

Did You Know...

- ...Americans consist of only 5 percent of the world's population and use more than one-quarter of the world's energy?
- ...America produces approximately 30 percent of the world's trash?
- ...one person in America creates 4.3 pounds of garbage each day?
- ...a normal person in a developing country uses 15 times less energy than the typical American?
- ...using recycled aluminum to create soda cans requires 96 percent less energy, 97 percent less water pollution and 95 percent less air pollution than starting from scratch?
- ...151 pounds of feldspar, 433 pounds of limestone, 433 pounds of soda ash and 1,330 pounds of sand are saved when one ton of glass is recycled?
- ...recycling a ton of paper saves the same amount of energy required to heat or cool an American home for six months or more?
- ...only one of every four plastic bottles used in America is recycled?
- ...1993 was the first time in history that more paper was recycled than put in the landfill?
- ...Americans throw away enough tin cans to produce all the new cars made in America each year?
- ...a computer could run for three hours on the energy saved by recycling a single aluminum can?
- ...it takes 1 million years for a glass bottle, 700 years for a plastic bottle and 90 years for an aluminum can to biodegrade in the landfill?
- ...taking a five-minute shower uses half the water needed for a bath?
- ...many of today's SUVs get worse gas mileage than Henry Ford's 1908 Model T, which got 25 miles per gallon?
- ...making a ton of paper can take as many as 17 trees?
- ...recycling a single glass bottle saves enough energy to power a light bulb for four hours?
- ...you can cut your waste by 75 percent by recycling, reusing and composting?
- ...the average American uses six napkins each day?

Save the Planet, Save Your Cash

- Use the sun to your advantage in the winter, opening curtains and blinds on the sunny side of the home to allow the sun to help warm your home. During the summer, closing the curtains and blinds on the sunny side can keep your home cooler.
- In most cases, using cold water to wash and rinse your clothes does the job just as well as hot water, without the heating expense.
- Keep the tires on your vehicle inflated properly and replace your air filter, change the oil, and perform other maintenance as recommended by the manufacturer. These steps will improve gas mileage and prevent minor issues from becoming major problems.
- Not using a computer, microwave, toaster, or other appliance or electronic for a prolonged period? Unplug it.
- Cut your computer's energy consumption by setting it to go to sleep after a few minutes of inactivity.
- Before turning a light on, determine if you actually need the light on. If it's during the day, opening the blinds may be all you need for sufficient light. And always turn lights off when you leave a room.
- Heading out of town? Drop the thermostat in the winter and raise it in the summer. Also, lower the temperature on your water heater.
- Only run the washing machine and dishwasher when you have a full load.
- Unless absolutely necessary, don't preheat your oven.
- Take all recyclables to one of Bradley County and Cleveland's recycle centers.
- As it takes 2,500 gallons of water for a single pound of beef to reach your grocer, use at least one meal each week to not eat meat.
- Don't toss that paper! Use the other side for a grocery list, doodling, or directions.
- When it's time to get clean, go with a shower, not a bath.
- Take cloth bags to the grocery store and tell them to keep the plastic to themselves!
- Get more fuel for your money by filling your gas tank in the early morning, when the air is cool and gasoline is more dense.