

LESS TRASH = MORE RECYCLING



REDUCE TRASH BY 10%

$$= \downarrow T + \uparrow BC + \uparrow P + \uparrow YW$$



MORE RECYCLING = LESS TRASH + MORE BOTTLES/CANS + MORE PAPER + MORE YARD WASTE

Montgomery County Public Schools generated approximately 9,101 TONS of trash last year. The cost to dispose of trash was approximately \$510,000 last year. We can all help reduce MCPS trash problem by making environmentally aware decisions each day by helping to reduce, reuse and recycle at our schools. This year, let us all join together on a campaign to reduce trash (solid waste) at MCPS by 10% compared to last school year. Each of us generate on average 4.4 pounds of waste per day. Please visit SERT website to view year-to-date solid waste reduction at MCPS.

<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/facilities/greenschoolsfocus/pdf/solidwastetonnage.pdf>

TIPS TO REDUCE TRASH

REDUCE

- Don't waste food.
- Pack waste free lunch or snacks.
- Do not take more than you need to use. For example, don't take packets of ketchup, napkins, or utensils or Styrofoam trays unless you need them.
- Use cloth napkins instead of paper towels and napkins.
- Sell or donate things you don't want instead of throwing them out.

REUSE

- Use both sides of paper. Keep a collection of scrap paper to reuse.
- Wash plastic containers/ jars and reuse.
- Buy things in plastic or glass containers that can be reused or recycled.
- Reuse boxes.
- Use reusable containers for food instead of disposable containers, plastic wrap, foil, or sandwich bags.
- Reuse plastic bags when possible.

RECYCLE

- Recycle paper/cardboard and milk/juice cartons. One ton of recycled paper saves 3,700 pounds of lumber and 24,000 gallons of water.
- Recycle commingled material such as plastic bottles, glass, aluminum cans and black plastic (Tap & Stack). Americans throw away enough aluminum every three months to rebuild our entire commercial air fleet.
- "Drink & Drop"-Drink milk or juice before recycling container, don't dispose fluids in trash cans.
- Recycle printer cartridges, toner bottles, batteries, and cell phones instead of throwing them as trash.

If you have any questions please call 240-314-1090 or e-mail your questions to Recycling@mcpsmd.org