

## **WHY SHOULD YOU RECYCLE?**

- By recycling one aluminum can, you save enough energy to run a 100 watt light bulb or a television for **3 hours**.
- For aluminum, it only takes 10% of the energy to make a can from a used can, compared to making the same can from virgin materials.
- A discarded aluminum can is still a can **500 years** later. For each discarded can, an amount of fuel that fills half that can is unnecessarily spent to produce a replacement can.
- Recycling a steel can saves **26% of the energy** needed to produce a steel can from virgin materials.
- Every ton of recycled steel saves **2,500 pounds of iron ore, 1,000 pounds of coal and 40 pounds of limestone**.
- Americans use more than **100 million** steel cans **every day**.
- Americans throw away **2.5 million** plastic bottles **every hour**. The Earth Policy Institute estimates that this demand requires over 50 million barrels of oil annually – enough to fuel three million cars for a year – to manufacture, fill, transport and refrigerate these 29 billion plastic bottles.
- Of these, only 1 in five are being recycled. Most of them will end up landfilled or incinerated. Hundreds of millions more will clog streams and tributaries, and float out to sea.
- **Five** plastic soda bottles make enough fiberfill for a man's ski jacket.
- By recycling 1 ton of paper, you can save **17 trees**, use **2 fewer barrels of oil** (enough to power an average automobile 1,260 miles), use **4,100 fewer kilowatts electrical energy** (enough to power an average home for 6 months), save **3.2 cubic yards of landfill space** and produce **60 fewer pounds of air pollution**.
- Businesses throw away enough paper **every day** to encircle the earth **20 times**.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON RECYCLING, PLEASE CONTACT US AT 355-3496 or [www.rcgov.org](http://www.rcgov.org) (Public Works/Solid Waste).

INFORMATION FOR OTHER ITEMS, SUCH AS ELECTRONICS, PAPER PRODUCTS, AND BATTERIES, ARE AVAILABLE ON REQUEST.

**THANKS FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION!**

***RECYCLE, RAPID CITY!!***