

February 2010



The POWER to SAVE

Did you Know?

- If everyone in the United States recycled their Sunday paper, we could save half a million trees every week.
- Every month in the United States we throw away enough aluminum cans to rebuild all the airplanes in the US.
- Every year, Americans throw away enough plastic bottles and jugs to wrap around the earth 4 times.

Upcoming Events:

Go Green Day @ AMS is the last school Friday of every month. This month it is Friday, February 26th. During our Go Green Days, our students discuss the monthly theme during classes.

How you can help!:

All year we recycle plastics in our cafeteria. Unfortunately this plastic can not be picked up by the same people who pick up recyclable materials at your home. Please contact the office to see if you can help pick up our recyclables once during the month of February. We bring our plastic recyclables to the DPW. (781) 393-2228

This Month's Green Thought:

"You must be the change you want to see in the word."

- Mahatma Gandhi

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Paper Hearts

This month while your kids are making paper valentines, consider this: According to the National Resource Defense Council (NRDC), Americans throw away enough paper every year to build a 12 foot high wall stretching from New York to California. In fact, US EPA estimates that only about one third of recyclable waste is actually recycled. It's staggering.

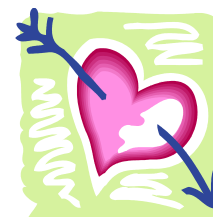
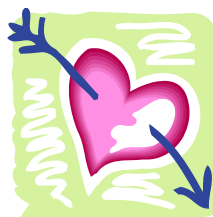
We all know that recycling keeps trash out of land fills. But what does recycling have to do with energy efficiency? Quite a lot, actually. It requires significantly less energy to manufacture goods from recycled materials. What's more, recycled materials biodegrade more quickly than first generation products, so they break down faster when you dispose of them.

Another important consideration is that when we recycle materials for re-use, we produce less. It is estimated that every 2 seconds, somewhere in the world, a forest the size of a football field is destroyed to produce paper. This destruction has serious implications for our climate. Trees absorb carbon dioxide and convert it into oxygen - effectively cleaning the air we breathe. In fact, during its lifetime, a tree can absorb the same amount of CO2 that the average car releases after being driven for 4000 miles.

The EPA recommends that we remember the environmental 3R's:

- **Reduce** the amount of products we buy.
- **Reuse** items rather than dispose of them.
- **Recycle** all that you can.

By remembering the 3R's, we can save money and energy today, and help protect our planet for tomorrow.



Contact Us:

If you have any questions, please contact the Andrews at 781 393-2228. You may also contact the event chair, Timothy Blake, principal @ tblake@medford.k12.ma.us