

RECYCLING FACTS SHEET

- **Kentucky State employees** recycled an average of 208 pounds of office paper each. This was only surpassed by Minnesota state employees (of the eight states surveyed) who recycled an average of 340 pounds. Much more paper is still available for recycling within state agencies.
- **Nationally, paper recycling reached 51.5% last year.** The goal of the American Forest and Paper Association is 55% by 2012.
- **Paper recycling per person in the United States has steadily climbed from 1990:**

Year	Average Amount Recycled
1990	233 lbs./person
2003	339 lbs/ person
2005	346 lbs/person

- **Every ton of waste paper recycled saves** more than 3.3 cubic yards of landfill space and saves state government an average of \$30.00 in landfill disposal costs alone. Recycling also saves 40% of the energy needed to make paper from virgin materials.
- **More than 36% of the fiber used to make new paper** products in the United States comes from recycled sources.
- **Waste paper is the second leading export item from the U.S.,** second only to scrap metal. Over 12 million tons of waste paper was exported last year with most going to China.
- **U.S. EPA recycling information:**
<http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/non-hw/muncpl/recycle.htm#Figures>
- **Kentucky Division of Waste Management web sites:**
www.waste.ky.gov
www.recycle.ky.gov