



Trash disposal bins at Gubei International Garden in Shanghai's downtown Changning District. — Dong Jun

**“Foreign residents played an active role in our volunteer work as they spared no effort in promoting trash classification and the disposal mode to other expat neighbors.”**

dry trash were collected daily, down from 19,370 tons in June 2019.

In the past five months, 7,391 tons of recyclable waste and 1.76 tons of hazardous waste were sorted daily, up from 4,000 tons and 265 kilograms in June 2019, respectively.

Since 2019, trash disposal spots at 21,000 residential complexes have been upgraded and renovated, and over 1,000 garbage bins collecting recyclable trash have been installed at 233 business circles, transport hubs, parks and tourist attractions.

By the end of May, the city had 27,600 trash sorting volunteer programs aided by 713,800 volunteers.

Bureau officials said the city will continuously upgrade disposal spots at residential complexes with hand-washing, rain shelter, and lighting facilities and address complaints like odor and trash bin spillover at non-designated disposal times.

After four years, Shanghai's garbage classification policies are enabling a smart, low-carbon lifestyle.

On Tianshan Road, also in Changning District, artificial intelligence and big data algorithm technologies monitor trash disposal irregularities in real-

time and automatically alert property management staff and authorities.

Surveillance cameras and a 24-hour warning system have been installed in a wet market, where random disposal acts were once common.

The system sends law enforcement personnel photos, times, and locations of people dumping waste in non-designated areas.

“The Tianshan Road subdistrict has 53 residential complexes, and we have installed AI surveillance cameras covering garbage disposal spots in all of them,” said Wu Guangyu, head of the urban operation center.

“The system will alert staff such as property management companies and neighborhood committees, and authorities will handle the incidents once they are identified, significantly improving efficiency and accuracy.”

Three old trash disposal sites in the Lingxin residential complex on Guangzhong Road in Hongkou District were rebuilt into smart venues.

Elsewhere, to encourage residents to sort their waste, the Lingyun subdistrict in downtown Xuhui District has set up a carbon sink scientific popularization pavilion.

## On July 1, 2019,

Shanghai became the first Chinese city to begin compulsory waste separation and to enshrine it in local legislation.

### The average daily waste disposal volume

(Unit: ton)

■ January to April 2023  
■ June 2019

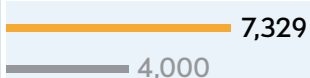
Dry waste (residual waste)



Wet waste (household food)



Recyclable waste



Hazardous waste

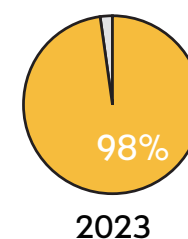
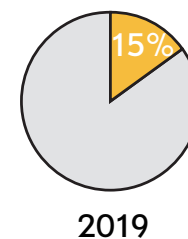


Now, sorted wet waste reached **35%** of the total amount of both dry and wet wastes, up from 20% before 2019.



**7,000 tons** of recyclable waste was sorted daily in 2022, up from 2,600 tons in 2019.

### The accuracy rate of garbage sorting by residents



(Illustrated by Li Yi)