

Recycling does make a Difference

Recycling is good for the environment and good for Georgia's economy

Paper mills uses 40% less energy to make paper from recycled paper than they do making paper from virgin timber.¹

A ton of paper made from recycled fibers conserves 7,000 gallons of water²

Georgia has strong markets for recyclables

Georgia's Paper Industry³

- Accounts for \$10 billion in annual product sales
- Has an annual payroll of over \$1 billion, employing 25,000 employees
- Recycles almost 8% of all the paper consumed in the United States
- Includes 16 paper mills using recycled content, 9 relying exclusively on recycled fiber

Plastic Beverage Containers (PET)⁴

- 1/3rd of all Plastic Beverage Containers recycled in N. America get recycled in Georgia – turned into carpet
- 8.7 billion in annual product sales
- Almost 2% of the state's workforce employing approx. 75,000 employees
- 54 of the 495 plastic manufacturers use recycled plastic in their operations

Aluminum Recycling

- Novelis, an aluminum recycler in Greensboro GA
- Import cans from across N. America

Glass Recycling

- 2 Manufacturers in the state using recycled glass

State is launching a new recycling initiative:

Statewide Commodity Based Goals

Regional Recycling Hubs –

Away-From Home Recycling -- Recycle 4 Georgia

Marketing Campaign

Per Capita MSW Disposal Rate/MSW Reduction Goal					
Commodity	Actual 2004 Lbs/person	Projected 2012 Lbs/person	Projected % 2012	Projected 2017 Lbs/person	Projected % 2017
Glass	0.153	0.140	8%	0.140	8%
Paper	1.181	1.000	15%	0.850	28%
Metal	0.228	0.198	13%	0.186	18%
Plastic	0.663	0.560	16%	0.530	20%
Total	2.23	1.99	11%	1.71	23%

Recycle 4 Georgia

We need to recycle: Paper, Glass, Metal, and Plastic⁵

- Georgians annually throw away an estimate 2.6 million tons of common, every day recyclables, with an estimated market value of over \$300 million (DCA/Feb 08 Market Values)
- Georgians throw away
 - 1.9 million tons of paper a year
 - 320,000 tons of newsprint, -- market value of \$43 million
 - 730,000 tons of Cardboard -- \$84 million
 - 225,000 tons of Office Paper -- \$50 million
 - 1.0 million tons of plastic
 - 90,000 tons of Plastic Beverage Containers -- \$30 million
 - 500,000 tons of Film Plastic
 - 360,000 tons of metal
 - 48,000 tons of aluminum cans -- \$89 million
 - 240,000 tons of glass
- If we recycled just 1.7 million tons of the aluminum, paper, glass, and plastic thrown away annually in Georgia, we would⁶
 - Conserve 4% of the total energy consumed annually within the state or the equivalent of the transportation energy consumed by over 1,000,000 Georgians each year; and
 - Conserve over 7 million barrels of oil calculated at an annual savings of almost \$700 million.
- The energy and commodity values alone represent over a billion dollars a year in potential market value in Georgia.

Recycle 4 You!

Individual action does make a difference. Did you know that recycling can save enough energy to offset the energy you consume to light a room, run a computer, and watch TV? It can even offset the water you use in your shower!

- Recycling 1 glass bottle will save enough energy to light a 100-watt light bulb for 4 hrs⁷
- Recycling 1 aluminum can will run a computer for 3 hours⁸
- Recycling 1 soft drink bottle will save enough energy to run a TV for 1 ½ hours⁹; and
- Recycling 5 lbs of paper will conserve enough water to “offset” the water used in a typical shower.¹⁰

You can make a difference, please recycle.

¹ Department of Energy EIA Kids Page – Recycling Paper and Glass

² Department of Energy EIA Kids Page – Recycling Paper and Glass

³ Paper Economic Impact Stats from Moore & Associates

⁴ Plastic Economic Impact Stats from DCA/GRC Study

⁵ Disposal Rates & Market Values from DCA Waste Characterization Study & Feb 2008 Market Prices

⁶ Energy Conservation based on information from NRDC and Consumption information from GEFA

⁷ San Diego County Office of Education

⁸ California Integrated Waste Management Board

⁹ California Integrated Waste Management Board

¹⁰ Based on water conservation information published by DOE