j0281116Information Sheet for Paper Wastage

In the UK we use 12.5 million tonnes of paper every year and 80% of that is collected for recycling. Nearly all types of paper can be recycled, but there are some that cannot. These are paper that has a wax coating on it, tissue paper, fax paper, and paper used in plasterboard.

Every tonne of recycled newsprint saves

* 2.5 barrels of oil
* 4100 kilowatts of electricity
* 4 cubic metres of landfill
* 31,780 litres of water

Most of the recycled newsprint are de-inked and made into fresh newspapers or magazines; the rest is used to make things such as cardboard, egg cartons or other similar products.

* Recycling 1 tonne of paper saves 17 trees.
* 17 trees can absorb the gases that come out of 1 car each year.
* 70% less energy is required to recycle paper compared with making it from raw materials.
* Recycled paper produces 73% less air pollution than if it was made from raw materials.
* The average person in the UK uses 38kg of newspapers per year.
* It takes 24 trees to make 1 ton of newspaper.

**Environmental Benefits of Using Recycled Paper:**

1. Prevents the need for chopping down trees. By not felling trees, wildlife habitats are protected, preventing the loss of wildlife.

2. Problems associated with waste disposal will be reduced with the less paper disposed.

3. Less energy is used when producing recycled paper compared to new.

4. Recycling paper produces fewer emissions to air and water

**QUICK TIPS FOR WASTE PAPER MINIMISATION AND REUSE:**

* Use electronic mail, and keep an electronic library for all your documents whenever possible.
* Try not to print your emails.
* Print documents double-sided.
* Keep a box of paper only printed on one side next to the printer for reuse.
* Reuse paper as telephone message/note pads (which will also save you the cost of purchasing new ones).
* Reuse envelopes, where possible