



[recyclemoreminnesota.org](http://recyclemoreminnesota.org)

## Recycle MORE Minnesota

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## Top 10 Reasons to Recycle MORE

Taken in part from: <http://www.nrc-recycle.org/top10reasonstorecycle.aspx>

Recycling has many economic and environmental benefits for Minnesota. Listed below are just few that you may not have considered before...

### 1. Good For The Economy

American companies rely on recycling programs to provide the raw materials they need to make new products.

### 2. Creates Jobs

Recycling in the U.S. is a \$236-billion-a-year industry. More than 56,000 recycling and reuse enterprises employ 1.1 million workers nationwide.

### 3. Reduces Waste

The average Minnesotan discards over 6 pounds of garbage every day. Most of this garbage goes into landfills, where it's compacted and buried.

### 4. Good For The Environment

Recycling uses fewer natural resources and keeps waste from piling up in landfills.

### 5. Saves Energy

Recycling offers significant energy savings over manufacturing with virgin materials. (Manufacturing with recycled aluminum cans uses 95% less energy.)

### 6. Preserves Landfill Space

No one wants to live next door to a landfill. Recycling preserves existing landfill space.

### 7. Addresses Global Warming

In 2000 alone, recycling of solid waste prevented the release of 32.9 million metric tons of carbon equivalent (MMTCE, the unit of measure for greenhouse gases) into the air.

### 8. Reduces Water Pollution

Making goods from recycled materials generates far less water pollution than manufacturing from virgin materials.

### 9. Protects Wildlife

Using recycled materials reduces the need to damage forests, wetlands, rivers and other places essential to wildlife.

### 10. Creates New Demand

Recycling and buying recycled products creates demand for more recycled products, decreasing waste and helping our economy.

**About RAM:** The Recycling Association of Minnesota RAM is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization with more than 200 members from the public, private, and nonprofit sectors. RAM is the Minnesota affiliate of the National Recycling Coalition. RAM is committed to promoting resource conservation through waste prevention, reuse, recycling, composting and purchasing practices using the most cost effective and environmentally sound methods available in Minnesota.

**About Recycle MORE Minnesota:** The Recycle MORE Minnesota campaign is a joint effort between the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency and the Recycling Association of Minnesota to help increase awareness about recycling throughout the state. We are working with our partners to promote recycling at home, work and on the go. We are working to increase recycling rates in the state to 50% by 2011 through educational and social marketing efforts.

*January 2008. This sample fact sheet was provided by the MPCA and RAM as a part of the Recycle MORE Minnesota Education Campaign. Please help us track the use of this campaign. Please send an e-mail to [more@recycleminnesota.org](mailto:more@recycleminnesota.org) with a description of how the article was used, the date it will be published, and the estimated circulation of the publication. If you have any questions about the campaign, please contact Maggie Mattacola 651-641-4589.*