



# Recycling Facts

- 1) The average person generates over 4 pounds of trash every day and about 1.5 tons of solid waste per year.
- 2) In 2009, Americans produced enough trash to circle the Earth 24 times.
- 3) Over 75% of waste is recyclable, but we only recycle 30% of it.
- 4) We generate 21.5 million tons of food waste each year. If we composted that food, it would reduce the same amount of greenhouse gas as taking 2 million cars off the road.
- 5) Recycling one aluminum can save enough energy to listen to one album on your iPod. Recycling 100 cans could light your bedroom for two weeks.
- 6) Recycling aluminum cans saves 95% of the energy used to make aluminum cans from new material.
- 7) Americans throw away 25,000,000 plastic bottles every hour.
- 8) Over 87% of Americans have access to curbside or drop off paper recycling programs.
- 9) In 2009, Americans threw away almost 9 million tons of glass. That could fill enough tractor trailers to stretch from NYC to LA (and back!).
- 10) In 2010, paper recycling had increased over 89% since 1990.
- 11) If every American recycled just one-tenth of their newspapers, we could save about 25 million trees each year.

Source: [www.dosomething.org](http://www.dosomething.org)

For other interesting facts about recycling, visit the following websites:

[www.greenwaste.com](http://www.greenwaste.com) Green Waste

[www.kab.org](http://www.kab.org) Keep America Beautiful

Also visit Pennsylvania's Recycling Homepage:

[www.dep.state.pa.us/dep/deputate/airwaste/wm/recycle/recycle.htm](http://www.dep.state.pa.us/dep/deputate/airwaste/wm/recycle/recycle.htm)