

RCBC Recycling Fact Sheets

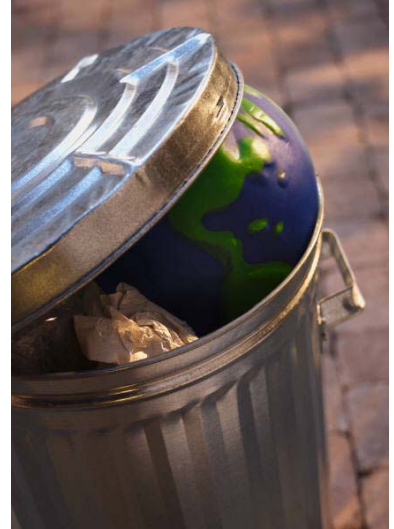
Waste Prevention Facts

What a waste!

In a lifetime, the average North American will throw away **600 times his or her adult weight in garbage**. (A 68 kg adult will leave a legacy of **40, 825 kg of trash** for his/her children)!

Did you know?

By the age of six months the average Canadian has consumed the same amount of resources as the average person in the developing world consumes in a lifetime.



Garbage makes a greenhouse

Recycling all of your home's waste newsprint, cardboard, glass, and metal can reduce carbon dioxide emissions by **400 kg a year**.

Landfill sites account for about **38% of Canada's total methane** emissions. Methane is *20 times more potent* as a greenhouse gas than carbon dioxide.

Think your garbage costs nothing? Think again.

Across Canada, it costs more than **\$1.5 billion per year to dispose of garbage**.

Recycling works!

Incinerating 10,000 tons of waste creates **one job**.

Landfilling 10,000 tons of waste creates **six jobs**.

Recycling 10,000 tons of waste creates **36 jobs!**

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Waste Prevention Facts

Ready, Set, Recycle!



17 million Canadians, nearly two-thirds of us, have access to recycling.

The total time it takes a householder to recycle is just a little over **two minutes per day**.

Material in Focus: Aluminum

You can make **20 aluminum cans** out of recycled material with the same amount of energy it takes to make one new one.

Nearly **55 percent** of a new aluminum can is made from recycled aluminum.

Aluminum cans only take **6 weeks** to be manufactured, filled, sold, recycled, remanufactured, refilled and put back out into the marketplace. When not recycled, they take approximately **300 years** to disintegrate in the landfill.

Throwing away an aluminum beverage container wastes as much energy as pouring out a soda can **half-filled with gasoline**.

American consumers and industry throw away enough aluminum to rebuild **the entire U.S. commercial air fleet** every 3 months.



Aluminum Recycling in Canada

Canadians recycle more than **2 billion aluminum cans per year**.

Recycling **one tonne of aluminum** replaces the consumption of 4 tonnes of bauxite and 700 kg of petroleum coke and pitch, and avoids the emission of 35 kg of aluminum fluoride.

For more information:

Web: www.rcbc.bc.ca

Call: 604-RECYCLE or 1-800-667-4321

