## TOGETHER, WE CAN MAKEADIFFERENCE

**SMALL CHANGES** IN BEHAVIOR CAN HAVE A **BIG IMPACT** ON OUR PLANET!

WHEN YOU *THROW* SOMETHING AWAY, WHERE DOES IT GO?











END UP IN LANDFILLS IT **DOESN'T** HAVE TO



YOU CAN DRAMATICALLY REDUCE THE AMOUNT OF TRASH THAT IS THROWN AWAY BY TAKING A FEW EASY STEPS:



MATERIALS you use, which



AND

THOSE





BY **thinking about what we're using** and how TO REDUCE THE WASTE WE PRODUCE, WE CAN HELP

WHAT IS MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE (MSW)?

MSW **DOES NOT** INCLUDE INDUSTRIAL, HAZARDOUS, OR CONSTRUCTION WASTE.

**OUR** 

TRASH, OR

MUNICIPAL

SOLID WASTE, IS COMPRISED OF VARIOUS MATERIALS AMERICANS COMMONLY THROW **AWAY AFTER** BEING USED.



THAT COULD BE COMPOSTED





THE IMPACT

DID YOU KNOW?







MILLION

COMPARABLETO REMOVING THE

IS OF MSW.

ANNUALLY, THIS ELIMINATED MORE THAN 186 MILLION METRIC TONS OF CO<sub>2</sub> EQUIVALENT EMISSIONS REDUCED WHICH IS,

RECYCLING AND COMPOSTING

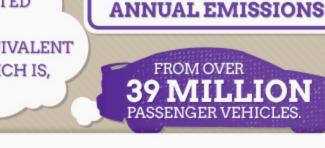
87 MILLION TONS

of MSW...

SAVED ALMOST

NATIONALLY,

WE RECYCLED



FROM OVER 39 MILLION RECYCLING AND COMPOSTING HELPS SAVE NATURAL RESOURCES.

OF ENERGY

CONSUMED BY OVER

**10 MILLION** 

1.1 QUADRILLION U.S. HOUSEHOLDS THE SAME BTU OF ENERGY. AMOUNT IN A YEAR.

> CAN SAVE THE ENERGY EOUIVALENT

THAT'S

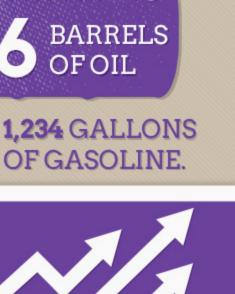
OF PAPER RECYCLED RECYCLING

> ALUMINUM CANS CONSERVES

**OVER** 

153 MILLION

**EQUIVALENT TO** 



OVER THE LAST FEW DECADES, **THE** RECYCLING, COMPOSTING, AND DISPOSAL OF MSW HAS CHANGED. 4.40 LBS N 1980

**TONS** OF YARD TRIMMINGS

WERE COMPOSTED...

PROGRESS

WHILE THE AMOUNT OF MSW PRODUCED WENT UP PER PERSON PER DAY, RECYCLING HAS ALSO INCREASED. IN 2013, OVER 20 MILLION



HOW YOU CAN HELP

ALMOST

FIVE TIMES AS

MUCH AS IN 1990.

· Shop for products made with recycled materials. · Buy items with less packaging. · Buy refillable, reusable containers. · Bring reusable cloth or canvas bags to the grocery store.

(applies to food as well).

IN STORES:

AT HOME:

- · Use energy-efficient light bulbs and rechargeable batteries. · Reuse plastic bags. Ask to be removed from paper mailing lists.
- · Don't throw anything away that can be reused or repaired. · For unwanted used electronics, try upgrading the device to

· Buy only what you need or what you know you will use

- continue using it. Otherwise, donate or recycle it. · Print on both sides of paper (and use recycled paper).

see http://1.usa.gov/USmsw.

Compost your food scraps and yard waste.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE TODAY!

If we all take small steps every day to reduce the amount of waste we

produce, we can help protect our planet for generations to come.

**ŞEPA** 

ntal Protection

For more information, visit www.epa.gov/recycle.

This information is based on data from EPA's Advancing Sustainable

Materials Management: Facts and Figures 2013. For more information,