## TOGETHER, WE CAN MAKEADIFFERENCE

SMALL CHANGES IN BEHAVIOR CAN HAVE A BIG IMPACT ON OUR PLANET!

WHEN YOU *THROW* SOMETHING AWAY, WHERE DOES IT GO?















' DOESN'T HAVE T YOUCAN DRAMATICALLY REDUCE THE AMOUNT OF TRASH THAT IS THROWN AWAY BY

**TAKING A FEW EASY STEPS:** 



REUSE



RECYCLE WHENEVER POSSIBLE AND



YOU

RETHINK THE MATERIALS



**THROW** THOSE BY THINKING ABOUT WHAT WE'RE USING AND HOW TO REDUCE THE WASTE WE PRODUCE, WE CAN HELP CREATE A CLEANER, HEALTHIER ENVIRONMENT.

WHAT IS **MUNICIPAL** SOLID WASTE (MSW)?

## TRASH, OR **MUNICIPAL** SOLID WASTE, IS COMPRISED OF VARIOUS **MATERIALS AMERICANS**

**OUR** 

**COMMONLY THROW** 

**AWAY AFTER** 

BEING USED.

MSW DOES NOT INCLUDE

INDUSTRIAL, HAZARDOUS





THAT COULD BE











9 MILLION

TONS OF MSW.

**COMPARABLE TO** 

**REMOVING THE** 

ENDS UP IN

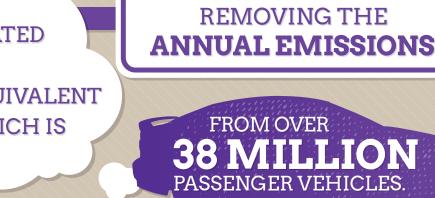


**RECYCLING** AND

BTU OF ENERGY.

NATIONALLY,

**WE RECYCLED** 

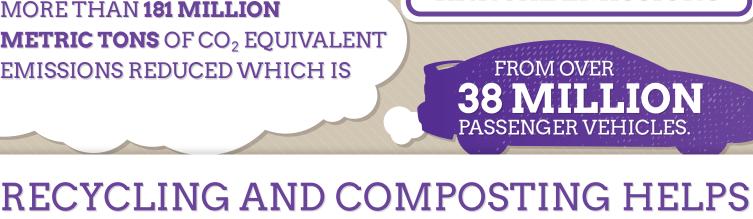


SAVE NATURAL RESOURCES.

**THE SAME** AMOUNT

AND

COMPOSTED



COMPOSTING 89 MILLION TONS of MSW... SAVED ALMOST THAT'S 1.1 QUADRILLION

RECYCLING

ALUMINUM CANS

**CONSERVES** 

**OVER** 

OF PAPER RECYCLED

**CAN SAVE** THE ENERGY **EQUIVALENT** 

**EQUIVALENT TO** 

BARRELS

**1,024** GALLONS OF GASOLINE.

OFOIL

OF ENERGY

**CONSUMED BY OVER** 

25 MILLION

U.S. HOUSEHOLDS

INAYEAR.



IN 2013, OVER 21 MILLION

3.7 LBS IN 1980

AND LANDFILLING OF MSW HAS CHANGED. WHILE THE AMOUNT OF **MSW PRODUCED WENT UP** PER PERSON PER DAY, RECYCLING HAS ALSO INCREASED.



**MILLION TONS** 

HOW YOU CAN HELP

• Bring reusable cloth or canvas bags to the grocery store.

· Buy only what you need or what you know you will use

то 136

IN STORES:

(applies to food as well).

• Buy items with less packaging.

• Buy refillable, reusable containers.

FROM **145.3** 

**MILLION** 

• Shop for products made with recycled materials.

## • Use energy-efficient light bulbs and rechargeable batteries. Reuse plastic bags.

AT HOME:

- Ask to be removed from paper mailing lists.
- Don't throw anything away that can be reused or repaired. • For unwanted used electronics, try upgrading the device to
- continue using it. Otherwise, donate or recycle it. • **Print on both sides of paper** (and use recycled paper)
- or do not print at all. • **Compost** your food scraps and yard waste.
- MAKE A **DIFFERENCE TODAY!** If we all take **small steps every day** to reduce the amount of waste we produce, we can help protect our planet for generations to come.

see http://1.usa.gov/USmsw



United States Environmental Protection Agency

For more information, visit www.epa.gov/recycle.

This information is based on data from EPA's Advancing Sustainable Materials Management: Facts and Figures 2013. For more information,