

America Recycles Day

Tip Sheet and Challenge

Will You?

Help St. Mary's County find more ways to reduce waste and increase its recycling during America Recycles Week between November 15 - 21, 2009. Learn how to increase your recycling efforts, compost fruit and vegetable, and avoid using plastic and paper shopping bags. Check out our [America Recycles Day Tips](#):

TIP #1: THERE'S ALWAYS ROOM TO RECYCLE !



Recycling isn't just for the kitchen or garage. It's for every room in the house. There might be several materials in each room of your home that you never thought about recycling before. Are you recycling all that you can around your home?

TIP #2: GET YOUR BROWNS & GREENS OUT OF THE GARBAGE



Yard trimmings and food scraps make up about 25 percent of what St. Mary's County residents send to the landfill. Once in the landfill, these organic materials rot very slowly because of the lack of air, creating a powerful greenhouse gas called methane. Want to turn your browns and greens into gold? Try Home Composting!



TIP #3: REDUCE, REUSE & BUY RECYCLED

Waste reduction and reuse are among the easiest ways for consumers to help the planet. Packaging accounts for about one-third of all the trash that's thrown away in the United States. You can increase the amount you recycle and reduce waste just by making smart choices at the grocery store.

TIP #4: MANAGE YOUR HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE

Toxic household products such as paint, motor oil, antifreeze, pesticides, home cleaners, used batteries, mercury thermometers and fluorescent light bulbs can be harmful to our health and the environment if poured down the drain or put in the trash. Learn how to dispose of these products properly using the County's Household Hazardous Waste Program.



Remember... Every Little Bit Counts.