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### Some Facts About Recycling

Recycling one aluminum can saves enough energy to run a TV for three hours -- or the equivalent of a half a gallon of gasoline.

An aluminum can that is thrown away will still be a can 500 years from now!

A 60-watt light bulb can be run for over a day on the amount of energy saved by recycling 1 pound of steel. In one year in the United States, the recycling of steel saves enough energy to

## Solar Power

Solar energy is a term for describing a range of methods for obtaining energy from the sun. Solar energy is already successfully being used for cooking, cooling, heating, communications, driving space craft, lighting and many more purposes all over the world.

The energy output of a 1 KW solar energy unit is roughly equivalent to the burning of 170 pounds of coal and 300 pounds of carbon dioxide being released into the atmosphere.

The Mojave Desert houses the world's largest solar power plant. It covers 1000 acres (4 km<sup>2</sup>) of solar reflectors. An astonishing 90% of the world's currently commercially produced solar power is produced by it. On the other hand, if solar panels were to cover Africa's Sahara desert, assuming standard 15% efficient solar cells, they could generate more than 450 terawatt (TW) per year. Current annual global energy consumption, including fossil and renewable sources, is only about 13 TW!

## Solar Ovens

By using the heat of the sun, you can cook food just as thoroughly as if you had used your conventional oven. Because they use no fuel and they cost nothing to run, humanitarian organizations are promoting their use worldwide to help slow deforestation caused by using wood as fuel for cooking. Solar cookers are a form of outdoor cooking, and are often used in situations where minimum fuel consumption or fire risk are considered highly important.

heat and light 18,000,000 homes!

Plastic bags and other plastic garbage thrown into the ocean kill as many as 1,000,000 sea creatures every year!

Americans use 2,500,000 plastic bottles every hour! Most of them are thrown away!

If all our newspaper was recycled, we could save about 250,000,000 trees each year!

The amount of wood and paper we throw away each year is enough to heat 50,000,000 homes for 20 years.

Each ton (2000 pounds) of recycled paper can save 17 trees, 380 gallons of oil, three cubic yards of landfill space, 4000 kilowatts of energy, and 7000 gallons of water. This represents a 64% energy savings, a 58% water savings, and 60 pounds less of air pollution!



Since the temperatures inside a well constructed solar oven can reach up to 300F, they can cook anything from bread to veggies to meat, it just takes a bit more time to do so.

Visit [this website](#) for some interesting DIY plans to build your own solar oven! We're also very interested in hearing about your own experiences with solar ovens!

## Passive Solar Defined

Solar ovens are a form of passive solar power, or harnessing the energy of the sun without the use of mechanical systems to convert or store the power. Passive solar can be something as simple as the direction your windows face and how you utilize curtains at certain times of day, or setting a bucket of water in the hot sun to warm it instead of heating it on the stove.

## Recycling

You don't have to drive far to do your part! Did you know recycling is available locally in Trenton and Chillicothe? [Hope Haven Industries, Inc.](#) offers drop-off and pick-up recycling services.

Some of the items Hope Haven & New Hope accept are:

- o Newspaper
- o Cardboard
- o Magazines
- o Mixed paper (junk mail, cereal boxes, catalogs, etc.)
- o Container plastics (#1 & #2 look for Recycle symbol)
- o Tin cans (food cans)
- o Aluminum (cans, pie plates, & foil)
- o Grocery bags

## Topic Ideas?

We're always on the hunt for new and exciting "green" topics to cover in our monthly newsletter. Got a project or topic you'd like Put a Little Green to feature in an upcoming newsletter? [Drop us an email](#) and let us know!

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