

recycling: The process by which materials are collected and used as raw materials for new products, 'There are five steps in recycling: collecting waste materials, separating them by type (before or after collection), processing them into reusable forms, marketing the "new" products, and purchasing and using the goods made with reprocessed materials.

Reuse: Taking a component of municipal solid waste (possibly with slight modification) and using it again for its original purpose (e.g., refillable beverage bottles, foam peanuts, or pallets).

Solid Waste: According to the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), solid waste is: garbage; refuse; sludge from a waste treatment plant, water supply treatment plant, or air pollution control facility; and other discarded materials, including solid, liquid, or contained gaseous material resulting from industrial, commercial, mining, and agricultural operations, and from community activities.

Source Separation: Separating waste materials such as paper, metal, and glass by type at the point of discard so that they can be

Trash: Material often considered worthless, unnecessary, or offensive that is usually thrown away. Generally defined as dry waste material; but in common usage, it is a synonym for garbage, rubbish, or refuse.

Waste Prevention: The design, manufacture, purchase or use of materials or products to reduce their amount or toxicity before they enter the municipal solid waste stream. Because it is intended to reduce pollution and conserve resources, waste prevention should not increase the net amount or toxicity of wastes generated throughout the life of a product.

Waste Reduction: Preventing and/or decreasing the amount of waste being generated either through waste prevention, recycling, composting, or buying recycled and reduced-waste products.

Waste Streams: The total flow of solid waste from homes, businesses, institutions, and manufacturing plants that are recycled, burned, or disposed in landfills, or any segment thereof such as the "residential waste stream" or the "recyclable waste stream."

Glossary Sources

Definitions for glossary terms were derived from the following sources

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