

Brewster Facts

1. Reducing the waste we produce is the most efficient form of waste management. Reduction not only decreases the amount of waste, it lessens the quantity of materials passing through the other stages of the waste management hierarchy. Reduction is easy. Just stop and ask yourself a few questions.
2. "Do I really need this item?" Much of what we purchase is bought because of impulse, advertising or peer pressure. Be smart, buy only the things you really need and replace older items only when they are truly useless.
3. "Which brand/kind of item should I buy?" Purchase the product that has high quality: quality products last longer. Refuse to buy items that are over packaged. In North America packaging can be responsible for 50% of the garbage generated. One way to avoid excess packaging is to buy a product in "bulk" or in the largest size available.
4. By taking the time to carefully choose what you purchase not only is waste reduced but energy and natural resources are preserved. Less packaging means less paper is needed to make the packaging. Less paper means more trees are left standing. Less plastic wrap and film cuts down on the fossil fuels needed to make the plastic. Resources will still be used but at a much slower pace. This gives renewable resources the chance to regenerate and helps non-renewable resources to last longer.
5. Energy is also saved through waste reduction. Less gasoline, electricity, or other forms of energy are needed to extract resources for manufacturing. Canadians use more energy per capita than any other country. Turning off the television and lights when no one is in a room, using the dishwasher only when it is full and walking or bicycling on short trips are just a few energy saving ideas.
6. Reducing waste is good for the environment because it will fix today's waste problem and stops future problems from happening.

