



Make Pittsburgh Even Cooler in June:

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

Instead of throwing away your unwanted items, consider different ways to reduce, reuse, and recycle. Doing this can save you money and reduce global warming pollution.

Recycle Everything You Can

According to the Environmental Protection Agency, recycling half of your trash can prevent up to 509 pounds of heat-trapping gases from being released into the air each year. Recycling takes less energy and water than using new materials, and it also saves space in landfills.

The City of Pittsburgh has made curbside recycling available to every resident, and you can put everything at the curb in the same blue bag! Items for curbside pick-up:

- Paper (including newspaper, junk mail, magazines, paperboard, office paper, and phone books)
- Plastic bottles (numbers 1 to 5)
- Glass and metal containers (aluminum, tin, and steel, including empty paint containers and aerosol cans)

Drop-off centers located throughout the City also take recyclables, non-freon appliances, and yard clippings. To find out what day your recycling pickup is, call the City's Environmental Services at 412-255-2773 or visit this link: <http://www.city.pittsburgh.pa.us/pw/html/recycling.html>.

Consider also recycling common electronics like cell phones and computers. The Environmental Protection Agency says that recycling just one computer can save up to 206 pounds of heat-trapping gases, and every five cell phones can save up to two pounds of heat-trapping gases. Look for places that properly reuse materials and get rid of the poisons in your electronics. Stay away from places that just dump them in landfills or other countries. One place that responsibly recycles electronics:

eLoop, through Construction Junction at 214 N. Lexington Street. A small fee is charged for items at drop-off, but this money goes to make sure that your item is processed in a safe way. Contact eLoop at (724) 325-1326 or Construction Junction at (412) 243-5025

Looking for more recycling information and sources? Contact Pennsylvania Resources Council at www.prc.org or call (412) 488-7490. Or, pay a virtual visit to Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh at www.clpgh.org/research/scitech/environment/recycling.htm

Save the Hassle and Save Paper, Too

The average household gets about 41 pounds of junk mail and about 7 pounds of bills every year. Just getting rid of half of your junk mail and switching to e-billing can stop up to 260 pounds of heat-trapping gases from being released each year.

- **Cancel your junk mail:**
 - www.DMAchoice.org – At no cost, you can cut 80 percent of your junk mail for three years.
 - www.41pounds.org – For a \$41 fee, you can reduce 80-95 percent of your junk mail for five years.
 - 1-888-5-OPTOUT (1-888-567-8688) – Reduce credit and insurance offers by calling this number to remove your name from this central mailing list.
 - **Sign-up for paperless e-billing:** E-billing allows you to instantly pay your bills online without having to write a check, address an envelope, or use a stamp. To register for e-billing, go to the company's website, create an account, and then pay your bill through credit or debit. Many banks also offer this service through their websites.

Give it a Second Chance

Giving donations and buying donated things are perfect ways to give clothes, toys, furniture, and appliances a second chance. Not only can you get good quality items at a low cost (or for free!), but you can also save space in landfills, which ultimately reduces air pollution and global warming.

- **FreeCycle:** Give away or get things for absolutely free! Just create an account at www.freecycle.org, join a local group, post what you want to give away, and search for what you want to get.
- **Donation Centers:**
 - **Goodwill Industries of Pittsburgh** – Takes clothes, household items, even boats and vehicles. Drop-off centers are located at:

South Side Store	North Side Store
2700 E Carson St	509 E Ohio St
Pittsburgh, PA 15203	Pittsburgh, PA 15212
(412) 481-5390	(412) 322-5666
 - **Salvation Army** – Takes small household items, clothes, toys, books, jewelry, furniture, and vehicles. You can schedule pick-up or find out your nearest drop-off center by calling 1-800-SA-TRUCK (1-800-728-7825).
 - **East End Community Thrift Shop** – Takes nearly everything except food. Drop off at 5123 Penn Avenue but then call first at (412) 361-6010.

Nearly every place that accepts donations also resells stuff. So you can reuse other people's recycled things at all of the above, plus many consignment stores. You can find a good list of consignment shops online at

<http://www.insiderpages.com/s/PA/Pittsburgh/ConsignmentShops>

Track Your Progress

Go to our website (<http://www.theblackandgoldcitygoesgreen.com>) and fill in the tracking form so we can measure how much we're all cutting our heat-trapping gases. No computer? No problem. Call us at 412-258-6680 or fill in one of the postcards available throughout the city.