

Recycling Fun Facts

How much time does it take for the following items to decompose?

- a. glass 1 million years
- b. plastic 700 years
- c. cans 80-100 years
- d. paper 2-5 months

Match the following products with their new form

<u>Old</u>	<u>New</u>
Glass	Glass (90%), kitchen tiles, counter tops and wall insulation
Plastic	#1 56% made into carpet, polar fleece and clothing #2 30% made into new bottles. Also made into plastic pipes, picnic tables, buckets crates and auto parts
Cans	100% made into new cans and back on shelf within 60 days
Paper	66% made into newspapers, paperboard, food boxes, office paper and tissue

What happens to trash?

1. Picked up by trash collection company (energy)
2. Taken to transfer station in Alexandria where it is weighed (energy)
3. Trash is burned to reduce mass (energy)
4. Waste taken to landfill and buried (energy)

Why recycle?

1. Reduce energy consumption (oil, gas)
2. Reduce amount of raw materials taken from ground (gas, oil, raw materials)
3. Reduce tree harvesting (gas, oil)
4. Reduce pollution

What can you do to help reduce and recycle?

1. Read the list of recyclable items.
2. Ask, "Can this be recycled?" before you put it into trash.
3. Encourage your friends to recycle at school.
4. Tell you friends to recycle.
5. Use both sides of the paper
6. Use water bottle a few times

7. Buy products made from recyclable materials
8. Avoid using materials that can't be recycled.
9. Maximize paper for cut-out projects
10. Walk or ride a bike
11. Any others?