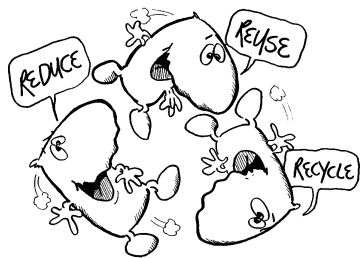




HOW TO REDUCE WASTE IN PRIMARY AND INTERMEDIATE SCHOOLS



AUCKLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL RESOURCES AVAILABLE

Regional Waste has prepared and published a comprehensive Teacher's Resource Kit for use in the classroom and to help promote recycling and waste minimisation. It is designed to fit in with the junior and intermediate school curriculum and is full of lively and interesting activities for the children to do.

A free Teacher Information Pack is also available. Free visits to schools and community groups can be arranged.

Contact: Sandy Thomas,
Education Co-ordinator 09-366 2000 (ext. 7100)



Contacts

- ◆ PAPER CHAIN
Phone: 09-525 6409
Contact: Sarah Clothier
- ◆ PAPER RECLAIM
Phone: 09-571 0242
Contact: Peter Thorne
- ◆ WASTECARE
Phone: 09-527 1300
Contact: Clinton Jones
- ◆ SIMS PACIFIC METALS
Phone: 09-579 5127 or 0800 254 226
Contact: Bernadette Gamble
- ◆ AUCKLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL
Sandy Thomas - Education Co-ordinator
Phone: 09-366 2000 (ext. 7100)











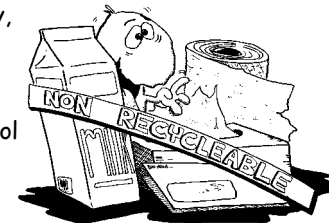
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RECYCLED PAPER



HOW TO GET STARTED

-  Have a full staff meeting including your caretaker and office staff.
-  Make waste reduction and recycling part of your school policy.
-  Invite someone from the ARC (Sandy Thomas 09-366 2000 ext. 7100), to speak at the staff meeting or at a school assembly.
-  Explain to children what is happening, why, and what to do.
-  Have a "Launch Day" at the school assembly.
-  Make sure teachers reinforce the system in the playground and the classroom.
-  Make sure the correct items are being put in recycling bins.
-  Promote the system within the school with lessons on waste reduction, recycling and composting.



Reducing waste has several benefits:

- ◆ Saves resources
- ◆ Increases the life of landfills
- ◆ Reduces waste costs
- ◆ Eliminates air emissions from incinerators

Paper, cans, plastic bottles, food and garden waste can all be reduced or eliminated from your waste bin. This pamphlet gives some quick and simple ideas to reduce or recycle the main elements of your school's waste. You can try all of these suggestions or just start with one area and see how you go.

What's in your rubbish bin that can be reduced or recycled?

- ✂ Paper – classroom and office
- ✂ Cardboard
- ✂ Food scraps
- ✂ Glass bottles and jars
- ✂ Aluminium cans
- ✂ Plastic bottles
- ✂ Garden waste



Paper

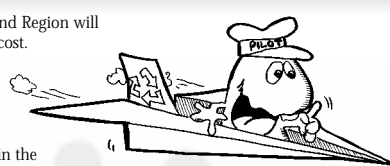
Reducing the amount of paper you use reduces waste, saves money on paper costs, rubbish removal and cuts down on incineration.

- ◆ Use paper on both sides when printing and photocopying.
- ◆ Keep a box of paper that has only been used on one side to be used again.
- ◆ Use paper that is used on one side to receive incoming faxes. Print fax forms for outgoing faxes on one-sided paper.



Several companies in the Auckland Region will remove clean waste paper at no cost. See the back of this pamphlet for details of paper recyclers. To recycle paper you need to:

- ◆ Put a box or a bin in each classroom, beside each desk in the office, and any other area where paper is used. The children may want to decorate the boxes.
- ◆ In the office make sure the recycling box is easier to get to than the rubbish bin!
- ◆ Make sure everyone knows that the paper should be placed **FLAT** in the box.
- ◆ Set up a central collection point for paper. This should be in a covered area to protect the paper from wind and rain.
- ◆ Make sure everyone knows that the following types of paper should not be placed in the bins:
 - food wrapping,
 - carbon and shiny fax paper,
 - windowed envelopes,
 - waxed or plasticised cartons.



Talk to the collection company about cardboard. Most will take this along with the paper, as long as it has been flattened.



Glass, Aluminium Cans and Plastic Bottles 1 & 2

Most primary and intermediate schools do not have many of these containers, but you may want to recycle those you have.

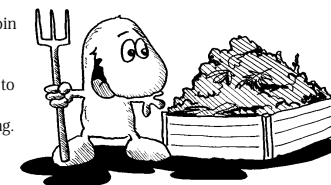
- ◆ If you do have a large number of aluminium cans you could contact Sims Pacific Metals to arrange a collection cage for your school. These are free and easy to manage, you would be paid for the cans by their total weight.
- ◆ If you live in an area that has a kerbside collection, phone Sandy at the ARC to find out whether you are eligible to join this scheme (09-366 2000 ext. 7100), otherwise phone your local council to find out where drop-off centres are located.
- ◆ If you do decide to recycle these containers, place boxes or bins next to playground rubbish bins and make sure children only put those containers which can be recycled in the bins.



Garden Waste

Garden waste can be composted in a corner of your grounds. This waste is a valuable resource that can be used to maintain moisture and enrich your soil.

If you decide to set up a compost bin or pile it is important that the Caretaker knows how composting works and learns a few techniques to make it easy. You may also want to involve your students in composting. It is a good way to teach children about natural processes.



Food Waste

Food waste often makes up a large proportion of school waste. Food waste can be composted using traditional methods or by using a worm bin. If you want to add food to the compost pile you use for green waste, you will need a sealed unit that will keep vermin out. Fruit and vegetable waste isn't very attractive to vermin, but starch and fatty food is, so make sure they are kept out of the bin. A number of commercial bins are available.

Worm bins are also available ready-made, or you can build one using readily available materials. Worms need a balanced diet, but they particularly like fruit and vegetables. The food is converted into rich, sweet smelling soil compost which is perfect for potplants and gardens.

There are a number of worm growers in the Auckland Region who sell worms. The ARC also puts out a useful, free guide to worm composting. The worms need little attention, and make an excellent study project for children. They don't smell either, so you can keep the bin in the classroom!

Collect food waste in labelled containers beside the rubbish bins, and have a roster for collection of food.

For more information phone Sandy Thomas ph. 366 2000 ext. 7100 at the Auckland Regional Council.

