



# Be Waste Aware-

## Waste Reduction Resources and Tools for Students

**W**HAT'S TO LEARN about waste? Well, lots, actually. This fact sheet can help you learn more about municipal solid waste, also known as trash or garbage. Whether you need information for an environmental science class or a science fair project, or to help start a waste reduction program in your school or community, these resources can help you better understand the type, amount, and impact of solid waste in the world around you.

### Envirofacts Warehouse

This online tool provides you with direct access to environmental information contained in various EPA databases including information on hazardous waste, Superfund, toxic releases, facilities, risk management plans, grants/funding, water permits, and drinking water contaminant occurrence. The database allows users to input their zip code and obtain environmental information specific to their geographic location.

<[www.epa.gov/enviro](http://www.epa.gov/enviro)>

### Window to my Environment

This powerful Web-based tool provides a wide range of federal, state, and local information about environmental conditions and features in your area of choice. By entering a zip code or a city and state name, you can retrieve an interactive map that shows the location of regulated facilities, monitoring sites, water bodies, population densities, and perspective topographic views. In addition, this tool provides geographic statistics about your area of interest, including estimated population, county/urban area

designations, and local water bodies and watersheds. Finally, you can retrieve federal, state, and local information on environmental issues like air and water quality, watershed health, Superfund sites, fish advisories, and impaired waters.

<[www.epa.gov/enviro/wme](http://www.epa.gov/enviro/wme)>

### RCRA Online

This online database allows you to search publications and outreach materials on a variety of waste-related topics. You can access topics through a search of the database as well as by browsing through a list of topics. You may also access this information by calling the RCRA, Superfund & EPCRA Call Center at (800) 424-9346 or (703) 412-9810 (in the Washington DC metro area). To search the RCRA Online database, click on Topics Search to locate the category of information in which you are interested.

<[www.epa.gov/rcraonline](http://www.epa.gov/rcraonline)>

### Laws and Regulations

On its Web site, EPA makes available full text of environmental laws and regulations, including links to regulations on specific topic areas. <[www.epa.gov/epaoswer/osw/laws-reg.htm](http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/osw/laws-reg.htm)>



recycle



## Facts About Municipal Solid Waste/Recycling

This Web site contains a variety of information on various waste issues, including a presentation on municipal solid waste from 1990 to the present. In addition, the site contains information on source reduction, recycling, and composting, along with methods of disposal and links to additional information on municipal solid waste.

[www.epa.gov/epaoswer/non-hw/muncpl/facts.htm](http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/non-hw/muncpl/facts.htm)

## Regional, State, Tribal Waste Management

EPA regional offices as well as state and tribal governments often implement solid waste programs. Links to such programs are available on the EPA Web site.

[www.epa.gov/epaoswer/osw/regions.htm](http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/osw/regions.htm)

## America Recycles Day Web Site

The America Recycles Day Web site contains information on the upcoming and past America Recycles Days. The site contains a fact sheet and press releases about the event as well as suggested reading materials and links to additional information.

[www.americarecyclesday.org](http://www.americarecyclesday.org)

## Earth 911

The Earth 911 Web site contains a wide variety of information on solid waste-related topics, including recycling, composting, and buying recycled products. The site also provides information on local recycling centers and events and includes a kids' section with activities and information for kids of all ages and teachers.

[www.earth911.org](http://www.earth911.org)

## Your Home and Community

This Web site provides tips for consumers on solid waste issues, such as recycling, reducing solid waste, and composting. Useful resources include, "The Consumer's Handbook for Reducing Solid Waste," which provides helpful information to consumers on how to reduce the amount of waste they create. Other resources include information on EPA's Plug-In to E-Cycling campaign.

[www.epa.gov/epaoswer/osw/citizens.htm](http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/osw/citizens.htm)

## International Resources

You can gain access to a variety of information on international environmental issues, specifically waste, through EPA's Web site. The site contains links to several international waste agreements, the Basel Convention, and other international initiatives, including the Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and Commission for Environmental Cooperation (CEC).

[www.epa.gov/epaoswer/osw/internat/index.htm](http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/osw/internat/index.htm)

## Composting

This Web site provides you with useful information on composting, including ideas for student research projects. The site also contains information on the science and engineering of composting, how to compost both indoors and outdoors, and frequently asked composting questions.

[www.cfe.cornell.edu/compost/schools.html](http://www.cfe.cornell.edu/compost/schools.html)

## Waste Prevention Clip Art

You can find a variety of clip art at this Web site for inclusion in school reports or other projects. Clip art is available relating to everything from recycling to waste reduction measures. You can easily download this clip art in several different formats.

[www.ciwmb.ca.gov/gallery/wasteprev](http://www.ciwmb.ca.gov/gallery/wasteprev)



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