

RECYCLING—A GREEN RESOLUTION

A message from Liberty Mutual Insurance

As we ring in the new year, we suggest a green resolution – recycling. If you aren't currently recycling, take a look at just how many resources are saved and what a hugely positive impact it makes, and get involved.

The Problem

Here are some numbers from the Environmental Protection Agency to put the amount of waste created by Americans in perspective.

- Every year nearly 900,000,000 trees are cut down to provide raw materials for American paper and pulp mills.
- Americans throw away about 28 billion bottles and jars every year.
- Americans make more than 200 million tons of garbage each year.
- It takes an entire 15-year-old tree to produce 700 grocery bags.
- Each year Americans throw away 25,000,000,000 Styrofoam cups. Even 500 years from now, the foam coffee cup you used this morning will be sitting in a landfill.

The Solution

Taking advantage of recycling programs can go a long way toward both reducing waste and conserving valuable resources.

- One ton of recycled plastic bottles saves enough energy to power a two-person household for a year.
- Recycling one aluminum can saves enough energy to power a TV for three hours.
- Making paper from recycled materials reduces air pollution from production by 95%.
- Recycling a three-foot stack of newspapers saves one tree.
- Glass can be recycled and remanufactured infinite times.
- Making glass from recycled materials reduces related water pollution by half.
- Recycling one glass jar saves enough electricity to light an 11-watt bulb for 20 hours.
- Recycling 1 ton of cardboard saves 46 gallons of oil.

If your area doesn't provide recycling services, why not start a program? The EPA has outlined the [six key considerations](#) when starting a recycling program.

Thank you for reducing, reusing and recycling, as it helps protect our planet. To learn more about protecting your home and car or to get a free, no-obligation quote, call Liberty Mutual at 800-809-9778 or visit www.libertymutual.com/nar

SOURCES:

<http://www.earth911.com/inspire/programs-initiatives/start-a-community-recycling-program>

<http://www.epa.gov/reg3wcmd/solidwasterecyclingfacts.htm>

<http://recycleacrossamerica.org/recycling-facts>

<http://www2.epa.gov/recycle>