



Waste Line

Fall 2002

Your Recycling Newsletter

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WHAT'S IN AMERICA'S TRASH???

According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's "Consumer Handbook for Reducing Solid Waste", America's Trash can be classified into the following types:

PAPER—40.4% 71.6 million tons

YARD WASTE—17.6% 31.6 million tons

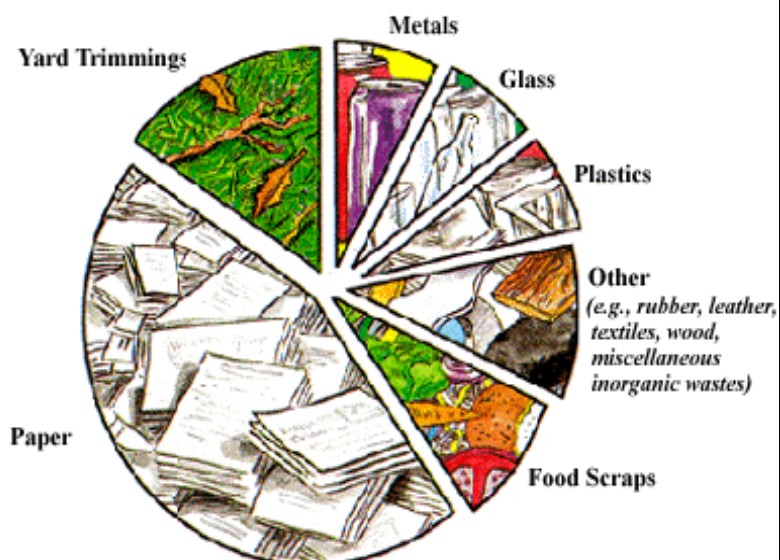
METALS—8.5% 15.3 million tons

PLASTICS—8.0% 14.4 million tons

FOOD SCRAPS—7.4% 13.2 million tons

GLASS—7.0% 12.5 million tons

OTHER—11.6% 20.8 million tons (e.g., rubber, leather, textiles, wood, miscellaneous inorganic wastes)



In 2001, residents of Brevard County generated 773,066 tons of trash! With a population of 485,178, each resident generated 8.73 pounds of trash a DAY!

What can YOU do to reduce the amount of trash produced in Brevard County? Start today by following the 3R's! REDUCE the amount of waste you create, REUSE as much as you can, and RECYCLE everything you can!

REDUCE the amount of waste by purchasing products with the least packaging. Buy a large bag of chips instead of smaller, individual packages. REUSE what you have. When you buy the large bag of chips, put individual portions into reusable plastic containers. Donate used books, videos, etc. to your local library. Have a yard sale and sell those outgrown children's

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2002 Phone Book Recycling a Big Success



McNair Magnet School 2002 Middle School Winners

The Brevard County Solid Waste Management Department, in partnership with the League of Women Voters of the Space Coast and The Talking Phone Book challenged school children throughout Brevard County to collect phone books for recycling. The students, teachers, and parents met the challenge! The Talking Phone Book Company generously donated \$3,300.00 for cash prizes in a contest between all Brevard County Public Schools. The contest was divided into three categories; elementary school, middle school, and high school. The award was based on the number of phone books collected compared to the number of students at each school.

Rockledge High School collected 7,139 phone books, McNair Magnet School collected 2,820 phone books and Freedom 7 Elementary School collected 3,662 phone books! Each first place winner received a cash award of \$250.00. Every participating school recycling at least 1/2 book per student received a cash award as well. There was a total of 40 schools participating for a total of 69,754 phone books weighing 348,770 pounds! This was a 70% increase over last year's totals. Additionally, the number of schools participating was up 52%. New phone books are delivered in March-April in Brevard. Look for the 2002-2003 school year contest next April and donate your old books to your local school.



Dear R.C.



Dear R.C.



How can I reduce the amount of junk mail that my family receives?

Good question! Register with the name removal file by mailing your name, home address and signature on a letter or postcard to:

Mail Preference Service Direct Marketing Association, P.O. Box 9008, Farmingdale, NY 11735-9008.

Within three months, your junk mail should decrease by about 75%. Doesn't that sound great! Less material that ends up in the trash and cluttering up your countertops.

More than 10 BILLION pieces of third-class mail are discarded each year unopened.



My family gets a new cellular phone each year when we sign our yearly contract. What can we do with our old phones?

It does seem like every new contract includes a new phone with better options, but did you know that you can call local women's shelters to find out if they will accept donations of old cell phones. They are refurbished and given to women with emergency numbers preprogrammed into the phone. There is a web site you can go to for more information on cell phone recycling: www.wirelessfoundation.org

The rechargeable batteries from your phone contain nickel and cadmium, so don't throw them in your trash. Call the Recycling Hotline, 633-2043, for the location of a drop-off site near you.

rePLANET RECYCLING AT TWO LOCAL WAL-MARTS

Since June of this year, rePLANET recycling facilities have opened up at two local Wal-Mart Supercenters located in Melbourne on the corner of Wickham and Sarno Road, and on Palm Bay Road in West Melbourne. These freestanding structures can be found in the parking lots and are set up as a market test for Tomra of North America, Inc. and Wal-Mart. They hope to open more of these simple to use facilities across Florida. Recycling customers simply insert an aluminum can or plastic beverage bottle into the slot found on the outside of the facility and receive a ticket indicating the number of containers they recycled. This ticket can be taken inside Wal-Mart and be redeemed for cash or merchandise inside the store. Customers will be given 1 penny per item deposited. Pam Shoemaker, Brevard County's Recycling Coordinator, is excited about encouraging more people to recycle. "It keeps these materials out of the landfill and ultimately helps us save expensive landfill space." "It's a good fundraiser at local sporting events," says Erin LeClair, Brevard County's Recycling Educator. "I volunteer at Melbourne High School's Football home games and could not stand to see all the plastic bottles and aluminum cans going into the trash." With the help of other dedicated band parents over 500 bottles were collected at the September 20th game and brought to the rePlanet facility at Wal-Mart for recycling. "It doesn't hurt that we get paid for them too," says LeClair. For more information on how to start recycling at your games call the Brevard County Recycling Hotline at 633-2043.

EARTH 911 AND YOU

There is an exciting website for children and adults who want to learn more about recycling, pollution prevention, and how we can do our part to help protect the environment. It's EARTH 911 website and you can find it on the internet at:

www.CLEANUP.org

EARTH 911 operates as a free public service through the support of a number of private sector partners. The partners understand the importance of empowering citizens with the resources to improve their quality of life and to ensure the preservation of our natural resources for future generations. You can also access the EARTH 911 network through their toll free number:

1-800-CLEANUP

clothes to your neighbors! RECYCLE your newspapers and the shiny inserts, glass bottles and jars (all colors), aluminum cans (don't forget the tuna and cat food cans!), and plastic bottles with  or a  on the bottom.



Remember to close the Recycling Loop by buying products with recycled contents. Look for this symbol whether you're shopping for computer paper or toilet paper!



Recycling just one aluminum can saves enough electricity to run a computer for three hours.



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MEET THE RECYCLE GUYS!!



Visit them at the Earth 911 website:
www.cleanup.org

Other websites of interest to recyclers:

<http://www.epa.gov/recyclecity/>
<http://kidsface.org/>
<http://www.container-recycling.org/>
<http://www.napcor.com/>
<http://www.gpi.org/Recycling.html>

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If you have received this newsletter in error and would like to be removed from our mailing list, please call the recycling hotline at 633-2043 and we will remove your name from our files.