

## Recycled products

More and more recyclable materials are being collected every day in your green wheeled bins, bring banks and at household waste sorting sites. These are sent to recycling facilities to be processed and manufactured into new materials and products.

It is essential that we create and support markets for these materials to enable the recycling loop to be closed. By creating such markets, the value of recyclable materials increases thereby encouraging the reprocessing of more commercial, household and industrial waste – and supporting the principle of sustainable development.



At Leeds City Council, we collect and recycle or compost a wide range of materials and products including: aluminium foil, batteries (car & domestic), books, cardboard, clothes/shoes, electrical goods, food & drinks cans, fluorescent tubes, furniture, garden waste, glass bottles & jars, ink cartridges, mobile phones, newspapers & magazines, oil (engine/vegetable), paint, plastic bags & bottles, scrap metal, spectacles, stamps, tyres and wood.

By recycling your household waste you help to:

- preserve natural resources for future generations;
- reduce the demand for mining and quarrying which damages the environment;
- save energy in transportation and manufacturing processes;
- reduce emissions of dioxins and greenhouse gases, which contribute to global warming;
- create employment opportunities in the collection schemes and recycling centres;
- reduce disposal of waste to landfill sites; and
- supply the investment to support the development of the recycling industry.

For example;

- The energy saved from recycling one glass bottle will provide sufficient energy to power a 100 watt light bulb for almost an hour.
- The total unreleased energy in the average waste produced by your family annually could power a television for 5,000 hours.
- The energy saved by recycling 1 aluminium drink can is enough to run a television for three hours.



Buying products manufactured from recycled materials is easy. Everyday products can be bought in high street stationers and supermarkets such as recycled calendars, diaries, kitchen rolls, notebooks, refuse sacks, tablecloths & napkins, tissues, toilet paper and writing paper. You can also purchase an array of innovative products such as bathroom accessories, birds nesting boxes, bracelets, clocks, garden furniture, glassware, household furniture, mouse mats, clothing and cushions.

If you think that a product could be manufactured from recycled materials and cannot see it available in your local store, please ask whether they would consider stocking such items in the future. If enough people request recycled products, the retailer will have an incentive to broaden their range and support this growing market.

Nevertheless, some consumers continue to be concerned about the quality of the recycled materials and products – and perceive that they may be inferior to those produced from raw materials. However, you have probably already purchased products manufactured from recycled materials – such as chipboard & MDF, food & drinks cans, newspapers or the filling

inside duvets & pillows. In addition, aluminium, glass and steel can be recycled without any deterioration in the product quality, and although paper fibres shorten and weaken upon recycling – high quality recycled paper is widely available.



A wide range of the materials and products manufactured from recycled sources may be found at [www.recycledproducts.org.uk](http://www.recycledproducts.org.uk) or alternatively visit the Recycle Now website at [www.recyclenow.com](http://www.recyclenow.com). Other useful websites are: [www.greenchoices.org.uk](http://www.greenchoices.org.uk), [www.ecomall.com](http://www.ecomall.com), [www.greenshop.co.uk](http://www.greenshop.co.uk) and [www.cat.org.uk](http://www.cat.org.uk). Some charities also offer recycled products, including greeting cards and stationary, through their mail order catalogues.