



How Important Is Recycling to Our Community?



METALS:

- Recycling one aluminum can saves enough energy to run a TV for three hours -- or the equivalent of a half a gallon of gasoline.
- Because so many of them are recycled, aluminum cans account for less than 1% of the total U.S. waste stream, according to EPA estimates.
- There is no limit to the amount of times an aluminum can may be recycled.

PAPER

- To produce each week's Sunday newspapers, 500,000 trees must be cut down.
- Recycling a single run of the Sunday *New York Times* would save 75,000 trees.
- During World War II when raw materials were scarce, 33% of all paper was recycled. Now only 27% of the newspapers produced in America are recycled.
- The amount of wood and paper we throw away each year is enough to heat 50,000,000 homes for 20 years.
- Each ton of recycled paper can save 17 trees, 380 gallons of oil, three cubic yards of landfill space, 4000 kilowatts of energy, and 7000 gallons of water. This represents a 64% energy savings, a 58% water savings, and 60 pounds less of air pollution.

PLASTIC

- Americans use 2,500,000 plastic bottles every hour and most of them are thrown away.
- Plastic bags and other plastic garbage thrown into the ocean kill as many as 1,000,000 sea creatures every year!

OTHER FACTS:

- According to the EPA, recycling provides an annual benefit of 49.7 million metric tons of carbon equivalent emissions reduced, comparable to removing 39.4 million passenger cars from the road each year.
- Creating products from recycled materials uses up to 98 percent less energy than producing things from new materials.
- Americans generated 251 million tons of trash in 2006, the most recent year for which the EPA has data. Our per capita trash disposal rate was 4.6 pounds per person, per day. Sixty-five percent came from residences, while 35 percent came from schools and commercial locations such as hospitals and businesses.
- On average, it costs \$30 per ton to recycle trash, \$50 to send it to the landfill, and \$65 to \$75 to incinerate it.
- Ten years ago there were 7,000 landfills in the state of Texas. Today there are 1,700 while garbage disposal has increased over 40%.
- Currently only about 100 residents in Afton Oaks are recycling through Allied Waste. For approximately \$4.00/month you can participate too! Call Allied Waste today for your free blue bin and start making a difference! Call (713) 635-6666 to get started.



REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE

