

WE DO EARTH DAY

22 Facts for April 22nd

1. **102:** the estimated weight of garbage - in TONS - that the average American will toss out in his or her lifetime
2. **2,400:** pounds of carbon dioxide saved by recycling half of your household waste. **Recycle!**
3. **7 million:** the size - in TONS (or twice the size of Texas) - of plastic, chemical sludge and other debris swirling in a giant trash patch in the Pacific, known as the Great Pacific Garbage Patch
4. **400 million:** the weight - in TONS - of old computer hardware, mobile phones and other electronic waste that are shipped from the U.S. to landfills in developing countries every year
5. **200:** dollars per year you can save by using CFL and LED lighting. **Make the switch!**
6. **35,000:** the miles of rivers and groundwater contaminated by U.S. factory-farmed hog, chicken and cattle waste
7. **60:** the percentage of carbon monoxide emissions from vehicle exhaust nationwide. In cities, this percentage jumps to 95%
8. **3 million:** the weight of toxic chemicals – in TONS – that U.S. factories spew each year into the air, land and water
9. **2,000:** gallons of water wasted per year from one drip a second. **Fix leaky faucets!**
10. **80:** the percent of items in landfills that could be recycled – but have not been
11. **50:** gallons of water washing machines can use per load. **Wash full loads of laundry!**
12. **63,000:** number of garbage trucks that we could fill every day with the trash we throw away
13. **1 million:** bushels of litter that Americans throw out their car window every day
14. **3.4 to 8.4:** BILLIONS of gallons of water a day that would be saved if all plumbing fixtures in the U.S. were replaced with water-conserving fixtures. **Buy water-efficient plumbing fixtures!**
15. **2.2 billion:** pounds of pesticides Americans use every year, which eventually washes into our rivers and lakes
16. **12 million:** barrels of oil required to make the 380 billion plastic bags used in the U.S. every year. **BYOB- Bring your own bag!**
17. **Less than 2:** percent of plastic bags in the U.S. that end up getting recycled
18. **Over 1 million:** number of birds and marine animals that die each year as a result of plastic pollution
19. **10 billion:** number of paper bags consumed by Americans every year; approximately 14 million trees are cut down every year for paper bag production
20. **46,000:** pieces of plastic litter floating in every square mile of the ocean, as estimated by The United Nations Environment Programme
21. **6 months:** length of time Americans could provide energy to heat and air condition the average home by recycling 1 ton of paper
22. **782 million:** number of trees that could be saved if Americans recycled 70% of the 85.5 million tons of paper they use each year (currently only 22% is recycled)