# **Spooky Recycling Facts:**

### **Americans Have so Much Recycling Potential**

Did you know that the average American generates about 4 pounds of waste per day, and we only recycle about 30% of all recyclable materials we use? If more of us got involved in recycling instead of throwing everything away, we would be able to cut back on so much pollution, waste, and environmental damage on the planet.





#### **Glass Has an Endless Timeline**

Glass can be recycled over and over again indefinitely. It never loses its purity or its composure, which makes it the perfect material to continue recycling and producing.

Some packaging products degrade over time, and the more they are used the more their composure breaks down. But glass doesn't lose its shape or composure and makes the perfect sustainable packaging product.

# Recycling a Pound of Steel Saves Enough Energy to Run a Light Bulb for a Whole Day

In the United States, you can heat 18,000,000 homes with the amount of steel that gets recycled every year. It is also more economically efficient to recycle as much steel as possible instead of producing new materials every time.

Most of the steel you buy now has about 20% recycled content already included.

You can place your steel cans, tins, and containers in your recycling bin for curbside pickup. For appliances and larger steel items, contact your local recycling depot for options.

**The Energy Saved From Recycling One Glass Bottle** Can Power a 100-watt Light Bulb for up to 4 Hours. You could also power an 11-watt light bulb for up to 12 hours and a television for 20 minutes.

Now, think about how much energy that could save if every person in the country recycled just one bottle a day!

Did you know... the energy saved from recycling one glass bottle can power a washing machine for 10 minutes.

## An Aluminum Can Stays in That Form for 500 Years

When you throw a can in the garbage, it won't break down, and will stay in its can shape for 500 years. That means it will never decompose, at least within our lifetime, and it will always remain a piece of garbage in a landfill.

Instead of letting your cans sit in a landfill for 500 years, recycle them so they can be reused.

#### Recycling Just One Aluminum Can Saves Enough Energy to Listen to a Whole Album on Your Ipod

That one can also saves enough energy to run a TV for up to 3 hours, which is the equivalent of about half a gallon of gasoline. In addition, recycling 100 cans can save enough energy to light a room for two full weeks.



Aluminum cans are one of the most common forms of beverage containers. Next time you buy a soda and listen to your ipod, think about that full album and throw it in the recycling bin.

Paper – everyday Americans buy 62 million newspapers and throw out 44 million. That's the equivalent of dumping 500,000 trees into a landfill every week. • Americans throw away enough office and writing paper annually to build a wall 12 feet high stretching from Los Angeles to New York City.