## **Communities Need to Recycle**

While recycling has become part of the daily routine for many people, the full importance of recycling is not always understood. In general, people do understand that recycling helps to minimize the drain on the limited resources of our planet. However, there are many other reasons why recycling is extremely important to our world today that most people don't realize.

One of the great things about recycling is that it helps to minimize the existence of waste materials in our communities. Glass, paper and plastics are being reused to create new products, meaning they don't end up taking up space in a landfill somewhere. Since most people are not interested in having a garbage dump located near their homes or offices, recycling makes it possible to avoid creating newer larger landfills.

Paper is one of our most used commodities. Our forests will be depleted if too much timber is cut. Not only will this dramatically affect the global climate, but it will also affect the local ecosystem. Even today it is clear that due to heavy timber lumbering, many unique species of animals face extinction. By recycling paper, lumbering will be limited and animals will have their habitats untouched.

Recycling also helps lessen global warming and reduce pollution. Saving energy in industrial production through recycling, the greenhouse gas emissions from factories and industrial plants are reduced and the use of fossil fuels that emit harmful gases during production is also minimized. Recycling non-biodegradable waste, rather than burning it will contribute a lot to help reduce air pollution and greenhouse gasses that deplete the ozone layer.

Recycling helps extend the life and usefulness of something that has already served its initial purpose by producing something that is useable. Recycling has a lot of benefits and importance not only to humans but especially to our planet.

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