

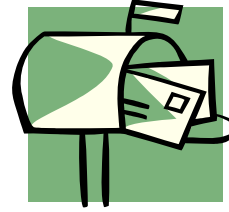
Facts and Statistics

- It takes 430,000 gallons of oil to produce 100 million plastic bags used in super-markets.
- 40% of landfill waste is paper.
- 70% of household trash is recyclable, but only 25% is actually recycled.
- New Jersey has the highest recycling rate of any state in the US (56%).
- An estimated 222 million tons of waste will be produced annually by Americans.
- The U.S. Postal Service delivers over 87 billion pieces of advertising and promotional mail every year; over 100 million trees are destroyed every year for junk mail.
- Electronic equipment such as cell phones, televisions, radios and microwave ovens comprise a large part of landfill waste that can be used.



You Can Make a Difference

- Say “no” to junk mail by avoiding sending items such as product warranty cards in the mail. Organizations such as Catalogue Choice (<http://www.cataloguechoice.org>) and the Mail Preference Service (MPS) can help reduce household junk mail amounts by 85%.
- Print double-sided on your home or office printer when working on drafts, etc.
- Instead of plastic plates, utensils, and cups, choose reusable items when possible.



- Start a compost pile in your backyard with food scraps and yard waste. They will decompose and create new soil.
- Approximately 1/3 of our waste comes from packaging products. Reuse and recycle paper products and packages.

anjec
association of new jersey
environmental commissions

PO Box 157
Mendham, NJ 07945
Phone: 973-539-7547
www.anjec.org

For more information, contact the ANJEC Resource Center: 973-539-7547 or resourcecenter@anjec.org.

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Reduce
Reuse
Recycle

Make a difference in your community and help save the planet by learning more about efficient ways to **reduce, reuse, and recycle.**

By minimizing the amount of waste we produce at home and work, we can help solve the growing pollution problem in the United States. Reducing your carbon footprint is the first step in helping to save the planet.

Reduce

Avoid Excess Packaging and Plastic Wrap

- Use containers instead of plastic wrap for sandwiches and foods to reduce the amount of unnecessary packaging.
- Buying items in bulk uses less resources than purchasing several individual items.
- Use sponges and towels for cleaning instead of paper towels.
- Don't ask for a bag at the grocery store if you are only purchasing a few items.



- Buy individual fruits and vegetables rather than those wrapped in plastic.

Reuse

Reusable Shopping Bags and Rechargeable Batteries Reduce Excess Waste

- Bring your own shopping bag to the store. These bags are made from material such as recycled plastic and cloth and often hold more groceries than a paper or plastic bag.
- Use rechargeable batteries to reduce the amount of toxic waste produced. When they are thrown away in landfills, the acid can leak out and contaminate the environment.
- Over fifteen billion batteries are thrown away each year. Rechargeable batteries can be used hundreds of times before being thrown away.



Recycle

Recycle Paper and Buy Reusable Water Bottles

- Recycling paper uses 30 to 55% less energy than it does to make new paper.
- An average business creates about 1.5 pounds of paper per employee every day; and 77% of it is recyclable.
- 40 million bottles a day are not recycled, and turn into waste.
- Instead of bottled water, use tap water in reusable water bottles.
- Purchase refillable containers for items like laundry detergent.



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