Benefits of Proper Solid Waste Management

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Benefits of proper solid waste management

1. Environment
2. Health
3. Economic
4. Community

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BENEFITS OF RECYCLING

• Recycling means separating, collecting, processing, marketing, and ultimately using a material that would have been thrown away. For example, This morning's newspaper can be recycled for another morning's news or other paper products. Cans and bottles can be crafted for other uses.

• Quality products and packaging are being made from recovered materials. We can all help create markets for recyclables by buying and using these products.
Why Should We Recycle?

• Reduces reliance on landfills and incinerators.
• Recycling protects our health and environment when harmful substances are removed from the waste stream.
• Recycling conserves our natural resources because it reduces the need for raw materials.
What Can We Recycle?

- **Paper** - Newspaper, office paper, cardboard, and other paper types.
- **Yard trimmings** - Grass, leaves, and shrub and tree clippings are recycled by composting.
- **Glass** - Bottles and jars (clear, green, and amber).
- **Aluminium** - Beverage containers.
- **Other metals** - Steel cans, auto bodies, refrigerators, stoves, and batteries.
- **Used motor oil** - Vehicle crankcase oil.
- **Plastics** - Soda bottles, milk jugs, bags, and detergent containers among others.
- **Rubber Products** - Tires, Slippers, Sandles among others.
- **Wires** - Copper, Aluminium, Steel among others.
- **Electronics** - Various electronic parts can be reused.
- **Construction and Demolition Waste** - Concrete, wood, metal.

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What Is Reuse?

• Reuse is the Solution.
• While manufacturing new products drains our limited natural resources, and disposing of unwanted materials pollutes our environment, our communities face difficulties getting the affordable goods they need. One way to prevent waste, improve our communities, and increase the material well-being of our citizens is to take useful products discarded by those who no longer want or need them and provide them to those who do.
Environmental Benefits/Health

- Many reuse programs require fewer resources, less energy, and less labor, compared to recycling, disposal, or the manufacture of new products from virgin materials.
- Reduces air, water and land pollution,
- Limits the need for new natural resources, such as timber, petroleum, fibers and other materials.
- Reduces greenhouse gas emissions, a contributing factor to global warming.

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Environmental Benefits of solid waste reuse programs

1. Waste reduction
   - Reduced pollution (Air, Water, Land)
   - Reduced Vectors (Flies, Rats, Cats, Dogs, Snakes e.t.c)
   - Improved environmental aesthetics
   - Improved Hygiene

2. Conserve Natural resources
   - Reduced spread of diseases
   - Improved quality of life

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Community Benefits

• For many years, **reuse** has been used as a critical way of getting needed materials to the many **disadvantaged populations** that exist. Reuse continues to provide an excellent way in which to get people the food, clothing, building materials, business equipment, medical supplies and other items that they desperately need.
Community benefits of solid waste reuse programs

Community Benefits
(Disadvantaged populations e.g. Children Homes)

- Food
- Shoes
- Clothing
- Books

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Economic Benefits

• When reusing materials, instead of creating new products from virgin materials, there is less burden on the economy. Reuse is an economical way for people of all socio-economic circles to acquire the items they need. From business furniture to household items, from cars to appliances, and just about anything else you could think of - it is less expensive to buy used than new.
Economic Benefits of solid waste reuse programs

- Less Burden on Economy
  - Car Spare parts
  - Used Clothes
  - Furniture
  - Household items
  - Electronics
  - Used Cars

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Reuse Supports Solid Waste Management Goals

• Buying and using items that are reusable supports a method of waste management that has been identified by the EMCA, 1999 and others, as a priority method of handling materials. In many cases an item can be reused several times, then sent to the recycling center for processing-The list of reused items is virtually unlimited.
What Can be reused

• **Computers and Electronics** – Personal computers, printers, fax machines, televisions, video cassette recorders can be reused in business, personal, and non-profit environments.

• **Art Materials** – Fabric, paint, lumber, stage props, and a wide variety of other items can be used for school or cultural organization creative projects.
What can be reused (Continued)

- **Building Materials** – Lumber, tools, windows, doors, light fixtures, paint, plumbing supplies and fixtures, architectural pieces, fencing, hardware, and many other items needed for constructing or refurbishing a building can be found used.

- **Office Furniture and Supplies** – Desks, tables, chairs, filing cabinets, credenzas, shelving units, stacking trays, tape dispensers, notebook binders and other equipment and supplies can be reused in offices, schools, hospitals, non-profit organizations and others.

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What can be reused (Continued)

• **Medical Equipment and Supplies** – Equipment and supplies that are obsolete to one hospital, clinic or organization may find a home in another facility, especially those in less-industrialized nations.

• **Surplus Food Items and Equipment** – Boxed, bagged, canned and even prepared food from grocery stores, warehouses, manufacturers' over-runs and discontinued items, catered events, restaurants can be reuse by homeless shelters, soup kitchens, and other organizations serving disadvantaged people. Stoves, refrigerators, freezers, and other items can also be found used.
What can be reused (Continued)

- **Household Items** - Appliances, clothing, furniture, dishes, vehicles, paint, and virtually anything else for the home can be found by shopping reused instead of brand new. And in most cases, at a significantly lower price. Another form of reuse is shopping specialty stores that sell antiques or vintage items. Shopping and holding garage and yard sales are other popular forms of reuse.
Reuse Means Value-Added

• Reusing an item means that it continues to be a valuable, useful, productive item, and replaces new items that would utilize more water, energy, timber, petroleum, and other limited natural resources in their manufacture.

• Businesses can save significant revenue in disposal by reselling or donating items that are no longer needed. Many chemicals and solvents that are no longer useful to one organization, can be used in other applications by other organizations.

• This method of "materials exchange" results in disposal savings by the generating company, and saving in the purchase of the material by the recipient organization. *Reuse adds value!*
Reuse Supports Community Development Goals

• In addition to making a positive contribution to the reduction of solid waste, many reuse programs in a community are operated by charitable organizations as a means of providing items to low-income or disadvantage people. Donating your surplus items can also help furnish a non-profit's office and provide a school with needed supplies, further supporting the community in which you live.

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END

Any Questions?

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