



America Recycles *Every* Day!

The nationally recognized celebration, America Recycles Day (ARD), is November 15 and the only day each year dedicated to encouraging Americans to recycle and to buy recycled products. This is the day to show appreciation for all the efforts your business has taken toward recycling and waste reduction.

Recycling as a trend continues to grow, and for that reason ARD aims to recognize America's recyclers. The nation's composting and recycling rate rose from 7.7% of the waste stream in 1960 to 17% in 1990; currently Americans recycle around 33% of their waste stream. The recycling rate for the United States is on the up swing, but it also leaves plenty of room for improvement, and ARD serves as a reminder to Americans to keep recycling!

The second focus of America Recycles Day is encouraging American's to buy recycled products. Often referred to as "closing the loop", buying recycled products ensures that recycled markets are supported.

Some recycled materials are made into exactly what you would expect, old corrugated boxes turn into new corrugated boxes, newspapers - same pulp, different news. However, some recycled materials can be made into entirely new products, for example, glass bottles can be made into roads, marbles, decorative tiles, and even surfboards. Five PET bottles (plastic soda bottles) yield enough fiber for one extra large T-shirt, one square foot of carpet or enough fiber to fill one ski jacket. The versatility of recycled materials demonstrates what a waste it is to send them to the landfill. Make it a point to procure products made from recycled materials in your work place.

In your business or organization, celebrate America Recycles Day in your own way. Consider designating that day a "Zero Waste" day, making sure no materials go in the dumpster, only recycling or compost. Also ask your staff to take the Recycling Pledge by going to the America Recycles Day website:

www.nrc-recycle.org/takethepledge.aspx



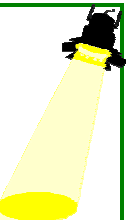
Tompkins County Celebrates America Recycles Day November 3rd

November 3rd, from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm— Celebrate the tenth anniversary of America Recycles Day by stopping by the **Ithaca Mall** to see over 70 environmental exhibitors, the patch program awards presentation, contest results, live performances, free confidential document shredding, the first annual pumpkin composting smash, games, prizes, and more! Fun for all ages!



- As always, recycle all the materials you can! Visit www.recycletompkins.org for a full listing of recyclable materials in Tompkins County.
- Establish regular dialogue between office and custodial staff to keep open communication.
- Look for products made with recycled materials.
- Look for products with packaging that is reusable, recyclable, or made with recycled content.

ReBusiness Spotlight: Friends of the Tompkins County Library



Since becoming a ReBusiness Partner in 2006, the **Friends of the Library** has made tremendous strides in Tompkins County to reduce waste. With the two annual book sales, **Friends of the Library** facilitates the reuse and recycling of a half million items!

The building is furnished with reused furniture and bookshelves, and they provide volunteers with reusable ceramic mugs instead of disposable cups. Since joining the program, **Friends of the Library** has established a compost area for coffee grounds, tea bags and other compostables.

The **Friends of the Library** will be participating in the Tompkins County celebration of America Recycles Day on November 3rd, stop by and ask them for more information about their program and enter to win a free bag of used books that will be given away every hour!

For More Information:

www.booksale.org
 509 Esty Street
 Ithaca, NY 14850

