

# WAYS TO REDUCE WASTE AND SAVE MONEY!

Be creative! There is no shame in reducing and reusing your stuff to save a buck! It will stretch your hard-earned dollars and you'll feel good knowing that you are doing your part to reduce the amount of material that we waste, burn and bury. Here are some ideas:

- Take your own mug or thermos to the coffee shop. Often times you'll get a discount!
- Bring re-usable bags when you shop. Keep them in your car so you don't forget.
- Save any plastic shopping bags for use as a garbage bag in your bathroom or bedroom waste baskets.
- Rinse and reuse aluminum foil and sandwich or freezer bags.
- Wash and save glass jars from pasta sauce and jam, yogurt cups, and sturdy take-out containers to use them as Tupperware. The jars are great for transporting soups and other liquids.
- Buy large bottles of detergent and dish soap and refill your small ones. Add a little water to the soap to make it last even longer!
- Compost your food scraps and yard waste and use it to fertilize your lawn and garden. Be sure to secure it from curious animals that wander into your yard.
- Save paper by cutting sheets into fourths and staple together to use as scrap paper before making its way into the recycling bin. This is a great way to make use of the junk mail with one blank side!
- You can't make waste if you don't buy waste. When you can avoid it, don't buy goods with an unnecessary amount of packaging.
- Shop for quality goods. Don't buy something just because it is cheap because you may end up throwing it away and having to purchase a new one, essentially doubling the cost.
- Put a small recycling receptacle next to each waste basket in your home, it will make it more convenient for you to sort your waste from your recyclables.
- Save any cardboard boxes for shipping and birthday and holiday gifts. Use newspaper and brown paper bags as wrapping paper. People will appreciate your creativity!
- Donate any useful items such as clothing, furniture, and dishes to charitable organizations such as Goodwill or the Salvation Army
- Organize a town wide yard-sale or swap. One person's trash could be another's treasure.

***Remember, no hazardous or special waste should ever go in your garbage or normal recycling bin!***

*Check with your town to learn where you can dispose of these special items: Ammunition, Anti-freeze, Button-cell batteries, Cell phones, Chemicals, Computers & related parts, Fertilizers, Fluorescent bulbs, Fuel, Ink cartridges, Mercury (even small amounts), Oxygen tanks, Paint thinner, Pesticides, Pharmaceuticals, Propane tanks, Rechargeable batteries, TV's*