

Recycling saves natural resources/water, air and ground pollution

	Every ton recycled saves	Benefits/Uses
Aluminum	90% energy (energy from <i>one can</i> lights a 100-watt bulb or TV for 3 hours) 95% less emissions from energy savings Extraction of natural resources Landfill space; leachates into ground water	Fund raisers Full bag = 8 lbs. 100% recyclable--indefinitely Cans may be back on grocery shelf in 60 days. Building products, cans, cars, electrical cables, foil products
Electronics & Cell phones	40% of lead in landfills is from electronics. Mercury, lithium, dioxins. 70% heavy metals in landfills from e-waste	Refurbished for reuse 97% parts recyclable
Glass	25% of energy vs. from virgin (every ton saves energy to light 100-watt bulb 4 hours) 9 gal fuel oil 50% less water pollution 20% less air pollution	Containers, floors, tiles, countertops, ornaments, dinnerware, road base, cover in landfills. Infinite re-use. In short supply.
Paper Junk mail Magazines Cardboard Phone books Books	17 trees 463 gal. oil 7000 gal. water (35%) 3 cu. yards landfill space 4100 kilowatt hrs. energy (60%) 850 lbs CO2 emissions per year (74% less air pollution)	Stationery, copy paper, insulation, pencils/pens, can labels. End products like tissue, towels and paper napkins from shredded. Landfills produce most of human-made methane.
Plastic Bottles (95% of bottles from #1,2)	Crude oil, expense of drilling, refining, shipping, trucking (lighter than glass for transport) Spoilage reduced Bottles may stay unaltered in landfill 700-1000 years Landfill space	Containers, carpet, ski jacket & sleeping bag fill, fleece, tennis balls, furniture, deck planking, furniture, shoes, auto parts.
Polystyrene	Does not break down; can recycle only non-food, i.e. packing material	To shipping businesses, or Advance Foam Plastics, 5250 N. Sherman St., to recycle formed polystyrene into insulation
Steel	90 "tin cans" recycled save: 144 KWh electricity 63 lbs. coal 11. lbs. iron 5.4 lbs. limestone 60% less energy than from iron ore. Re-use over and over	Cans, cars, appliances, construction. <i>Sources</i> EPA., CAFR.org., Eco-cycle.org., earth911.org

-Colorado's recycling rate is 5th worst in the country: 5.5%. National rate is 28.6%. Colorado is country's top 5th in waste created/person. (*BioCycle* magazine, 12/08.)

-10 jobs could be created in processing recyclables, and 25 in recycling-based manufacturing, for every job created in landfilling & incineration. (Institute of Local Self-Reliance)

-New research from UK (*Eco-Cycle* Summer '09): Recycling paper and plastic, even when shipped to China, generates less greenhouse gases than does landfilling and manufacturing from virgin resources.

-Paper industry produces 3x climate emissions of airline industry, globally (6/09 Resource Recycling).