



# ***Taking Care of the Beauty***

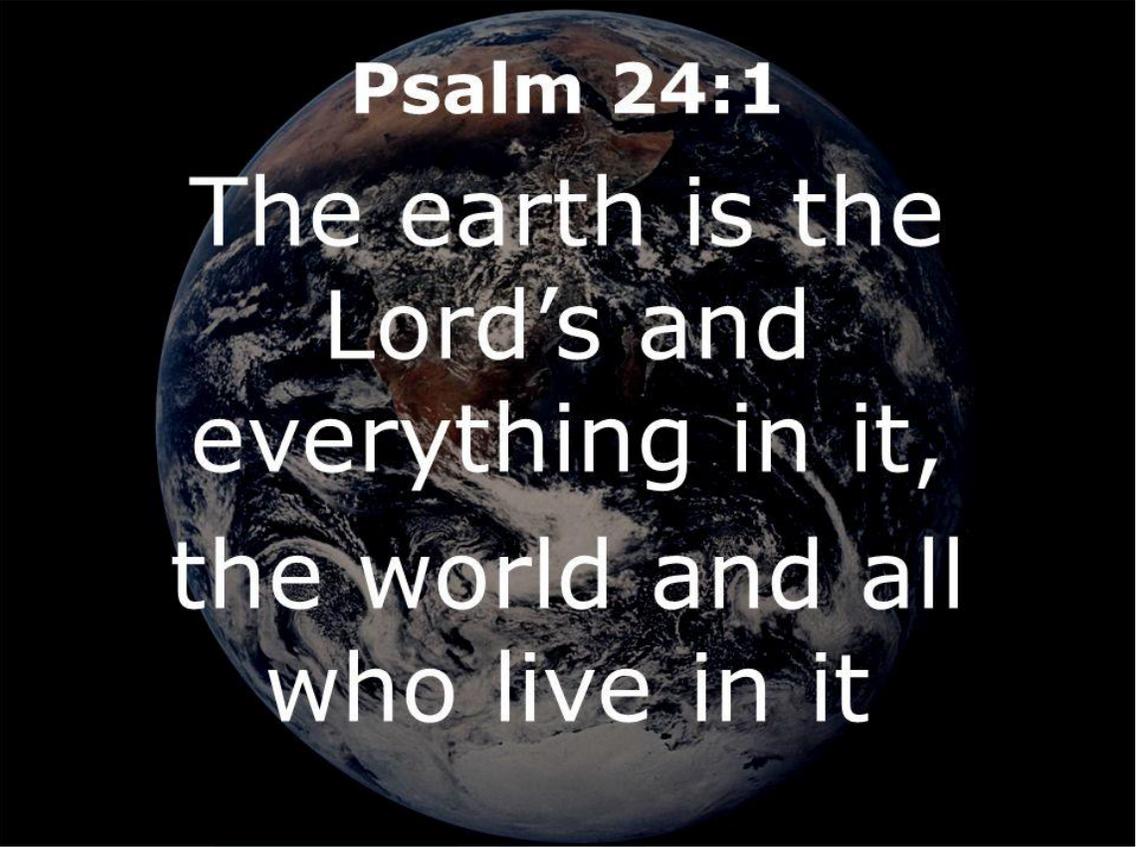
KEEPING THE WORLD BEAUTIFUL BY RECYCLING AND COMPOSTING

# *Tending the Responsibility.*

THIS BEAUTIFUL WORLD IS A GIFT FOR US TO ENJOY, AND IS ALSO OUR RESPONSIBILITY TO TEND.

IT IS FOR OUR BENEFIT, AND THE CREATOR'S GLORY, THAT WE TAKE GOOD CARE OF WHAT HAS BEEN ENTRUSTED TO US.

**Psalm 24:1**



The earth is the  
Lord's and  
everything in it,  
the world and all  
who live in it

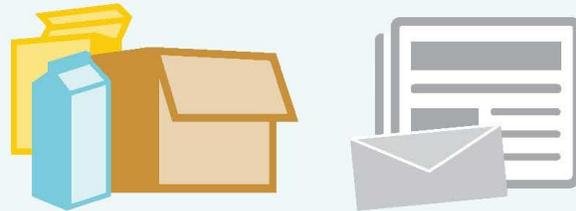
One of the big ways we can take care of this wonderful gift, and keep it beautiful, is by recycling:

# RECYCLE

PUT RECYCLABLES  
IN THE RECYCLING BIN



glass      metal and cans      plastics #1 - 7



cardboard  
and cartons      paper and  
newspaper

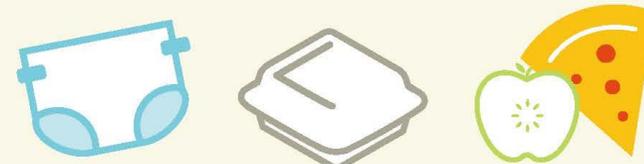


# TRASH

PUT NON-RECYCLABLES IN YOUR  
TRASH OR COMPOST



film plastic (plastic wrap,  
bags, bubble wrap, etc.)      yard clippings  
(if not composting)



dirty diapers  
or cat litter      foam      food (if not  
composting)



**ecomaine**

For a comprehensive list, please visit [www.ecomaine.org](http://www.ecomaine.org).  
64 Blueberry Road, Portland 773-1738 [info@ecomaine.org](mailto:info@ecomaine.org)

# Reasons to Recycle:

➤ **Recycling reduces landfills and saves on energy in creating new products/materials:**

By recycling, we can reduce the amount of material that goes into landfills each year; and use this same reusable material to create new products.

➤ **Recycling helps protect the environment from pollution:**

By recycling, we reduce the need to process raw materials - by extracting and refining – which creates air and water pollution.

➤ **Recycling offers jobs:**

The United States recycling industry employs around 1.1 million workers; it has more than 56,000 recycling and reusing enterprises; and it is a \$236 billion a year operation.

➤ **Recycling promotes a clean future for the generations to come:**

Recycling reduces the amount of reusable materials that are wasted; and recycling keeps our environment beautiful for the generations to come after us!

**The United States Environmental Protection Agency [EPA] estimates that 75% of our trash is recyclable; but most people generally only recycle 30% of all that which could be recycled!**

# *Recycling for Beginners:*

1. SEE WHAT YOUR COMMUNITY OFFERS FOR RECYCLING: SOME OFFER CURBSIDE PICK-UPS, WHILE OTHERS OFFER RECYCLING CENTERS AND DROP-OFF SITES.
2. SEE WHAT SPECIFIC ITEMS YOUR COMMUNITY RECYCLES, THEN SELECT BINS FOR EACH TYPE OF ITEM FOR YOUR HOME (PLASTIC; TIN; CARDBOARD; PAPER; ALUMINUM CANS; ETC.). WHEN YOU HAVE A DESIGNATED PLACE FOR EACH RECYCLABLE, YOU WILL BE MUCH MORE LIKELY TO RECYCLE.
3. WITH ALL DUE DILIGENCE, SOON YOUR RECYCLING WILL BECOME A HEALTHY HABIT THAT BENEFITS YOU, THE PEOPLE AROUND YOU, AND YOUR ENVIRONMENT! – THANK YOU IN ADVANCE!



# Composting for Beginners:

You'll want to start with a designated place to dump all biodegradable matter; and there are two different types of containers for doing this:

1. Slow compost, open air container: is usually made out of wooden pallets and set outside, in your yard – preferably in the shade.
2. Hot (or fast) composting container: is usually made out of plastic, and is almost completely sealed to speed up the breaking down of materials (usually set outside in the corner of your garden for easy access).

You'll want to fill your composting container with 1 part green to every 2 parts brown:

- Greens: vegetable peelings, grass clippings, cow manure, coffee grounds – all are full of nitrogen
- Browns: dead autumn leaves (not diseased leaves), cardboard, shredded paper, twigs, saw dust – all are full of carbon.

You'll want to layer each type (green and brown) like a lasagna into your containers.

The open air container will require 9 – 12 months of time before the plant matter turns into that rich, 'black gold' dirt ideal for gardening and fertilizing. The more enclosed container will require anywhere from 5 – 10 months of biodegrading time.

Once the contents of your bins have decomposed, you can then spread the rich sediment over your garden, potted plants, or flowerbeds for a nourishing, nutrient rich fertilizer.

1.



2.



# ***Biodegradables:***

***Be sure to layer 1 part green for every 2 parts brown in your composting bin to enable the ideal fertilizer outcome.***

## **‘Green’ Compostable Matter (nitrogen containing):**

- Vegetable and fruit scraps and peelings
- Fresh grass clippings
- Manure from vegetarian animals (cows, horses, guinea pigs, rabbits, etc.)
- Coffee grounds (used)
- Used brewery grains
- Not yet flowered weeds

## **‘Brown’ Compostable Matter (carbon containing):**

- Dried grass
- Fall/autumn leaves
- Cardboard and newspaper
- Shredded paper
- Saw dust from untreated wood

(- Inspired by Huw Richards of Grow Food Organically)

Once we have come to a place of appreciation, and a recognition of this beautiful gift of the world surrounding us, we will also see where we can work to make things better and cleaner.

Let's focus specifically on admiring the beauty around us; and also, let us take into account how we can work to keep our specific surroundings beautiful and clean – with great joy!

it is not only for  
what we do that  
we are held  
responsible, but  
also for what  
we do not do.

Moliere

Yours, LORD,  
is the greatness  
and the power  
and the glory  
and the majesty  
and the splendor,  
for everything  
in heaven and earth  
is yours.

Yours, LORD, is the kingdom;  
you are exalted as head over all.  
1 Chronicles 29:11

Let's honor The Creator  
with everything that we  
do!

And let's start recycling  
and composting in order  
to do our part in keeping  
the earth beautiful!