PAPER RECYCLING

Paper and paperboard are some of the most widely recycled materials in the world. Paper recycling recovers fiber that can be used to manufacturer other paper products, producing jobs while protecting the environment.

ECONOMIC IMPACT
The paper recycling industry’s total economic impact in the United States is nearly $34 billion, and 154,000 jobs.

RECOVERED FIBER IS WIDESPREAD
About 80 percent of U.S. paper mills rely on recovered fiber to make some or all their products, due in part to recovered fiber’s significant cost and energy savings compared with virgin fiber.

SAVING THE EARTH
Recycling one ton of paper saves 3.3 cubic yards of landfill space. Since 1990, Americans have recycled more than 1.4 billion tons of recovered paper and fiber.

USING FAR LESS ENERGY
Manufacturing paper and paperboard with recycled materials uses up to 68 percent less energy than virgin paper materials.

A VALUABLE COMMODITY
The U.S. exported 18.5 million tons of recovered fiber in 2019, generating nearly $2.8 billion in export sales.

The Paper Recycling Process
Newspapers can be recycled into cardboard boxes.

1. OLD NEWSPAPERS ARE COLLECTED & BUNDLED
2. SOLD TO SCRAP PAPER RECYCLERS
3. PRESSED INTO HUGE BALES
4. PULP MADE INTO CARDBOARD SHEETS
5. SHEETS ARE MADE INTO CARDBOARD BOXES
6. BOXES ARE USED TO SHIP NEW PRODUCTS
7. SENT TO PAPER MILL & MADE INTO PAPER PULP

Sources: EPA, John Dunham & Associates