

## TIPS ON HOW TO RE-USE:

IN THE DINING HALLS AT OXY YOU GET A \$0.25 DISCOUNT when you use tupperware and a \$0.15 when you use re-usable mugs

\* Instead of buying water bottles multiple times a day, use the same bottle AGAIN! OR- buy a re-usable water bottle such as a Nalgene (these can be purchased in the bookstore)

\* Use a RE-USABLE mug (these can be purchased in the Oxy Bookstore for \$3.75)

\* Use RE-USABLE food containers such as Tupperware instead of plastic to-go containers ( we will be taking orders in the next few weeks so pay attention for announcements)

\* Buy USED books and USED clothes

\* Buy RECYCLED products

## CHALLENGES OF THE WEEK:

\*Try not to use any disposable food or drink containers for one day

\*Go to <http://ecofoot.org/> and find out your ecological impact on the world

These simple steps will decrease your impact on the environment

The Environmental Action Coalition meets every thursday at noon on the benches in the quad near the library. We'd love to see you there!

(This is part of a series of digest entries brought to you by the Environmental Action Coalition for our Global Reduce Re-use Recycle (GRRR) Campaign. The first week we focused on why it is important and how to REDUCE, the second week's focus was on why and how to RE-USE, and the third and fourth week are why and how to RECYCLE.

In the previous digest articles we talked about reducing and re-using- these are the first steps we should take. Recycling should be the LAST RESORT, if you cannot reduce or re-use.

### How to recycle at Oxy:

Oxy recycles the following items in the BLUE CONTAINERS in the dining halls, residences halls, academic buildings, athletic facilities, administrative building, the library and the quad:

-glass bottles

- aluminum cans
- plastic bottles and containers

The following can be recycled in bins marked PAPER RECYCLING, these are in the computer labs of the residence halls and the library

- paper

Cardboard can be recycled by being put on the ground near the recycling bins in the residence halls, boxes should be broken down.

- NEWSPAPERS should be put back in dorms on the shelf where you got them

### Why to Reduce:

#### THE PROBLEMS: SOLID WASTE, ENERGY WASTE AND WATER WASTE

#### SCOPE:

\* Each American exerts **three times** as much pressure on the natural environment as the global average.

\* Every day, the average American:

- generates **4.39 pounds of trash**
- uses **over 100 gallons of water**
- causes the release of **110 pounds of carbon dioxide**

\*America is home to 5% of the world's population, yet it:

- consumes **1/3 of the Earth's timber and paper**
- consumes **26% of the world's energy**
- produces **24% of the world's carbon dioxide output**

\***70%** of U.S. municipal solid waste gets buried in landfills

\*The average American, in one lifetime, uses: 18 tons of paper, 23 tons of wood, 16 tons of metal, and 32 tons of organic chemicals

\*College campuses, even small ones like Oxy, produce more waste and use more resources than households and individuals

\*California has **serious water shortages** yet continues to use most of its water supply on irrigation

(<http://www.cleanair.org/Waste/wasteFacts.html>; <http://www.freetheplanet.org/ftp.asp?id2=12029>)

Waste is one of the most easily prevented environmental problems in the world.

### Why and How to Reuse

\* **THE PROBLEMS: SOLID WASTE, ENERGY WASTE AND WATER WASTE**

\* THE QUESTION: Why do we need to reuse?

**-Each American exerts THREE TIMES as much pressure on the natural environment as the global average**

- Enough rainforests are being destroyed **every minute** to fill 50 football fields
- Every year, nearly **900,000,000 trees are cut down** to provide raw materials for American paper and pulp mills
- The average American uses **650 pounds of paper** a year
- Each year, Americans trash enough office paper to build a 12-foot wall from Los Angeles to New York City
- Americans spend **443 hours** in the car per year
- The United States uses the most oil in the world at **17 million barrels per day**
- At OXY- 170,000 PLASTIC TO-GO CONTAINERS are used every year- that is an average of 94 per student!!**

Stay tuned for: TIPS ON HOW TO REUSE

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#1

The Environmental Action Coalitions presents our **Global Reduce Re-use Recycle (GRRR) Campaign**

On Monday you heard about the **PROBLEMS: SOLID WASTE, ENERGY WASTE AND WATER WASTE**

Now we bring you **WAYS TO REDUCE WASTE**

#### **ELECTRICITY:**

- turn off those lights when you leave your dorm room, the bathroom, the common room
  - shut off your computer at night
- DID YOU KNOW...Based on a survey of Oxy students, if everyone attending turned their computer off at night, the school would save between \$44,000 and 84,000 each year!!!

#### **PAPER:**

- print on both sides of paper
- print on scratch paper
- read your course reserves online
- take fewer napkins and paper towels!!

#### **GAS:**

-Ok guys we live in sunny L.A., is it really necessary to drive from Stewie to the Marketplace?!!

#### **SOLID WASTE:**

- don't use to-go containers or plastic utensils when you're eating in the Marketplace!
- use tupperware, reusable mugs, and reusable water bottles
- try to buy less packaged goods

**CHALLENGES:**

- try taking a NAVY SHOWER (only turn on the water to rinse off, turn it off when you're soapin' up)
- try not to use any paper products for one day (use a washable towel or a handkerchief)
- DON'T BE SHY ABOUT TELLING PEOPLE TO GRRR!!!!

Stay tuned for our next entry: FACTS ABOUT RE-USING

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#2

Hey Oxy, it's the ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION COALITION with our GRRR (Global Reduce Re-use Recycle) campaign, here to tell you WHY YOU SHOULD RECYCLE!!

Recycling...

SAVES ENERGY:

**Why to Recycle:**

- In 2000, recycling resulted in an annual energy savings equal to the amount of energy used in 6 MILLION homes!!
- Steel production from recycled scrap uses A THIRD of the energy it takes to produce steel from virgin ore.
- It takes 94% LESS ENERGY to recycle aluminum than it does to smelt the virgin ore.

CONSERVES NATURAL RESOURCES:

- Recycled paper supplies more than 37% of the raw materials used to make new paper products in the U.S.
- When one ton of steel is recycled, 2,500 pounds of ore, 1,400 pounds of coal and 120 pounds of limestone are conserved (1 ton =2,000 lbs)

REDUCES THE AMOUNT OF WASTE IN LANDFILLS:

- In 2003, recycling diverted 72 million tons of material away from landfills and incinerators.

(<http://www.nrc-recycle.org/resources/enviroben.htm>)

(<http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/non-hw/muncpl/facts.htm>)

Stay tuned: later this week we'll tell you HOW TO RECYCLE AT OXY!!!

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