

FASCINATING FACTS ABOUT WASTE & RECYCLING



INDUSTRY FACTS

The industry directly employs **420,000 men and women** with a total payroll of **\$21 billion** on revenues of **\$93.7 billion**.

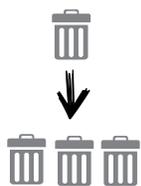


Estimated the industry's direct & indirect impact accounts for **over 1 million jobs** & generates nearly a **quarter of a trillion dollars** in U.S. GDP.

BY 2026
17,900 new jobs for collection drivers.

25,800 new jobs for diesel mechanics.

22,500 new jobs for welders, cutters, solderers, and brazers.



The amount of waste generated has **TRIPLED** since 1960.

In 2014, over **89 million tons** of MSW were recycled and composted. That's a **34.6% recycling rate**.

34.6%

BIG #'S. BIG IMPACT.



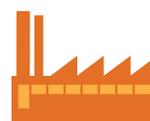
The number of pounds per person of waste generated peaked in 2000 at **4.74 pounds** and has since dropped to **4.44 pounds**.

The waste and recycling collection industry operates a fleet of more than **100,000 collection trucks**.



The U.S. population throws away enough aluminum every **3 months** to rebuild our country's **entire commercial air fleet**.

A record setting **14 million pounds** of batteries and cellphones were recycled in the U.S. & Canada in 2016.



Every year, Americans create **258 million tons** of waste with **169 million tons** ending up in landfills and incinerators.

Over **2.4 million households** in the U.S. received food waste composting collection in 2012.



SOURCES

- Advanced Disposal
- Baltimore County Government
- CalRecycle
- EPA
- HSA Golden
- National Waste & Recycling Association
- Recycle Across America
- Statista.com
- U.S. Census Bureau
- Waste Management

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THE MODERN LANDFILL



The first modern sanitary landfill in the United States was opened in **Fresno, California** in 1937.

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has endorsed landfill gas as an **environmentally friendly energy resource** that reduces our reliance on fossil fuels, such as coal and oil.



Landfills can serve as **habitat for wildlife** as a conservation area.

Active and closed landfills can serve as sites for alternative energy like **wind farms** and **solar farms**.



WHO WE ARE

The National Waste & Recycling Association (NWRA) is the leading trade organization representing private sector waste and recycling businesses. NWRA member companies are dedicated to providing safe, economically sustainable and environmentally sound services to communities in all 50 states and the District of Columbia.

NWRA and its members advocate at the federal, state and local levels on all issues of importance to the industry. NWRA fosters leadership, advocacy, research, education, ANSI Standards, and safety expertise for the North American waste and recycling industries.

THE POWER OF RECYCLING



Recycling one aluminum can saves enough energy to **run a TV for three hours**.

Recycling one aluminum can saves enough energy to **burn a light bulb for four hours**.



Recycling **one ton of aluminum** saves **39.6 gallons of oil**.

Five plastic bottles (PET) recycled provides enough fiber to create **one square foot of carpet** or enough fiber fill to fill **one ski jacket**.



Every **ton of paper** recycled can save the energy equivalent of **322 gallons of gasoline**.

Making one ton of paper from **100% recycled content** saves approximately **24 trees**.



Making new paper from old paper uses **30%-55% less energy** than making paper from trees and reduces related air pollution by **95%**.