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Recycling Facts And Fundamentals That You Need To Know

During these times, the headlines are often filled with horror stories about pollution, environmental degradation and the outbreak of more serious diseases. While most of us shrug our shoulders in utter helplessness, the truth is that we can actually do something to reverse the tide of environmental degradation, and we can start by doing some simple initiatives right in our own backyards. Recycling is one thing we could easily do. Here are some basic facts about recycling, and why we need to reduce, reuse and recycle.

What Is Recycling?

By definition, recycling refers to the processing of used materials into new products or items, to prevent the wasteful disposal of useful materials, as well as reduce air, water and soil pollution, and lessen the need for conventional waste disposal methods. The recyclable materials include different types of paper, glass, plastic, metal, textiles and electronics.

Other forms of recycling include composting, which involves the reuse of biodegradable wastes like food or garden waste. The process of recycling either involves bringing recyclable materials into a collection center, or these are picked up in garbage bins, and are sorted, cleaned and re-processed into new materials at the local recycling facility.

Important Recycling Facts And Details You Should Know

Most of this information comes straight from the Recycling pros. Careful reading to the end virtually guarantees that you'll know what they know.

Here are some disturbing facts that we all need to know, which should remind us of just how wasteful and irresponsible we have all become.

- According to environment groups, the average American uses around seven trees a year in wood, paper and other wood by-products. The amount of wood and paper that we throw in our landfills each year is more than enough to heat 50,000,000 for the next twenty years.
- Used aluminum beverage cans are among the most easily-recyclable items today. A used aluminum can be recycled and returned back to the grocery shelf in as little as 60 days, and recycling one aluminum can saves enough energy to power a television set for 3 hours.
- 2.5 million plastic bottles are used in the United States each day, and most of them are thrown away. The plastics and other types of trash that end up in our seas and oceans are estimated to kill as much as 1 million sea creatures every year. Recycling plastic can save as much energy as compared to burning it in incinerators.
- 16 billion diapers, 1.6 billion pens, 220 million car tires, and 2 billion razor blades are discarded each year in the US alone. The United States is the number one garbage-producing nation in the planet, which amounts to an estimated 1,609 pounds of trash per person.
- A single quart of improperly disposed motor oil is enough to contaminate as much as 2 million gallons of fresh water. Motor oil never wears out, but only gets dirty. Oil however, can be recycled, refined and re-used again.

Now you can understand why there's a growing interest in Recycling. When people start looking for more information about Recycling, you'll be in a position to meet their needs.

About the Author

By Anders Eriksson, feel free to visit his Perpetual20 affiliate site for great bonuses: [Perpetual 20](#)

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