

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**CITY OF OXFORD**  
**MAYOR'S HOME CONSERVATION TIPS FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST:**

The very basic definition of recycling is the process of collecting and processing materials that would otherwise be thrown away as trash and turning them into new products. Recycling can benefit your community and the environment.

One year ago, August 2012, the City of Oxford recycled over 30 tons of materials through the curbside recycling program.

One ton of recycled newsprint saves 601 Kwh (kilowatt-hour) of energy, 1.7 barrels of oil (71 gallons), 10.2 million Btu's (*British thermal unit*) of energy, 60 pounds of air pollutants from being released, 7000 gallons of water, and 4.6 cubic yards of landfill space. That is a lot of conservation.

If every American recycled just one-tenth of their newspapers, we could save about 25 million trees each year. Recycling 100 aluminum cans could light your bedroom for two whole weeks. We generate 21.5 million tons of food waste each year. If we composted that food, it would reduce the same amount of greenhouse gas as taking 2 million cars off the road.

The benefits of recycling are as follows:

- Reduces the amount of waste sent to landfills and incinerators;
- Conserves natural resources such as timber, water, and minerals;
- Prevents pollution caused by reducing the need to collect new raw materials;
- Saves energy;
- Reduces greenhouse gas emissions that contribute to global climate change;
- Helps sustain the environment for future generations;
- Helps create new well-paying jobs in the recycling and manufacturing industries in the United States.

*For more information on recycling visit, [www2.epa.gov/recycle/recycling-basics](http://www2.epa.gov/recycle/recycling-basics) or [www.dosomething.org](http://www.dosomething.org)*

*Green Challenge Committee members:  
Commissioners: Betty Moseley (Chair), Ron Bullock, and Calvin "C.J." Harris*