



Recycle

You may call it clutter, but someone else may call it a treasure. So, don't be too quick in tossing items into the trash. Someone may be able to use it (donating) or it just might be useable for making something else (recycling).

Community recycling has the potential to reduce waste sent to landfills. It is the process of taking a product at the end of its useful life and using all or part of it to make another product. Making new products out of old products reduces the amount of energy needed in production.

Think about what can be recycled:

- Paper
- Metal
- Glass
- Plastic
- Eyeglasses
- Electronics
- Toys
- Clothing
- Light bulbs
- Automotive accessories
- Construction scraps



Symbols



Recycled Symbol shows that a product

is either made from recycled materials or can be used in a recycling process.



Post-consumer content designates a percentage of recycled materials used in producing a product. The higher the percentage the greater the amount of waste that is diverted from disposal.

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It has been estimated that each man, woman and child produces an average of four pounds of trash every day. Most of this garbage gets buried in a landfill, and we are running out of landfill space. Recognize that more and more products display the familiar recycling symbol. Recycling is a crucial step to preserve the environment.

There is another important aspect to recycled products you may not know as much about. It involves 'post-consumer content'. By definition, post-consumer content is the percentage of material that has been used, discarded and then re-used to make other products. When choosing recycled products, look on the packaging for information about post-consumer content.

Paper makes up about 25% of our garbage, much of which could be diverted through recycling programs rather than ending up in overflowing landfills. It is time to be earth smart and recycle.

In November 2009 the *USS New York Battleship* sailed into New York Harbor. This new Navy assault ship was built with salvaged World Trade Center steel. That is recycling at its best.