

# What is Recycling & Why is it Important?



## ***What is recycling?***

Recycling is the process of separating, collecting and remanufacturing or converting used or waste products into new materials. The recycling process involves a series of steps to produce new products.

Recycling helps extend the life and usefulness of something that has already served its initial purpose by producing something that is useable. Recycling has a lot of benefits and importance not only to us humans but especially to our planet.

## ***What materials can be recycled?***

Almost everything we see around us can be recycled. Different materials require different techniques when recycled. Recyclable materials commonly include batteries, biodegradable waste, clothing, electronics, garments, glass, metals, paper, plastics and a lot more.

## ***What are the stages of the recycling process?***

The recycling process is a cycle and is composed of three stages. The first stage is the collecting and sorting. In this stage, waste materials are collected and then processed and sorted according to its type and use. After these materials are sorted, they are ready for the second stage, which is the manufacturing.

The manufacturing stage is the phase where the collected and sorted materials are processed into new reusable products. Finally, after new products are manufactured, the next stage follows which is the selling of the recycled products to consumers. When the product that the consumers bought already served its purpose, the recycling process will then again continue as these products are collected.

## ***Why is recycling important?***

Recycling has a lot of benefits that can help people and save the environment as well. Its importance can be observed in many different ways. Here are some great reasons why recycling is important:

### ***Recycling Saves the Earth:***

Recycling different products will help the environment. For example, we know that paper comes from trees and many trees are being cut down just to produce paper. By recycling it, we can help lessen the number of trees that are cut down. Products made from raw materials that came from our natural resources should be recycled so that we can help preserve the environment.

### ***Recycling Saves Energy:***

It takes less energy to process recycled materials than to process virgin materials. For example, it takes a lot less energy to recycle paper than to create new paper from trees. The energy from transporting virgin materials from the source is also saved. Saving energy also has its own benefits like decreasing pollution. This creates less stress on own health and our economy.

### ***Recycling Helps Mitigate Global Warming and Reduce Pollution:***

By saving energy in industrial production through recycling, the greenhouse gas emissions from factories and industrial plants are lessened and the use of fuels that emit harmful gasses during production is also minimized. Recycling non-biodegradable waste (rather than burning it) will contribute a lot to help reduce air pollution and greenhouse gasses that depletes the ozone layer.

### ***Recycling Reduces Waste Products in Landfills:***

Landfills are mostly composed of non-biodegradable waste which takes long time to decompose. By recycling, we can lessen the waste materials that are placed into landfills and we are able to make the most out of these materials. If we don't recycle, more and more garbage will go to landfills until they all get filled up. If that happens, where will the rubbish be placed? How would you like a land fill in you backyard?

There are many companies out there that help reduce the problem of overfilling landfills by offering options (like ink cartridges) that make sense. When consumers seek out companies that have established green practices, the consumer wins by not only helping the environment but also by saving money.

### ***Recycling Helps you Save Money***

Recycling provides ways to save money. You can sell recyclable materials to organizations that are willing to buy it. Using products that are recycled lessens expenses. Products that are made from recycled materials are less expensive than products made from fresh materials.

At home, you can recycle biodegradable waste like eggshells, vegetable and fruit peelings and use them to fertilize plants. By doing a little research and getting creative you can save money and trips to the market while being kind to the planet.

As the population of the world increases recycling is becoming increasingly more important. Our technologically advanced societies are creating more and products and packaging that look good and are indestructible, but can take centuries to break down.

In order to combat the rise of factors that are produced by non-environmentally conscious groups, it is up to the growing numbers of individuals and companies that want to inhabit a healthier planet to make a difference.

