

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. Let us help you keep your family safe and secure, inside your home and your car. Get your free, no-obligation quote on Liberty Mutual home and auto insurance by calling 800-809-9778 or visit 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>