



recyclemoreminnesota.org

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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 ten; perhaps there are a few you hadn't 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 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. Established in 2008, we are working with our partners to promote recycling at home, work and on the go, with the goal of increasing the state recycling rate to 50% by 2011 through educational and social marketing efforts.

Help us track the use of this campaign!

This toolkit 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 info@recyclemoreminnesota.org with a description of how and when the materials were used and, if published, the estimated circulation of the publication. If you have any questions about the campaign, please contact us at (651) 296-6300.