

Did You Know?

- By purchasing recycled products, consumers are helping to create long-term stable markets for the recyclable materials that are collected from New Jersey homes, businesses and institutions.
- The purchase of recycled products is crucial to the success of New Jersey's many recycling programs, as well as recycling in general which has proven to be both an environmental and economic success story.
- The State of New Jersey purchases a variety of recycled products for its government operations, including recycled copy paper, paper towels, garbage bags, toner cartridges, antifreeze, traffic cones and road construction aggregate.
- American businesses demonstrate their commitment to buying recycled by purchasing billions of dollars of recycled content products annually.
- In addition to preserving natural resources and saving energy, recycling employs almost 27,000 people in New Jersey and adds almost \$6 billion in annual receipts to our state's economy.



New Jersey's Recycling Law and Recycling Rules

New Jersey Statewide Mandatory Source Separation and Recycling Act - [New Jersey Statutes Annotated \(N.J.S.A.\) 13:1E-99.11 et seq.](#)

New Jersey's Recycling Rules - [New Jersey Administrative Code \(N.J.A.C.\) 7:26A](#)

New Jersey State Recycling Organizations:

[Association of New Jersey Recyclers](#)

[The New Jersey WasteWise Business Network](#)



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Rutgers Wins!

Rutgers took first place in the **Gorilla Prize** (2.8 million lbs. of recyclables in 10 weeks) and in **Food Service Organics** (50 lbs/person). We placed second in **Per Capita Classic** (71 lbs/person) and **Bottles & Cans** (19 lbs/person); third in the **Grand Champion** (63% recycling rate); fourth in **Corrugated Cardboard** (30 lbs/person); and sixth in **Paper** (21 lbs/person).

In 10 weeks, 400 colleges and universities diverted 58.6 million pounds of recyclables from ending up in the landfills. This prevented greenhouse gas emissions of 25,342 metric tons of carbon equivalent (MTCE) from entering the atmosphere. This equates to a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions that is approximately equivalent to: 15,439 passenger cars not driven for one year, 9,568,241 gallons of gasoline, 196,038 barrels of oil, 11,165 household electricity use for one year, 588 acres of forest preserved from deforestation, or 2,161,441 tree seedlings grown for 10 years!



RECYCLE Paper Books, Catalogs, Junk mail, Magazines, Newspaper, Office paper (all colors) Phone books, Containers plastics (#1 through #7) glass & cans, Cardboard, Food Services Organics



Buy Recycled!

Source Reduction (Waste Reduction)

What is it?

Source Reduction is the first tier of the solid waste management hierarchy. The term source reduction is used to describe those activities that decrease the amount (weight or volume) or toxicity of waste entering the solid waste stream. Simply stated, source reduction means cutting disposal by going right to the source: deciding not to make or buy something. It can also mean cutting down on disposal of toxic materials by going to the source and making products out of less toxic feedstock. It also includes those activities that increase product durability, reusability and reparability.

Why Do It?

Source Reduction saves natural resources, and saves the fuel needed to change those resources into products. It saves landfill space. It can save you or your business money in disposal and replacement costs. Everything in your trash each week costs you money the day you bought it, and costs you money to remove, and placed a burden on the environment when it was made. It all took energy to produce, and when you throw the item out, you are giving up on all that investment of energy and materials. To learn more about how we use up resources, and how we can minimize our impact on the earth, visit:

http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/english/static/in_depth/world/2002/disposable_planet/waste/

<http://www.sustainablefootprint.org/en/cms/gebruikerscherm.asp?itemID=196>

Attributes of Recycled Products

- High Quality - Recycled products meet the highest quality standards. Increased demand and major changes in technology have resulted in improved products that are comparable in quality to products made with virgin materials.
- Readily Available - Recycled products are available in major retail stores, building supply centers, hardware stores, garden centers, through catalogs and over the Internet.
- Affordable - Recycled products often cost less than products made with virgin materials! Consider enhanced durability and reduced maintenance costs for higher priced items.
- Diverse - There are over 1,000 different types of recycled products on the market!

In 2007, Rutgers recycled 20,000 tons of solid waste which resulted in the reduction of 4,000 metric tons of carbon equivalent introduced into the atmosphere. This is equivalent to removing 3,480 cars from the road for a year; 374,433 tree seedlings grown for 10 years; and, 1,841,311 gallons of gasoline!

Look for these other publications from the Purchasing Department:

- Easy Ways to Go Green
- Save Water
- Zero Waste

<http://purchasing.rutgers.edu/green/>