

Identifying Recycled Content Products

<http://earth911.org/recycling/identifying-recycled-content-products/>

What's the difference between recycled-content products and recyclable products? Earth 911 breaks it down for you with the following definitions to clarify any uncertainty you have while reading product labels.

- **Recycled-content products** are made from materials that would otherwise have been discarded. That means these products are made totally or partially from material contained in the products you recycle, like aluminum soda cans or newspaper. Recycled-content products also can be items that are rebuilt or remanufactured from used products such as toner cartridges or computers.

There are more than 4,500 recycled-content products available, and this number continues to grow. In fact, many of the products people regularly purchase contain recycled-content.

- **Postconsumer content** is a material that has served its intended use and instead of being disposed of it is being reused in a different product. If a product is labeled "recycled content," the material might have come from excess or damaged items generated during normal manufacturing processes not collected through a local recycling program.
- **Recyclable products** can be collected and remanufactured into new products after they've been used. These products do not necessarily contain recycled materials and only benefit the environment if people recycle them after use. To find out what materials are recyclable in your community, use the Earth 911 recycling locator box.

TreePeople Celebrates 38 Years of Earth Day!

This coming Earth Day week (April 21-25), Sprinkles will donate the proceeds of all vanilla cupcakes (topped with green trees) to TreePeople. Eat a cupcake and help plant a tree. [Click here](#) to learn more.

Earth Day gives people a sense of common purpose, a way to work in solidarity with people on the other side of the globe, and it's also an important reminder to renew your dedication to the planet on a daily basis.

<http://www.treepeople.org/vfp.dll?OakTree~getPage~&PNPK=219>

What Makes Things Hazardous?

Household Hazardous Waste is any product that is discarded from a home or a similar source that contains [volatile](#) chemicals that are:

- **Ignitable:** capable of burning or causing a fire e.g. flammable or combustible
- **Corrosive:** capable of eating away materials and destroying living tissue when contact occurs e.g. acids and alkaline, bases
- **Explosive and/or Reactive:** capable of causing an explosion or releasing dangerous or poisonous fumes when exposed to air, water or other chemicals
- **Toxic:** poisonous, either immediately or over a long period of exposure time e.g. pesticides, herbicides, [lead](#), [mercury](#)
- **Radioactive:** capable of damaging and destroying cells and chromosomal material

Just a few examples of HHW are used motor oil, oil-based paint, auto batteries, gasoline and pesticides. The term HHW refers specifically to those products used in and around the common household, not used for any industrial purpose.

These products can be harmful to living things, the environment, and to the people handling them, if they are not disposed of properly. This means HHW should never be dumped on the ground, down the drain, or thrown in the trash.

According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Americans generate 1.6 million tons of HHW per year. The average home alone at any one time can accumulate as much as 100 pounds of HHW in basements, garages, under the sink, and in storage closets.

<http://earth911.org/household-items/what-makes-things-hazardous/>

Questions, Comments, Ideas... Email Johanna at jgan@swlaw.rdu to submit your suggestions.

WHO SAID IT?

This week's quote is dedicated to Rosalyn, wishing her all the best in her journey.

"Determine to live life with flair and laughter."
-maya Angelou

*Last Week's Answer:
The Princess Bride*

4 Staff members responded: 3 guessed correctly, with 1 identifying both speakers.

A = Prince Humperdink

B: Westley