



SERT

School Energy and Recycling Team



Recycling Fun Facts

- Every Sunday, the United States wastes nearly 90% of the recyclable newspapers.
This wastes about 500,000 trees!
- **Everyday Americans buy 62 million newspapers and throw out 44 million. That's the equivalent of dumping 500,000 trees into a landfill every week.**
- Americans throw away enough office and writing paper annually to build a wall 12 feet high stretching from Los Angeles to New York City.
- **If everyone in the U.S. recycled just 1/10 of their newsprint, we would save the estimated equivalent of about 25 million trees a year.**
- One tree can filter up to 60 pounds of pollutants from the air each year.
- **It takes 75,000 trees to print a Sunday Edition of the New York Times.**
- One ton of recycled paper saves 3,700 pounds of lumber and 24,000 gallons of water.
- **One ton of recycled paper uses: 64% less energy, 50% less water, 74% less air pollution, saves 17 trees and creates 5 times more jobs than one ton of paper products from virgin wood pulp.**
- In a lifetime, the average American will throw away 600 times his or her adult weight in garbage. This means that each adult will leave a legacy of 90,000 lbs. of trash for his or her children.
- **Recycling all of your paper, newsprint, cardboard, glass, and metal can reduce carbon dioxide emissions by up to 850 pounds per household per year.**
- Each of us generates on average 4.4 pounds of waste per day per person.
- **Enough energy is saved by recycling one aluminum can to run a TV set for three hours or to light one 100 watt bulb for 20 hours.**

"It's your world...choose to conserve"



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- Americans throw away enough aluminum every three months to rebuild our entire commercial air fleet.
- **Annually, enough energy is saved by recycling steel to supply Los Angeles with electricity for almost 10 years.**
- It takes as much energy to make a single new can as it does to recycle twenty used cans.
- **Five recycled plastic bottles make enough fiberfill to stuff a ski jacket.**
- In this decade, it is projected that Americans will throw away over 1 million tons of aluminum cans and foil, more than 11 million tons of glass bottles and jars, over 4 and a half million tons of office paper and nearly 10 million tons of newspaper. Almost all of this material could be recycled.
- **Incinerating 10,000 tons of waste creates 1 job, landfilling the same amount creates 6 jobs, recycling the same 10,000 tons creates 36 jobs.**
- (Facts from: <http://www.recyclingit.com/factsbenefits.html>)

Games

<http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/osw/kids/index.htm>

- "Which bin does it go in?" - conveyor belt speeds up as drop items in correct recycling bin
- "N. Trubble and the Environauts" - activities educates students about source reduction, reuse, and recycling, describes the importance of resource conservation
- "Raw Materials Line Up" - detective game - pick out what product in "line-up" is made from raw materials
- "P.I. in the Sky" - keep P.I. in air hanging on to balloons by matching correct words (picking letters) to clue given
- "Waste no words" crossword puzzle



<http://kid-at-art.com/htdoc/matchtmp.html>

Art projects using various types of solid waste

http://www.phila.gov/streets/game_recycling.html

<http://www.p2pays.org/recycleguys/main/games.htm>

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