

If today is a typical day on planet earth, humans will add fifteen million tons of carbon to the atmosphere, destroy 115 square miles of tropical rainforest, create seventy-two square miles of desert, eliminate between forty to one hundred species, erode seventy-one million tons of topsoil, add twenty-seven hundred tons of CFCs to the stratosphere, and increase their population by 263,000.

The U.S. is the #1 trash producing country in the world at more than 1,600 pounds per person per year. This means that 5% of the world's people generate 40% of the world's waste. The United States produces 251 million tons of trash annually, yet only 82 million tons of material is recycled.

Approximately 1 billion trees worth of paper are thrown away every year in the U.S. Producing recycled paper requires about 60 percent of the energy used to make paper from virgin wood pulp.

Recycling plastic uses 80 percent less energy than manufacturing plastic from virgin materials.

Recycling plastic saves twice as much energy as burning it in an incinerator.

If every American household recycled just one out of every ten HDPE bottles they used, we'd keep 200 million pounds of the plastic out of landfills every year.

Recycled plastic is also made into plastic lumber, clothing, flower pots, insulation for sleeping bags & ski jackets, car bumpers and now—GreenScene® Stage equipment.

Recycling aluminum saves about 95% of the energy it would take to produce aluminum from its original source, bauxite.

Recycling 1 ton of aluminum saves the energy equivalent of the amount of electricity used by the average home in 10 years.

When you toss out one aluminum can you waste as much energy as if you'd filled the same can half-full of gasoline and poured it into the ground.

Aluminum cans typically have a recycled aluminum content of about 55%

Americans throw away enough aluminum every month to rebuild our entire commercial air fleet.

A steel mill using recycled scrap reduces related water pollution, air pollution and mining wastes by about 70%.

About 70% of all metal is used just once and is discarded. The remaining 30% is recycled. After 5 cycles, one-fourth of 1% of the metal remains in circulation.

These recycling facts have been compiled from various sources including the National Recycling Coalition, the Environmental Protection Agency, and Earth911.org.



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