

Recycling By the Numbers

Part 1.

How much do you know about the amount of trash people create? Match the following figures with the facts shown below.

Figures

1. 17.6%
2. 4.40 lbs.
3. 40.4%
4. 4%
5. 87 million tons

Facts

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Facts*

- a. Amount of trash generated by one person per day in the U.S.
- b. Amount of decrease in consumer electronics disposed in landfills from 2012.
- c. Amount of decrease in consumer electronics entering the waste stream due to technological innovations in product design/manufacturing from 2012 to 2013.
- d. Amount of common waste, including yard waste, glass, plastic, paper, metals, and electronics, recycled in the U.S. in 2013.
- e. Percentage of discarded consumer electronics that were recycled in 2013.

Tech Manufacturers Lead the Way!

Improvements in technology now require less materials and prevent more e-waste from entering the waste stream than previously. Mark the boxes below that you think identify green design characteristics.

- 1. Use less hazardous materials to manufacture
- 2. Are painted green
- 3. Designed for longer life
- 4. Comes in recyclable packaging
- 5. Smaller, lighter, and more functional
- 6. Can recycle themselves
- 7. Are easy to disassemble
- 8. Require less extraction of natural resources
- 9. Made of magic dust
- 10. Require less time and cost to recycle



Part 2.

How do your family's recycling numbers add up? Take this sheet home to list 5 products you or another family member plan to throw away. Products might include items from your trash or an old item you no longer use. At least three of the five should be electronics, such as a television, cell phone, etc. You can visit GreenerGadgets.org for ideas. Record the recycling action you might take for that item below.



Product

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Reuse/Recycling Action To Be Taken

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Dear Parents,

Your child is participating in a free educational program from the Consumer Technology Association (CTA)[™] and curriculum specialists Young Minds Inspired (YMI) on keeping the environment healthy through electronics recycling. Help your child complete this part of the activity at home, then ask him or her to return the activity sheet to school.

Take action!

Set a family goal to recycle as many of the products and their packaging listed above as possible! Visit CTA's GreenerGadgets.org, where you can quickly and easily locate a responsible electronics recycling collector near you.

*source: epa.gov