

Top 10 Reasons to Recycle

1. **Good For Our Economy:** American manufacturing companies rely on recycling programs to provide the raw materials they need to make new products. The more material Americans recycle, the more American jobs can be created.
 2. **Creates Jobs:** Recycling in the U.S. is a \$236 billion a year industry. More than 56,000 recycling and reuse enterprises employ over 1.1 million workers nationwide.
 3. **Reduces Waste:** The average American discards 7 1/2 pounds of garbage each day. Most of this garbage goes into to landfills where it's compacted & buried. Recycling puts these resources back into our economy.
 4. **Good For The Environment:** Recycling requires far less energy, uses fewer natural resources, and keeps waste from piling up in landfills - Cleaner Air, Cleaner Water, More Beautiful Landscapes
 5. **Saves Energy:** Recycling offers significant energy savings over manufacturing with virgin materials. Compared to solar and wind energy, which can take decades to pay for themselves, recycling gives an immediate return on investment.
 6. **Preserves Landfill Space:** No one wants to live next to a landfill. Recycling extends the useful life of existing landfill space.
 7. **Helps Prevent Air Pollution:** Much less energy is required to make new recycled products than to make new virgin products. Since fewer natural resources (i.e. fossil fuels) are used in the manufacturing process, we can all breathe a little easier.
 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 & other places essential to wildlife.
 10. **Creates New Demand:** Recycling & buying recycled products creates demand for more recycled products, decreasing waste & helping our economy.
- Adapted from the National Recycling Coalition (NRC)