

Recycling

AMERICAN FOREST & PAPER ASSOCIATION



Recycling – It Starts With You!

Paper recovery and recycling have reached record levels of activity in the United States. Today the paper industry is recovering more than 50 percent of the paper consumed in the U.S. for recycling. This is a significant milestone in paper recycling history.

You can participate in improving the environment today by increasing the quantity and quality of paper being recovered for recycling in your community, office, or school. For additional information please visit www.paperrecycles.org.

Americans recycle over 270 million pounds of paper every day.

Thanks to continued efforts by members of the American Forest & Paper Association (AF&PA) and the millions of Americans who recycle at home, work, and school, paper recovery has increased 76 percent (or 22 million tons) since 1990. Not only is this good news for the paper recycling industry, it also provides environmental benefits.

To keep up with the growing demand for recovered paper, the industry has set a goal to recover 55 percent of all paper consumed in the U.S. by 2012. Successfully reaching this goal is a big job and will require an increase in the recovery of high-quality paper like that found in offices and schools.

To help raise visibility for paper recycling and reach the industry's 55 percent goal, AF&PA is partnering with many organizations, including the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Keep America Beautiful, and Scholastic®. AF&PA has also established an awards program to recognize outstanding individual, business, community, and school recycling efforts.

RECYCLING FACTS

- ➔ 86 percent of Americans have access to curbside or drop-off paper recycling programs.
- ➔ Every ton of paper recovered saves 3.3 cubic yards of landfill space.
- ➔ Over the past five years, more paper has been recycled than has been sent to landfills.
- ➔ By weight, more paper is recovered for recycling from municipal solid waste streams than glass, plastic, and aluminum combined.
- ➔ Nearly 37 percent of the raw material used to make new paper products comes from recycled paper.
- ➔ Nearly 78 percent of all U.S. paper-makers use some recovered paper to make everything from newspaper to paperboard packaging to office paper.

AF&PA®



AMERICAN FOREST & PAPER ASSOCIATION
1111 Nineteenth Street, NW, Suite 800
Washington, DC 20036
www.afandpa.org
www.paperrecycles.org

For more information on AF&PA's recycling program, please contact recycling@afandpa.org



10% recycled fiber

