

School Recycling News



Central Virginia Waste Management Authority

January 2008



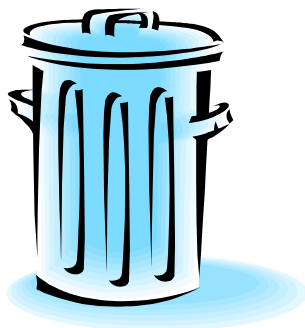
Where does the garbage go?

It is estimated that various forms of paper make up more than 33% of the trash we toss out everyday. Most of this paper is recyclable. For this reason, it is important to teach children not only about recycling,

but about trash too. They need to know what happens to our trash when we don't recycle it, so that they will understand the importance of recycling.

Often times, kids see the trash placed in a garbage truck or dropped off at the local "dump" and never think of what happens to it again. They might not even realize that the trash doesn't just disappear. According to the Environmental Protection Agency, last year the average American disposed of more than 4 pounds of trash each day. The number of landfills in the country is decreasing, and eventually, space will be a problem. Recycling is one way to help ease this burden.

On the back of this page is an edible landfill activity. It is a fun way to demonstrate the concept of a landfill to your students. It also provides a good opportunity to teach about the different things that we put in our trash each day that could be recycled instead.



What makes up our trash?

Paper	33.9%
Yard Trimmings	12.9%
Food Scraps	12.4%
Plastics	11.7%
Metals	7.6%
Rubber, Leather, Textiles	7.3%
Wood	5.5%
Glass	5.3%
Other	3.3%

Program Statistics

Total Paper Collected to date: **16,271 Pounds**



REMINDER!

Your next monthly report is due **January 10th.**

This weight should include all paper recycled during the month of December. Please fax your completed form to (804) 359-8421. If you need a copy of the form, it can be found on our website by following the school recycling link on our homepage.

Contact Information:

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(804) 359-8421



The school recycling pilot program is funded by a grant from the Environmental Protection Agency.

www.cvwma.com

Edible Landfill Activity

Materials:

Vanilla cookie crumbles	Chocolate chips
Fruit Roll-ups	Chocolate pudding
Licorice	Chocolate syrup
Chocolate cookie crumbles	Green sprinkles
Fruit cereal "rings"	Straws

This activity can be done as a demonstration for a large group, or as a student activity. If you plan to do this as a demonstration, you may use a large clear bowl, or for small groups use large clear plastic cups.

Assemble as follows:

Layer 1: Vanilla cookie crumbles - representing the layer of clay placed in the bottom of a cell to prevent fluids from seeping out.

Layer 2: Fruit roll-up - representing the plastic liner

Layer 3: Two 1" pieces of licorice - representing the leachate collection pipes

Layer 4: Chocolate cookie crumbles - representing the sand and gravel layer to protect the pipes and plastic from punctures.

Layer 5: Fruit cereal "rings" and chocolate chips - representing the "garbage"

Layer 6: Drizzle chocolate syrup across top - representing leachate, the moisture that percolates through layers of waste material

Layer 7: Fruit roll-up - representing another plastic liner

Layer 8: Chocolate pudding- representing soil

Layer 9: Green sprinkles - representing grass

Finally, punch in two straws to represent Methane gas collectors. Now, if you still have the stomach for it, eat it!

For more information about the structure of landfills and how they work, visit www.howstuffworks.com and search for landfill.



Please share the information found in this newsletter with other staff in your school. A copy of the newsletter can be found on our website by following the school recycling link from the home page.



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