

Why Recycling is Good (Re-use and Reduce is even more beneficial)

PRODUCTION BENEFITS

Less Energy to Produce Same Product – overall effects of energy usage lowered, including lowering global climate change gases.

Recycling in PA in 1996 saved enough energy to power over 121,000 homes.

Recycling in PA in 1996 reduced global climate change gases by 1 million tons, or the amount emitted by 750,000 cars.

Save Nature Resources and Habitats – using recycled content lowers use of virgin materials and degradation of habitats, especially for mining.

95% of USA's virgin forests have been cut down and less than 20% of paper manufactured in US comes from tree farms.

Less Toxins, Pollution to Produce Same Product – manufacturing from recycled content lowers the amount of industrial processing since material has been processed before. This includes dioxins for paper manufacturing.

WASTE MANAGEMENT BENEFITS

Less Methane from Landfills - as we remove organics from landfills and recycle or compost them
Recycling or Reusing Hazardous Waste – it is absolutely essential that we keep hazardous compounds embedded in products out of incinerators and landfills

Economically Beneficial – compared to land filling or incineration, recycling produces many more jobs.

Recycling and Reuse in PA (recent information):

3,247 Recycling and Reuse Facilities

81,322 employees

2.8 billion dollars in annual payroll

18.3 billion dollars in annual revenues

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