

King County Green Schools Program



Reduce



Reuse



Recycle



Rethink

Waste Reduction and Recycling



King County

Department of
Natural Resources and Parks
Solid Waste Division

Waste
Prevention

Resource
Recovery

Waste
Disposal

Today we will become experts in waste reduction and recycling to understand:

- Why we recycle
- How to recycle
- Actions we can take to improve recycling

Why we recycle



FACT

OR



FICTION

Fact or Fiction?



King County

Department of
Natural Resources and Parks
Solid Waste Division

Fact or Fiction?

King County residents send a total of 2 million pounds of trash to the landfill every day.



Fact or Fiction?

King County residents send a total of 2 million pounds of trash to the landfill every day.



FICTION

Fact or Fiction?

King county residents send **4.5 million pounds** of trash to the landfill every day – that's equal to 200 school buses full of trash!



Fact or Fiction?



King County

Department of
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Fact or Fiction?

Of all the trash sent to the landfill in King County, 70 percent of it could have been reused, recycled, or composted.



Fact or Fiction?

Of all the trash sent to the landfill in King County, 70 percent of it could have been reused, recycled, or composted.



Fact or Fiction?



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Fact or Fiction?

When garbage is buried at the landfill, it will quickly decompose.



Fact or Fiction?

When garbage is buried at the landfill, it will quickly decompose.



FICTION

Fact or Fiction?

Garbage will be buried at the landfill and then will sit there for **a very long time**. Decomposition inside of a landfill is limited and occurs very slowly.



Fact or Fiction?



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Fact or Fiction?

According to a study done in 2015, about 5 percent of solid waste sent to the Cedar Hills Landfill is food.



Fact or Fiction?

According to a study done in 2015, about 5 percent of solid waste sent to the Cedar Hills Landfill is food.



FICTION

Fact or Fiction?

According to a study done in 2015, about **20 percent** of all solid waste sent to the Cedar Hills Landfill is food.



Fact or Fiction?



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Fact or Fiction?

Recycling materials, instead of throwing them away, can save natural resources *and* reduce our impact on global warming.



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How to recycle...

Sort it out!



Garbage



Bottle caps



Candy and gum wrappers, chip bags



Condiment packages



Foam containers



Foil lids from plastic cups



Plastic utensils



Straws



Plastic baggies



Tissues

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Department of
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Solid Waste Division
Aug 2016/2K



Recycle



Paper
(staples are OK)



Cardboard



Catalogs, magazines



Envelopes



Mail



Newspapers



Milk cartons



Juice boxes



Metal cans



Plastic bottles, cups, cereal bowls



Paper coffee cups



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Aug 2016DK

Food scraps + other compostable materials



- NO** foam
- NO** glass
- NO** metal
- NO** plastic
- NO** straws
- NO** tissues



 **King County**
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Aug 2016OK

Actions we can take to improve recycling





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Waste
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201 South Jackson Street, Suite 701
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711 TTY Relay
your.kingcounty.gov/solidwaste



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