

RECYCLING

A collection area is provided inside the school for the gathering and storage of nonhazardous materials to be recycled. 82 million tons of waste was diverted from the United States landfills in 2006 and recycled. In contrast, 15 million tons of waste was recycled in 1980. Every year in the United States we are able to reduce the amount of waste that saturates our landfills. Typical materials that are recycled in schools are paper, corrugated cardboard, glass, plastics, and metals. Recycling prevents the emission of many greenhouse gases and water pollutants, saves energy, supplies valuable raw materials to industry, creates jobs, stimulates the development of greener technologies, conserves resources for our children's future, and reduces the need for new landfills and combustors. Recycling also helps reduce greenhouse gas emissions that affect global climate. In 1996, recycling of solid waste in the United States prevented the release of 33 million tons of carbon into the air, roughly the amount emitted annually by 25 million cars.



RECYCLED MATERIALS

The building itself uses many materials that have a recycled content. Some examples are steel, aluminum, carpeting and concrete. The recycled content of the school building material is over 20%. The above picture shows how carpet fibers, both new and recycled, are combined to form the school's carpets. The carpet itself has a recycled content of over 68%.

CONSTRUCTION WASTE MANAGEMENT

Over 75% of construction debris was recycled or salvaged at this site, diverting it from disposal in landfills and incinerators. The types of materials that are good candidates to be recycled instead of hauled to a landfill are: cardboard, metal, brick, acoustical tile, concrete, plastic, clean wood, glass, gypsum wallboard, carpet, and insulation. Clean fill was diverted from landfill and sent to the Lancaster County Airport where it was used for a runway extension.



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