



SUSTAINABLE

focus

Improving Recycling, Decreasing Landfill

Why is Recycling So Important?

1. Recycling is better for the environment

- Recycling materials reduces the amount of destruction caused by harvesting raw materials.

2. Recycling saves energy

- Using recycling materials requires MUCH less energy than is required to make products from raw materials.

3. Recycling is better for the economy

- The purchase of baled recyclable materials, and the sale of recycled materials creates markets - and with China's "National Sword" policy, the US is trying to develop its own recycling economy.

4. Recycling creates jobs

- The US recycling industry employs over 1.25 million people while the solid waste industry employs only 0.25 million people
- Every 10,000 tons of solid waste creates only six jobs, while the same amount of recycled waste creates thirty-six jobs.

What is the problem with landfills?

Today, California is facing a waste crisis-our landfills are nearly full. Aside from the spatial constrictions and the future costs associated with closing these landfills, landfilled waste has an enormous negative impact on the environment. Decomposing materials in a landfill create methane which leaks into the atmosphere. Methane gas is 87 times more potent than carbon dioxide in terms of warming the Earth.

COMING SOON TO GCCCD!

Improved Recycling Service

We will be able to put the following in the recycling bins:

- Plastic bottles & containers
- Food and beverage cans
- Paper
- Flattened cardboard and paperboard
- Food and beverage cartons
- Glass bottles and containers



Please keep OUT of recycling bins:

- Food waste
- Plastic bags and films
- Foam cups and containers

Questions? Contact: Jacqueline.Hall@gcccd.edu
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