

Other Materials:

Aluminum: All aluminum cans are molded without seams. They are soft with a rounded base and indented top. To recycle these, merely rinse and flatten. Any other aluminum items such as TV dinner and foil pie plates, foil and lawn furniture are also recyclable. These should be kept separate from aluminum cans because of the difference in grade.

Plastics: A wide variety of plastics are found in average household waste. Most are recyclable. The plastic 2-liter "PET" beverage bottle is accepted by many centers. It is baled and shipped for grinding and reuse in filling for sleeping bags, fishing line and other plastic products.

Oils: Motor oil never wears out, it only gets dirty. This can be drained and taken to the nearest oil collection center. It is then shipped to a refinery where the impurities are removed. The recycled oil is then marketed as re-refined oil or industrial fuel oil. This prevents it from ending up as pollutants in our waterways.

Organic Wastes: Kitchen wastes and yard wastes make up approximately 18% of the solid waste going to our landfills. Such waste can be used to enrich the earth through composting, a controlled process where materials such as leaves and lawn trimmings are allowed to decay into a rich organic soil-like material. When properly done, composting can lead to a more bountiful garden while diverting organic waste from the solid waste disposal stream.

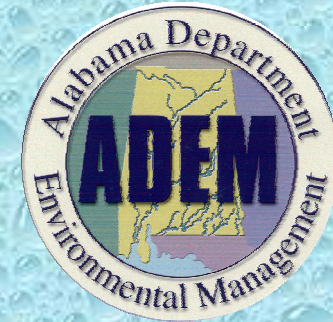
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Celebrate Earth Day



With ADEM



Today and Everyday!

Did you know that . . .

The composition of municipal and solid waste disposed of in the U.S. is as follows: (expressed in % by weight)

• Paper/paperboard	35.7 %
• Yard trimmings	12.2 %
• Glass	5.5 %
• Metals	7.9 %
• Plastics	11.1 %
• Rubber/leather/textiles/wood	12.8 %
• Food wastes	11.4 %
• Miscellaneous inorganic wastes	<u>3.4 %</u>
Total	100.0 %

Americans generate an average of 4.4 pounds of solid waste per person per day;

Approximately 229.2 million tons of municipal solid waste is generated each year in the U.S. and the quantity is continuing to rise each year;

An average family of four will generate 6,424 pounds or 3.2 tons of garbage per year; and,

* * *

Landfill space is limited and the siting of new landfills is very difficult and expensive. So what are we to do?

You can help by . . .

What can be Recycled?

Glass: Recycling of glass contributes to energy and resource conservation. The glass is broken down into cullet which is melted and used in making new bottles and jars. Glass for recycling should be washed and all metal caps and rings removed to be recycled with metals.

Paper: For recycling purposes, paper is classified into various grades.

Newsprint: Any newspaper which is not bound by a glued edge is recyclable newsprint. Newsprint for recycling should be stacked and tied both ways in manageable bundles. Recycled newsprint is used for a wide variety of purposes such as insulation, packing materials, fiber pipes, roofing materials and newspaper.

Corrugated Cardboard: This has two layers of heavy cardboard with a ribbed section in between and is commonly used for heavy-duty cartons. Plastic coated or tar-lined corrugated is not recyclable.

Chipboard: A thin, gray colored cardboard, chipboard is used for cereal boxes, tablet backings and paper rolls. It is of a lower grade than corrugated and is often recycled as scrap paper.

Kraft Paper: This is a brown paper used in grocery sacks and wrapping paper. It is often recycled with corrugated, but check with the recycling center first. When recycled, kraft paper is made into the same or similar product.

Hi-Grades: There are three types of hi-grades: computer paper, tab cards and ledger. On the household level usually only ledger is collected. This includes typing, notebook, ditto and writing paper. Plastic or wax coated, carbons, cellophane, newspaper, and glossy magazine paper can not be included. At the recycling plant hi-grades are shredded, repulped, de-inked and then remade into bond paper, tissues and wrapping paper.

Scrap Paper: This includes all types of paper not previously mentioned. Most of this paper is found in packaging. Another source is magazines. These are difficult to recycle because of their high clay content which gives them their shiny appearance. Some recycling centers do not accept these materials so it is best to check first. When recycled, scrap is made into things such as egg cartons, chipboard and roofing materials.

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Other suggestions to reduce waste:

- Put a water-conserving device in your toilet tank.
- Run your dishwasher and clothes washer only when full.
- Buy clothes that don't have to be dry cleaned.
- Hang your clothes out to dry.
- Be sure your house is well insulated.
- Plant windbreaks and shade trees around your home.
- Install energy efficient lighting.
- Use cold water instead of hot whenever possible.
- Turn off lights when not in use.
- Turn down your hot water heater.
- Lower your thermostat and wear warmer clothes in the winter.
- Buy energy efficient appliances.
- Drive a fuel efficient car, and car pool, walk or ride a bike when ever possible.
- Use non-toxic paints in your home, and purchase only the amount of paint you need to do the job.
- Avoid household products labeled "caution," "danger" or "harmful if swallowed." Use non-toxic alternatives whenever possible.

Reusing products whenever possible...

Many of the things we throw away could be reused with little or no repair. Reuse of these items saves energy, resources and landfill space. Here are some suggestions for reuse:

- Re-upholster furniture, rather than discarding and replacing.
- Use rechargeable batteries in tools, appliances, etc.
- Donate used clothing, rather than discarding.
- Reuse envelopes and scrap paper.
- Reuse paper bags as containers for material to be recycled.
- Collect rain water and gray water for use in the garden.
- Reuse glass jars for canning and storage.
- Reuse plastic margarine tubs as planters, and for storage containers.
- Reuse pine straw as a decorative mulch in the garden.
- Whenever possible, repair appliances and tools and reuse or donate them for reuse rather than discarding and replacing.
- Purchase used appliances, furniture, tools and automobiles.

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Recycling whenever possible.

Much of what we throw away can be recycled. Separating and storing materials for recycling requires very little time and effort and produces great benefits to the environment by:

Conserving Energy. For example, the energy saved from recycling an aluminum can versus creating a new one is enough to power a television for three hours. (Source: Aluminum Association)

Conserving Natural Resources. Ore deposits throughout the world are being depleted. Continual reuse and recycling of metals will delay the depletion of existing ore deposits, thus conserving a natural resource.

Recycling also helps to preserve the quality of our environment. For example, recycling of one ton of paper saves approximately 17 trees. In addition, producing products from recycled materials often causes less air and water pollution than producing the equivalent product from raw materials.

Conserving Landfill Space. Approximately 80% of the solid waste generated each year ends up in landfills. We are rapidly running out of landfill space and adequate replacements are difficult to find. While recycling does not eliminate the use of landfills, it does insure that valuable materials are not prematurely discarded, thus prolonging the useful life of the landfill.

Reducing the amount of waste that you produce...

Much of the waste we produce is unnecessary and can be eliminated from the waste stream by making minor changes in life style. Here are some things we can do to reduce waste:

Avoid disposable plates, cups and utensils.

Use cloth rags and napkins - not paper.

Be responsible and creative with leftover food. Cook and prepare only what you can eat. Be careful not to allow produce and other food to spoil before you can use them.

Mend and repair rather than discard and replace.

Invest in well made, functional clothing that will remain in style and last for years.

Buy bulk and unpackaged rather than packaged goods.

Write manufacturers urging them to reduce unnecessary packaging.

Avoid single serving containers.

Use a water conserving shower head.

Turn water off while you brush your teeth.

Take shorter showers - avoid baths.