Grass Clippings

★ Let grass clippings lay where they fall—they will enrich the soil.
★ Start a compost pile.
★ Americans throw out 28 million tons of grass clippings a year!

Meat Scraps

★ Reduce by becoming a vegetarian!
★ Have at least one meatless dinner a week.
★ Save fat for bird suet feeders
★ Simmer scraps and bones for soup stock.
★ Meat scraps should not be composted because they attract pests.

Disposable Diapers

★ Reduce by using washable cloth diapers—there are diaper services if you don't want to wash them yourself.
★ Americans use 18 billion diapers a year—enough to stretch from here to the moon 7 times.

Vegetable Peels

★ Begin a compost pile.
★ Dry corn husks to make corn husk dolls.
★ Make soup stock with vegetable trimmings.

Eggs Shells

★ Add them to the compost pile—they are an important source of calcium.
★ Grind and add to potting soil—adds important nutrients.
★ Crush and put outside in a dish for bird grit.

Chipboard Boxes

★ Reduce by using products that come in single layer packaging.
★ Cut up chipboard panels and make puzzles.
★ Cut and fold to make stylish gift boxes!
★ Recycle them in appropriate locations.
Steel Cans

★ Reduce use—eat locally grown fresh food, & use vegetable trimmings and meat bones for soup stock.
★ Use tuna cans with both ends removed for a cookie cutter—can shape with pliers.
★ Recycle

Aluminum Cans

★ Recycle them! It takes 10% of the energy to recycle an aluminum can as it takes to produce a new one!
★ People have made house insulation from mortared walls of aluminum cans.

Junk Mail

★ Ask to be removed from unwanted mailing lists—call the 1-800 number listed on the catalogs!
★ Use backsides of sheets as note pads around the house.
★ Use junk envelopes for sorting things around the house.
★ Recycle in mixed paper recycling

Notebook Paper

★ Use both sides before recycling.
★ Use 8 1/2 X 11 paper from your junk mail for rough work.
★ Buy notebooks of recycled paper.
★ Every ton recycled saves 17 trees, 7000 gallons of water, and enough energy to heat a house with 5 rooms for 6 months.

Construction Paper

★ Keep a box of scraps to use for future projects—you rarely use a whole sheet at a time!
★ Make mosaics out of tiny pieces or blend in blender to colored paper pulp for home paper making.
★ Construction paper is not recyclable.

Household Chemical Bottles

★ Reduce use of toxic chemicals by using homemade cleaners made from baking soda, borax, lemon juice and mineral oil.
★ Reuse non-hazardous bottles such as window cleaner bottles for your homemade cleaners.
★ Recycle when available
Paper Plates and Napkins

★ Reduce use—try washable plastic plates for picnics.
★ Use washable cloth napkins
★ When absolutely necessary, use recycled paper plates and napkins.

Candy Wrappers

★ Reduce use—buy unwrapped candy from the bulk bin, pack in reusable containers.
★ Try making your own candy!
★ Use foil wrappers for craft projects.
★ Dispose of wrappers properly in a trash can.

Spray Cans

★ Reduce waste by using pump-propelled reusable bottles for starches and cleaners
★ Use non-spray paints and non-aerosol hairspray.

Used Pizza Boxes

★ Reduce boxes by making your own pizza.
★ Reuse clean portions of cardboard for projects.
★ Recycle CLEAN parts of boxes.
★ Food contaminated cardboard can NOT be recycled.

Toothpaste Tubes

★ Reduce waste by maximizing use—rolling up tube tightly.
★ Use toothpaste tube cap as a game marker.

Corrugated Cardboard

★ Reuse boxes for mailing or storage.
★ Reuse in a creative and crafty manner—make a LOT of boxes into an igloo
★ Separate out for recycling.
Paper Grocery Bags

★ Use for sorting recyclables.
★ Use for craft paper and book covers.
★ Use canvas bags that are reusable.
★ Shred and compost.

Paper Towels

★ Cut up old T-shirts and other soft fabrics for rags when they wear out. They are reusable and do a great job!

Plastic Soda Bottle

★ Use a soda bottle with the lid cut off for a storage container.
★ Make a terrarium.
★ Recycle

Paper Milk Carton

★ Buy milk in glass jugs. These can often be returned to the store for sterilization and reuse.
★ Make a single use bird house.
★ Donate to scouts, schools and childrens centers to be used for craft projects.

Glass Bottles

★ Wash and return to store for refills when appropriate.
★ Save and reuse.
★ Easier to recycle than plastic.
★ Glass can be recycled over and over.

Empty Paint Cans

★ Allow open latex paint can to completely dry and then remove “skin”. Place in trash.
★ Save leftovers for future projects or create a paint exchange.
★ Take unwanted oil paint cans to a Hazardous Waste Collection
### Banana Peels

- Begin a compost pile
- Begin a vermicomposting bin (worm composting)—banana peels are one of worms' favorite foods!

### Citrus Peels

- Not good for the compost bin!
- Make candied citrus peel
- Make an "orange box"—cut orange around equator and remove fruit. Turn the halves of peel inside-out and dry. Use one as the lid and one as the box.
- Dry well and add to potpourri.

### Too Small T-shirt

- Give shirt to your younger sibling.
- Have a yard sale
- Take shirt to the Goodwill Store
- Use it for reusable cleaning rag
- Make a quilt square out of it—eventually you will have a quilt with all your favorite designs!

### Batteries

- Use electricity when possible.
- Find appliances that use less power.
- Use rechargeable batteries
- Take spent NiCad batteries to a battery specialty store for re-conditioning.
- Take spent alkaline batteries to Household Hazardous Waste Collection site.

### Old Tires

- Make a tire swing!
- Take to appropriate tire disposal facility—some tires are made into artificial reefs to enhance sealife habitat.
- Old tires can now be made into plastic pipe and new tires!

### Styrofoam Cup

- Use reusable travel mugs!
- Wash and reuse again for coffee.
- Wash and reuse for starting seeds
- Wash and reuse in craft project—would make a great puppet head!
Newspaper

★ Watch the nightly news, listen to news on the radio, or read the newspaper online.
★ Share a newspaper with your neighbor or office.
★ Shred and compost.
★ Shred and use as pet cage lining.
★ Try out papier mâché!

Motor Oil Bottles

★ Reduce oil use—try walking, biking, or sharing rides.
★ Have your oil changed at stations that recycle it—oil can recycled indefinitely.
★ We lose enough motor oil in the US to fill 120 supertankers a year!