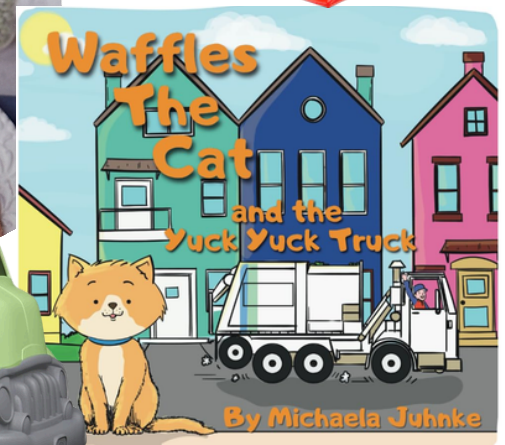
- **Crown Cleaners & Tuxedos**
- **Hope Chest**
- **Urban Integrity**

Partnership with Tehama County Library

After discovering the reuse and repair resources provided by the library, **CPSC partnered with the Tehama County Library** to support their efforts and expand their capacity.



TEHAMA COUNTY LIBRARY



With the project funds, CPSC supplied all three Tehama library branches with various reuse/repair-related items such as **children's books on reuse/repair, recycling truck toys, denim repair kits, library logo patches, freeze-drying recipe books, embroidery kits for kids, bike repair tools, and a sewing machine.** The bike repair kits will be used by attendees at the library's upcoming bike rodeo event.

Textile Mending Classes



CPSC supported **Alicia Meyer**, the Tehama County Librarian, with the library's **first textile mending class**. In December, the library began hosting various textile-related classes such as crocheting and sewing, to **teach the community about reuse and repair**, all while acting as a safe, creative space.



These free classes offered by the library teach the community innovative ways to **divert textiles from the landfill** and give a clothing item or scrap fabric a new life. In particular, younger generations are able to learn useful skills such as sewing that they can carry on with them in the future.



Collaborations

CPSC initiated **two collaborations**, outside of the library, through this phase to support local businesses in Tehama County.

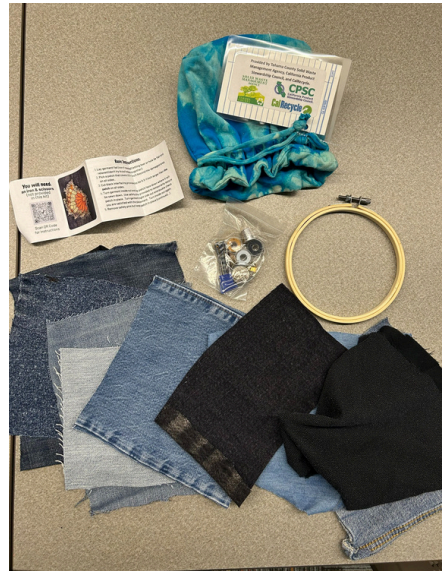
American Embroidery Mart & Engraving

CPSC connected with a **local family-owned embroidery business**, American Embroidery Mart, to **create patches** with the Tehama County Library logo. These patches were given to the library to distribute and/or utilize for future textile mending classes.

County Library Logo Patches



Denim Repair Kits



CPSC ordered 10 **denim repair kits** from Circular Fashion LA for the library to utilize for their textile mending classes as well as for community members to check out and borrow. **The kit includes:** recycled fabric patches, thread, needles, thimble, embroidery hoop, and repair instructions.

Video Production

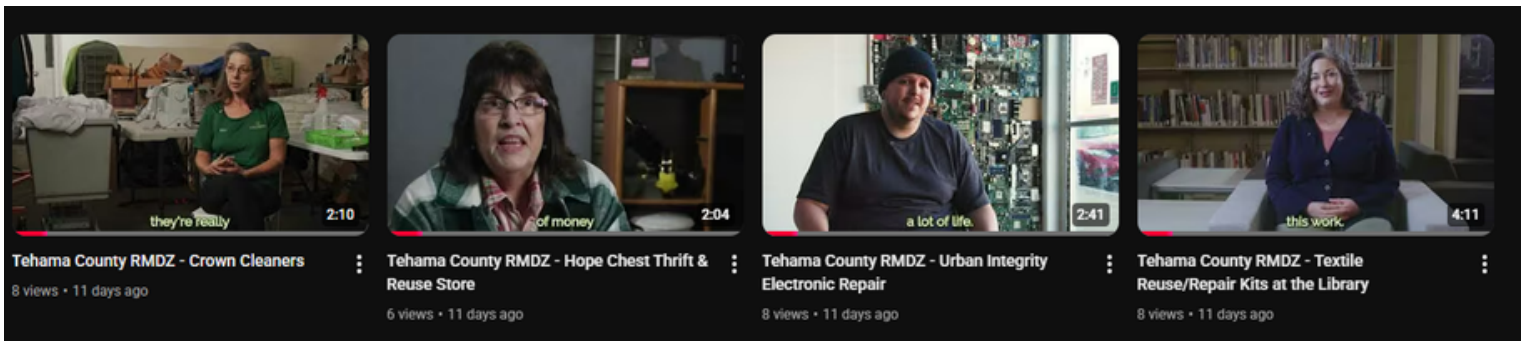


Through a recommendation from Tehama County, CPSC worked with Funta Media to **interview local reuse/repair businesses**, the Tehama County librarian, CPSC's Director of Advocacy, and the Agency Manager at Tehama County's waste management agency to provide more information about the project. These videos highlight the **reuse/repair services within the County** and shine a light on the library's programs and resources open to the public.



Social Media & Outreach

CPSC posted all **five videos** on our [YouTube Channel](#), along with short media clips of each video on our social media platforms. All social media clips were boosted which led to **31,659 views and 2067 clicks**.



The local reuse/repair Tehama County businesses highlighted in the videos include **Urban Integrity** (electronics repair), **Hope Chest** (reuse thrift store), **Crown Cleaners** (dry cleaner), and the **Tehama County Library** through their reuse/repair events and denim repair kits.

Educational Outreach

To promote the library's events and provide information on the resources the library has to offer, CPSC prepared **three graphics**, posted on all of CPSC's social platforms.

REUSE & REPAIR STORYTIME

Join the Tehama County Library branches, Tehama County Solid Waste, and CPSC for a story time all about reducing waste by emphasizing reuse and repair!

DATE OF EVENT:

- November 18th - Los Molinos
- November 19th - Red Bluff
- November 20th - Corning

TIME:
10:30 AM - 11:30 AM

TEHAMA COUNTY LIBRARY

GET TACTILE WITH TEXTILES SEW SEW EASY

Come join us for a fun, hands-on workshop where you'll learn the beginner skills of textile mending!

11TH DECEMBER 2025

4 pm - 6 pm | 545 Diamond Ave., Red Bluff

TEHAMA COUNTY LIBRARY

ATRIUM ZERO-WASTE MOBILE ART CAFE

Paint reusable tote bags, tiles, and more!

MARCH 11th, 2026

4:00 - 5:30 PM

Red Bluff Tehama County Library
545 Diamond Ave, Red Bluff, CA 96080

TEHAMA COUNTY LIBRARY

DID YOU KNOW:

As we step into a new year, it's the perfect time to reflect on how we can make a positive impact on our environment and reduce the amount of materials going into our landfill. In our rural community, sustainability isn't just a trend; it's a way of life. This year, let's embrace the power of repair and reuse, two of the simplest yet most impactful ways we can reduce waste and support a healthier planet.

In 2026, Instead of discarding broken tools, appliances, or clothing, consider how they might be repaired or repurposed. Whether it's fixing that old lawnmower or giving your favorite jacket a second life, small efforts can add up. Repairing items not only saves you money but also reduces the need for new resources, helping preserve the beautiful landscape we call home.

Join us this year in embracing a culture of **reuse and repair**. Together, we can make 2026 a year of positive change—for our community, our environment, and our future.

Visit the [Tehama County Library](#) for details on upcoming workshops and make your sustainable resolutions a reality!

The Tehama County Solid Waste Management Agency included the textile mending event in their **newsletter**.

Learn to mend, reuse and repair at the Red Bluff Library Thursday

By HEATHER TAYLOR | htaylor@redbluffdailynews.com
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DAILY NEWS
RED BLUFF TEHAMA

Learn about Tehama County's local reuse/repair businesses in 5 new videos.

See CPSC's YouTube Channel to watch!

The Hope Chest
THRIFT STORE

The **Red Bluff Daily News** published three articles on the library's textile mending and mobile art cafe events and the impact CPSC and Tehama County hope they have on the community. CPSC further placed an **advertisement** promoting the videos on Tehama County's local businesses.

Reuse/Repair Storytime



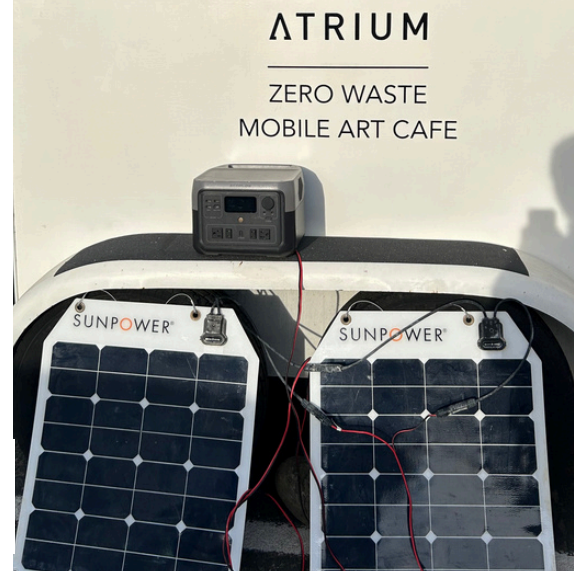
Using the project-supplied children's books, CPSC and Tehama County supported the Tehama County Library branches' **story time events** for one week, highlighting the topic of reuse and repair. Along with a story time, the library hosted a sock puppet making activity that utilized old materials to **emphasize the creativity behind reuse**.



Zero Waste Mobile Art Cafe



ATRIUM



In collaboration with the **Atrium 916**, CPSC brought the **Zero Waste Mobile Art Cafe** to the Red Bluff Library for an art event! The Art Cafe is a traveling, **solar-powered mobile popup activation** providing a sustainable creative outlet with **climate-ready and waste-reduction programming** in communities using art, science, and games.



People from all ages came to the event to **build community, support the library, and learn about reducing waste in their everyday lifestyle!**

Recommendations

- Highlight and uplift the **free resources** available at local libraries, including upcoming bike repair rodeo event.
- Promote **reuse and repair videos** heavily.
- Fund CPSC to continue **supporting the library into the summer** to focus on the youth demographic and summer camp
- Apply for **stewardship and EPR funds** to support the library and reuse businesses (i.e., batteries, packaging, textiles, etc.).
- Recruit local businesses to **CPSC's STRAT**, a free Textile Taskforce with 3 active Working Groups.
- Support future **legislation for reuse and repair**.

Resources



Website Updates for
CPSC and Tehama County

Social Media Campaign



CPSC Textile Resource Map

