



AMERICA RECYCLES DAY®

A KEEP AMERICA BEAUTIFUL® PROGRAM

NOVEMBER 15

Why Recycling Matters

Fast Facts

Recycling in the U.S.

Recycling allows individuals to **give new life** to the products they use. When manufacturers use recycled materials in their products, not only does it conserve natural resources and reduce waste in landfills, but it also reduces greenhouse gas emissions through energy savings.

Our national recycling rate of 34.5 percent annually:

Sends 87 million tons of material to a useful second life instead of the landfill.

Saves Americans the equivalent of the **annual energy consumption of nearly 10 million U.S. households** per year.

Avoids greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions equivalent to removing more than **33 million cars from the road each year.**



Steel

Recycle your food can and it could become part of a bike, or even a bridge!



Aluminum

Your soda can could become part of a stadium! Venues like the Baltimore Ravens football stadium are made with recycled aluminum. ¹



Glass

Recycling one glass bottle saves enough energy to power a television for 20 minutes. That's a whole episode of your favorite show if you don't count the commercials! ²



Paper

In 2012, Americans trashed enough paper to cover 20,500 football fields in paper three feet deep. ³



Plastic

The amount of plastic bottles recycled in 2012 provided the raw material needed to make nearly 8 million XL t-shirts. ⁴