

July—Reuse



Reuse of materials, goods and resources is a great way to reduce overall consumption. Reuse is the recovery of materials and products for the same or a similar end use. It involves taking useful products, such as furniture, books and appliances, discarded by those who no longer want or need them and redistributing them to those who do. In contrast to recycling, which recovers materials for processing, reuse recovers the original product. Reuse, therefore, primarily involves collection and redistribution of goods. Repair is often another function of reuse operations, when durable goods need only minimal repair to be fully functioning again.

Every year hundreds of thousands of tons of perfectly useful items are thrown away in New York City at an enormous cost to taxpayers and businesses. A recent report prepared for the City of New York Department of Sanitation (DSNY) by Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC) estimated that more than 700,000 tons of reusables are disposed of in NYC's system every year at a cost that could exceed \$50 million annually.

Ideas for reusing:

- Take cloth or old plastic bags to the grocery store for reuse
- Reuse old sheets for cleaning rags
- Reuse printed paper for scrap paper
- Reuse glass jars for leftovers rather than plastic bags or even purchasing plastic storage containers
- Reuse cooking oil for vehicle fuel! :)

In order to become eligible for this month's \$50 drawing, send an email to the Green Team



GTeam@gunnisoncounty.org
by July 31, 2011 stating:

- 1) How do you reuse goods and resources?
- 2) What innovative, new idea do you have for making reuse easier; and
- 3) What could the County do to make it easier to do reuse materials and goods while at work?



GUNNISON COUNTY

200 E. Virginia Ave.
Gunnison, CO 81230

Phone: 970-641-0248

E-mail: gteam@gunnisoncounty.org