

What is **PRE**cycling?

PREcycling means...

- Stopping waste before it happens
- Preventing waste at its source
- Reducing the amount of waste we produce, i.e., **MAKING LESS GARBAGE!**

Did you know that New Yorkers dispose of more than 5.0 pounds of solid waste per day? It also is becoming more expensive to safely dispose of our waste. Recycling and composting help, but they are not the only solutions!

IF YOU'RE NOT
PREcycling,



YOU'RE **WASTING** RESOURCES

At **School**...



Art by Abby Crawford (Grade 7-9)

- Use both sides of paper.
- Save and reuse boxes, mailing tubes and Styrofoam® "peanuts."
- Reuse three-ring binders, manila folders, pocket folders, report covers and other school and office supplies.
- Use permanent dishware and utensils.
- Bring your lunch and beverage to school in reuseable containers and carriers.



Send us your ideas. We'd like to include them in future publications.

Write to:
NYSDEC
Bureau of Waste Reduction & Recycling
625 Broadway
Albany, New York 12233-7253
or e-mail us at:
recycling@dec.ny.gov
and check our webpage at:
www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8826.html

Printed on recycled paper containing 100% post-consumer waste



Department of
Environmental
Conservation

Let's
PRECYCLE
NEW YORK



PREvent waste before
you re**CYCLE**

www.dec.ny.gov

Be an **Environmental** Shopper

Look for...

- No Packaging
- Foods in bulk
- Loose fruits and snacks instead of packaged



Minimal Packaging

- Buy concentrates
- Buy products in larger sizes

Reusable and Refillable Packaging

- Buy milk and soda in glass bottles, which are refillable.
- Bring your own reusable bags to the store.

PREycling
SAVES MONEY!

At **Home...**

Choose reusable alternatives to disposable products...

- Cloth towels instead of paper towels
- Reusable razors instead of disposable razors
- Ceramic mugs instead of disposable cups
- Permanent dishware instead of paper or plastic
- Cloth napkins instead of paper napkins
- Rechargeable batteries instead of disposable batteries

In addition, **DONATE** used clothing and appliances to charities.

At **Work...**

- Make double-sided copies.
- Circulate one printed item instead of making and distributing individual copies.
- Periodically review mailing lists, and remove duplicates and names no longer applicable.
- Consolidate mailings whenever possible.
- Use e-mail whenever possible.
- Remove names from unwanted mailing lists.
- Bring reusable dishes and utensils instead of disposables to the office.



REUSING office supplies is a **GREAT IDEA!**