

Recycling Statistics and Results



Benefits of Recycling

- **Protects** and creates jobs
- **Reduces** the need for landfilling and incineration
- **Prevents** pollution caused by the manufacturing of products from virgin materials
- **Saves** energy
- **Decreases** emissions of greenhouse gases that contribute to global climate change
- **Conserves** natural resources such as timber, water and minerals
- **Helps** sustain the environment for the future

Source: US Environmental Protection Agency

4.6 pounds/person/day

The United States Environmental Protection Agency estimates that each person creates **4.6 pounds** of trash each day.

	<u>Average Person</u>	<u>Average Family</u>
One Day	4.6 pounds	18 pounds
One Week	32 pounds	129 pounds
One Month	142 pounds	570 pounds
One Year	1,679 pounds	6,716 pounds

Recycling in Virginia

In 1989 the Virginia General Assembly passed legislation requiring localities to recycle a minimum of 25% of the waste generated by citizens

	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>
Virginia	38%	37%	30%	30%	32%
Central Virginia	44%	39%	44%	44%	45%

Results of Recycling

Newspapers
are recycled into newsprint.



Other paper is used to make paper products such as office paper, cereal boxes or paper towels.

Results of Recycling

Steel cans
and appliances
are recycled into
metal products for
construction,
vehicles and food
packaging.

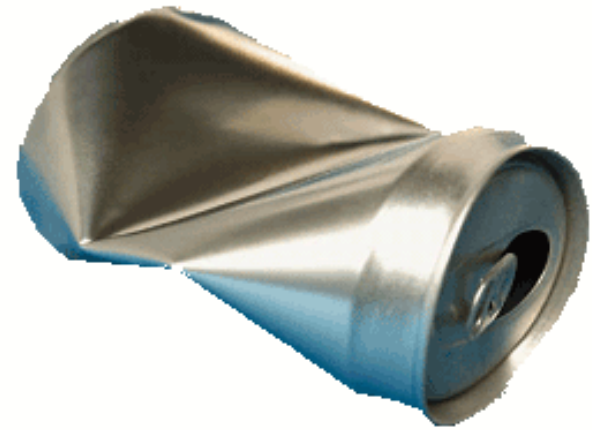


*All of the steel manufactured in the U.S.
today contains recycled material.*

Results of Recycling

Aluminum cans

are melted down and used to make new aluminum cans that are then filled with soda.



Recycling an aluminum can uses just 5% of the energy that is used to produce a new can.

Results of Recycling

Plastic bottles

are melted down to create new plastic bottles, polyester fiber, or plastic lumber products.



Plastic lumber is ideal for decks and outdoor furniture because it won't warp, splinter or fade in color!

Results of Recycling

Yard waste

including leaves and brush can be composted or ground to provide soil additives or mulch for lawns and gardens.



Many counties and cities provide this material free to residents.