## RECYCLING AND WASTE REDUCTION

## What Is Recycling?

Recycling is the process of collecting and processing materials that would otherwise be thrown away as trash and turning them into new products. Recycling can benefit your community, the economy, and the environment. Products should only be recycled if they cannot be reduced or reused.

## What is Waste Reduction?

Waste reduction is anything that reduces waste by using less material in the first place. Reducing waste can be as simple as using both sides of a sheet of paper, using ceramic mugs instead of disposable cups, or buying in bulk rather than individually packaged items.

## How does Recycling and Waste reduction help the invironment

- decrease air and water pollution from waste disposal;
- conserve materials for continuous reuse in making new products;
  - reduce demand for mining and extraction of virgin materials; and
  - reduce the amount of energy used to make new products.