

## Recycling & the Environment

Some Things to Ponder:

- Recycling one ton of waste paper saves an average of 7,000 gallons of water, 3.3 cubic yards of landfill space, 3 barrels of oil, 17 trees, and 4,000 Kwh of electricity. That is enough to power the average home for six months.
- According to the EPA, nearly 250 million tons of municipal waste was generated in 2010. That is approximately 1,600 pounds per person, per year.
- Consumers in the U.S. dispose of enough aluminum to rebuild the country's entire commercial airline fleet every three months, and dispose 2.5 million "non-returnable" plastic bottles each hour. These numbers are staggering, and you don't have to be a tree hugger to understand that this cannot go on.
- A faucet that drips 10 drops per minute will waste 347 gallons of fresh water a year.
- If you leave the water on while you brush your teeth you waste 1.13 gallons of fresh water a day. If you brush twice a day, that's 2.26 gallons. Maybe you think that's no big deal, but consider this: if only one in ten people in the U.S. left the water on while they brushed, 25,753,944,650 gallons of fresh water would be wasted in a single year.

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