Abusing Plastics
Thermoplastics, such as High-Density Polyethylene (HDPE), are commonly used for creating bottles to store liquids such as milk and shampoo. However, the common use of HDPE and thermoplastics has resulted in the mass disposal of these materials. This act of mismanagement has led to overfilling landfills. The issue is highlighted by the high concentration of HDPE in landfill leachate, the liquid residue that leaks from landfills. A study conducted by the Water Research Journal recorded that an average of approximately 35% of the leachate in 12 samples contained polyethylene².

Solution
Create a dual material golf tee using a High-Density Polyethylene (HDPE) body with a steel tip to allow for easy recyclability and cleanup due to its magnetic properties.

Process
- Use recycled plastics
- Turn plastics into pellets
- Use an injection mold to make the tees

Business Model
Separate, recycle, and recreate
Sell tees to golf courses
Send golf tees back to producer
Golfers use the golf tees and lose them
Collect tees from fairways

Plastics in 2017³
- Recycled: 8.37%
- Compostion with Energy Recovery: 15.80%
- Landfill: 75.82%

Project Summary
The amount of waste filled into the world’s ecosystems has become an increasing problems in recent years. Golf courses, specifically, are filled with broken tees that are left to decompose in the environment. Golf course sustainability and the amount of plastics filling landfills are the root problems faced in the project.

Saves 70,000 trees yearly in the United States
Reduces emissions caused by the production of tees
Limits the amount of plastics entering landfills