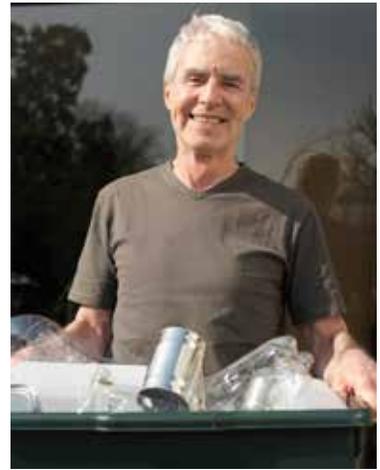


Easy Ways to Make Our Earth Better



Here are some ways you can help protect the Earth in your everyday life. Keep this list of recycling tips handy. Remember – a little can help a lot!

Buy Rechargeable Batteries

Most batteries contain toxic materials that are bad for the environment. Go green and buy rechargeable batteries for devices that are compatible with them.

Reuse Plastic Bags

Every year, we throw away billions of plastic bags because some recycling programs don't accept them. Reuse those bags for future groceries and garbage can liners. Or, look for plastic bag recycling receptacles in grocery and retail stores.

Recycle the Lid With the Bottle

Americans recycle millions of plastic bottles, but often the lids don't make it with them. Many places now accept the lids, so check first and then make sure to keep the lids with the bottles when you recycle.

Don't Forget the Magazines and Glossy Papers

Magazines and glossy papers are recyclable. Don't forget to put them in with your recyclables.

Compost

All biodegradable food garbage – like egg shells, banana peels, potato skins and onion skins – will turn into soil that's great for planting.

Use Your Green Thumb

You can make old 2-liter pop bottles and empty jars into planters for flowers and herbs. So, try out your green thumb.

Bring the Glass, Too

A glass container can go from a recycling bin to a store shelf in as few as 30 days, making it one of the best things to recycle. Check out what's available in your area for glass recycling – and which types of glass are and aren't recyclable.

Find Other Uses for Shredded Paper

Paper is one of the most recyclable items out there, but shredded paper is difficult for recycling facilities to accept since it usually doesn't work well with recycling machinery. Why not use it for composting and art projects?

Donate Sheets, Towels and Clothing

Old sheets, towels and clothing can be donated to thrift stores or to animal shelters for use as bedding and cleaning materials. Many church quilting groups also use these items in creating quilts for the needy and world relief organizations.

Take Advantage of Programs Near You

Many of us have access to curbside or drop-off paper recycling. Be sure to check into what's available in your area and take advantage of recycling programs.

This year on Earth Day, think about what you can do to celebrate our Earth, create less garbage, recycle more, and make the world better for all of us.



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