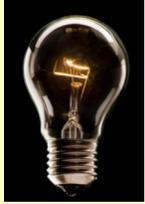


Energy & Fuel

The Recycling Connection



Recycling a one-gallon plastic milk jug will save enough energy to keep a hundred-watt light bulb burning for 11 hours.

Source: The Society of the Plastics Industry

Recycling 1 ton of aluminum cans saves 206.9 million British thermal units (Btu's)... "the most significant energy savings per ton."

Source: The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency



Recycling just 1 glass bottle saves enough energy to light a hundred-watt light bulb for 4 hours, power a computer for 30 minutes, or a television for 20 minutes.

Source: Glass Packaging Institute

Recycling 1 ton of plastic bottles saves the equivalent of 3.8 barrels of oil.

Source: The Society of the Plastics Industry



Recycling one ton of newspaper saves the equivalent of 3.97 barrels of oil or 20.9 million Btu's of energy.

Source: Natural Resources Defense Council

One gallon of used motor oil provides the same 2.5 quarts of lubricating oil as 42 gallons of crude oil.

Source: The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency



Presented by the WSRA
Education Committee.



Use the conversion factors and formulas below to determine how much ENERGY and FUEL you can save by recycling.



Recycling 1 glass bottle saves enough energy to power a hundred-watt light bulb for 4 hours, a computer for 30 minutes, or a television for 20 minutes (Glass Packaging Institute).

$$(\text{X glass bottles}) \times (4 \text{ hours/glass bottle}) = \text{hours to power a light bulb}$$

Recycling a one-gallon plastic milk jugs saves enough energy to keep a hundred-watt light bulb burning for 11 hours (Society of the Plastics Industry).

$$(\text{X one-gallon milk jugs}) \times (11 \text{ hours/milk jug}) = \text{hours to power a light bulb}$$

Recycling 1 aluminum can saves enough energy to power a television set for 3 hours (Aluminum Association).

$$(\text{X aluminum cans}) \times (3 \text{ hours/can}) = \text{hours to power a television}$$

Recycling 1 ton of paper saves enough energy to power the average American home for 6 months (US EPA). 200,000 sheets of average office paper = 1 ton.

$$(\text{X tons paper}) \times (6 \text{ months/ton}) = \text{months to power a home}$$

Recycling 1 ton of plastic bottles saves about 3.8 barrels of oil (Society of the Plastics Industry).

$$(\text{X tons plastic bottles}) \times (3.8 \text{ barrels of oil/ton}) = \text{barrels of oil saved}$$

Visit this website for more information about the environmental benefits of recycling.

- Natural Resources Defense Council — www.nrdc.org/cities/recycling/recyc/recytbls.asp
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency — www.epa.gov/wastes/conserva/rrr/recycle.htm
- The Society of the Plastics Industry — www.plasticsindustry.org
- The Glass Packaging Institute — www.gpi.org
- The Aluminum Association — www.aluminum.org

