



# ALL BUSINESS & COMMERCIAL RECYCLING

*Saving our Earth...together*

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## WHY RECYCLING MATTERS!

- It prevents pollution.
- It reduces greenhouse energy.
- It creates cost savings to everyone.
- It prolongs the lifespan of landfills.
- It conserves natural resources and energy.
- It provides a sense of community wherever it exists.
- It creates jobs and increases the economic development for communities.

Any plastic that can be recycled helps our environment. Over 91% of the plastics generated in 2012 (28,750,000 Ton) ended up in landfills. Plastic consumes landfill space quicker than other waste item. By weight, it makes up 8% of our country's Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) but makes up 24% of its volume. Most importantly, plastic is virtually non-biodegradable. Therefore, plastic going into our landfills remains in our landfills.

Fiber is one of the most recyclable and recycled waste commodities in our country. In 2012 the U.S. generated 68.62 million ton of fiber (paper and cardboard) and recovered 44.36 million tons, representing nearly 65% of paper and cardboard generated. It is more environmentally friendly because in time will biodegrade. But environmental savings from recycling fiber is huge.

Using virgin material consumes more energy and incurs extra extraction and transportation costs than using recycled material. Energy savings from recycling also occurs because the materials have already undergone the manufacturing process. It takes 40% less energy to use recycled newspaper and 70% less energy to use recycled plastics than virgin materials. Recycled iron takes 75% less energy to create than iron created from raw materials. Recycling also helps America reduce its reliance on oil. These facts are hard to ignore.

### **Recycling one ton of plastics saves:**

- 500 gallons of gasoline
- 16.3 barrels of crude oil
- 30.0 cubic yards of landfill space

### **Recycling one ton of metals saves:**

- 2500# of iron ore
- 1400# of coal
- 120# of limestone

### **Recycling one ton of paper saves:**

- 17 trees
- 7,000 gallons of water
- 463 gallons of oil
- 3.3 cubic yards of landfill space

### **Recycling one ton of cardboard saves:**

- 390 KWH of energy
- 1.1 barrels (46 gallons) of oil
- 6.6 million BTU's of energy
- 9 cubic yards of landfill space