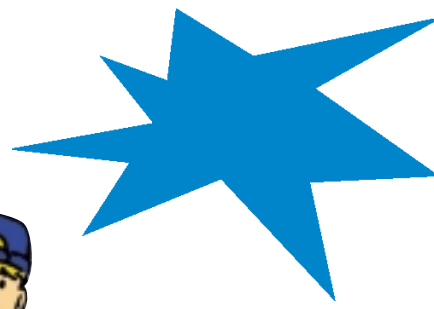


Paper Recycling Glossary



Biodegradable

Organic materials such as food scraps, paper and grass clippings that can be broken down by microorganisms into simple compounds (such as carbon dioxide, water or minerals) and become part of the earth again.

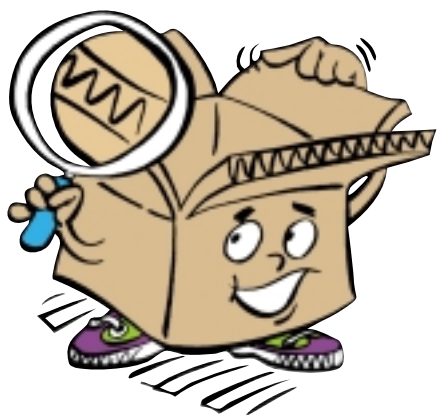
Composting

Making rich, new soil (that will help feed plants) from leaves, grass clippings, food and water. Paper is also compostable.

The paper bag you use to collect leaves is composted with the leaves.

Contaminant

Any item or material that reduces the quality of paper for recycling. Metal, foil, glass, plastic, and food must be removed from paper before recycling, or they will contaminate the recycling process.



Corrugated (cor' ru gāt ed) Boxes

The sturdy brown or white boxes (sometimes called cardboard) used to pack, ship, store and protect items we

use every day. **Corrugated boxes (the most recycled product in America)** are made of several layers of flat paper glued together with a ruffly layer in the middle.

Fiber

Small pieces of thread-like material that are woven together to give structure and strength to paper products. Fiber used in papermaking comes from wood and recovered paper, and sometimes cotton.

Landfill

An enormous pit where trash is buried under shallow layers of dirt. The pit is lined with plastic or clay to prevent the garbage from contaminating groundwater.

Newspapers

Where millions of American get their news each day.

Old newspapers are an important raw material and manufacturers want all they can get to make new newspapers and other paper products.



Paperboard Cartons

Containers made from layers of paper or paper pulp that have been pressed together to make them strong.

Cereal, cookies, cake mixes, laundry soap, video games and pizza all come packaged in paperboard.



Paper Grocery Bags

These bags (usually brown) are used to bring home food and other items from the grocery store. They are made of a strong paper, called kraft. They have a flat bottom and straight sides and can be reused at least three times for groceries, then recycled.



Pulp

A watery solution usually made from wood fibers or recovered paper, that is used to make new paper.

Recycled Content

The portion of a product or package that contains materials that have been recovered or otherwise diverted from the solid waste stream either during the manufacturing process or after consumer use. Many paper products are made with recycled content. cereal cartons are made of 100% recycled paperboard.

Renewable Resource

Something that is made by nature and can be used by man and replaced by man, like trees.



For more fun facts on forestry and recycling, contact:

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 50% RECYCLED FIBER