

Kansas Green Teams

Friday Facts



America Recycles Day November 15, 2009

America Recycles Day is celebrating its 12th anniversary on November 15. This event has grown to include millions of Americans pledging to increase their recycling habits at home and work. Around half of the people in the United States are now served by curbside collection programs or drop-off and buy-back centers. This diverts about 33% of the nation's municipal solid waste stream from landfills. Source: <http://www.americarecyclesday.org/its-working.aspx>

What Kansans Recycled in 2008

In 2008 the average Kansan generated 6.75 pounds of waste per day but also recycled 1.70 pounds per day. Overall, Kansans generated a total of 3,451,139 tons of waste in 2008, and they recycled 865,631 tons, a recycling rate of 25%. This compares well with a national average of 33%.

Here are the number of tons recycled in 2008:

Paper	422,092 tons
Non-Ferrous Metal	55,100 tons
Ferrous Metal (white goods)	214,810 tons
Lead Acid Batteries	3,040 tons
Plastic	9,341 tons
Glass	9,058 tons
Electronic waste (e-waste)	3,277 tons
Other (mostly yard waste)	148,912 tons



Get Caught !

But we can do better. It is possible to reach a 30% recycling rate by 2012 with recycling events such as America Recycles Day. Here are some [cool ideas](#) from America Recycles Day website. Also check out their new [calculator](#) and the [events](#) in your area.

- ◇ Make the [pledge](#) to recycle and you will be joining others in Kansas and across the nation who are committed to the reduction, reuse, recycling and responsible disposal of resources.
- ◇ Teach our youth about recycling and buying recycled is very important. The [Kansas Green Schools](#) website has information about environmental projects and environmental education activities and resources like the [Kansas Kids Can Newsletter](#).
- ◇ Hold or participate in an [e-waste event](#) or check out “[How I can recycle](#)” on the [Get Caught Recycling](#) website for great information on reduction, reuse, and recycling.



HAPPY AMERICA RECYCLES DAY!



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