



RECYCLING FACT SHEET

- Texans throw away approximately 7 pounds of waste per person per day.
- [27.5% of waste was recycled](#) in Texas in 2019, equaling 12.9 million tons diverted from landfills or incinerators.
- [Materials Recycled in Texas in 2019](#): Brush & Green Waste – 45%; Construction & Demolition Materials – 25%; Paper – 17%; Metal – 5%; Glass – 1%; Plastics – 1%; Other – 6%.
- Recycling 10,000 tons of waste [creates about a dozen jobs](#) in the recycling sector.
- Producing glass from recycled glass [saves 10-15% of the energy](#) required to make it from raw materials.
- Making paper from recycled materials [saves 60% of the energy](#) required to make it from trees.
- Producing a can from recycled aluminum [saves 95% of the energy](#) required to make a new one from raw materials.
- Recycling your used oil from one oil change at a drop-off location can prevent the [contamination of one million gallons of freshwater](#).
- Through used oil recycling programs, Texans diverted [81 million quarts of oil](#) from improper disposal in 2020.
- Nearly [44% of what was thrown away in 2019 could be recycled](#), resulting in up to \$2 billion of lost revenue from landfilling this material.
- The overall economic impact of the recycling industry in Texas [exceeded \\$4.8 billion](#) in 2019.
- Landfills are the [3rd largest source of methane emissions](#) in the United States.
- Utilizing compost on land may [provide greater drought resistance](#) and may reduce the frequency and intensity of irrigation needed.