Environmental Video Guide

A collection of educational videos on environmental topics available for a free, three-week loan

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

651-757-2120
800-877-6300
clearinghouse@pca.state.mn.us
Videos listed in this guide are available from the Learning Resource Center at the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA). These materials are available at no charge to Minnesota residents, institutions and businesses for a three-week loan period.

Unless listed as a source, the MPCA is not the copyright holder for these materials. Be aware that:

• It is illegal to duplicate any of these videos without the written consent of the copyright holder.

• The copyright holder may have restrictions for use of the material for broadcast or special event screenings of the material.

• A listing of the source is available online at www.pca.state.mn.us or by contacting the Learning Resource Center.

The views and information contained in these materials do not necessarily reflect those of the MPCA. The materials are provided as educational tools.

Additional resources for environmental education, including printed materials, speakers and portable displays, are available by contacting the Learning Resource Center.

Learning Resource Center & Library
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
520 Lafayette Road North
St. Paul, MN 55155-4100

651-757-2120
toll-free 800-877-6300

email: clearinghouse@pca.state.mn.us
www.pca.state.mn.us

p-ee5-02
50 Simple Things Kids Can Do to Save the Earth (Video Pack) (1992)

Length: 48.00  Age Level: Grades 3 +

Based on the best-selling book "50 Simple Things Kids Can Do to Save the Earth", these CBS Schoolbreak Specials provide examples of activities that kids from around the country are doing to help the environment. The video pack comes with two videos and the book (Part 1: Water and Resources - 21 minutes, Part 2: Greenlife, Wildlife, Energy and Air - 27 minutes). Hosted by television stars Sara Gilbert and Brian Green, with earth quizzes and tips from other celebrities.

Source: Churchill Media

Topic(s)  Overview


Length: 12.10  Age Level: High school +

Never composted before? Need some pointers on improving your home compost pile? This short video provides you the recipe for success: green, brown, air, and water. It explains the basic components of the composting process, how to put together your compost pile, how to troubleshoot some common problems, and how to use finished compost.

Source: Twin Cities Public Television

Topic(s) Compost
Topic(s) Yard Waste

Ace Hardware, Environmental Best Practices For Retail Profit (1998)

Length: 18.00  Age Level: High School +

Ace Hardware stores demonstrate that less waste equals smart business. The video introduces the concept of resource conservation and how it can be implemented in a business through source reduction (preventing waste) and recycling (utilizing waste). Four Minnesota Ace Hardware stores are featured demonstrating their waste reduction activities including: donating glass scraps to a local stain glass artist, installing LED and fluorescent light bulbs, using cloth towel dispensers in restrooms instead of paper towels, and many more.

Source: Minnesota Office of Environmental Assistance

Topic(s) Conservation
Topic(s) Recycling
Topic(s) Waste Reduction

Adopt a River Program: Minnesota Clean Rivers Project (1992)

Length: 5.00  Age Level: All

In Minnesota we take pride in our endless shoreline and the beauty surrounding it. However this beauty is being destroyed by illegal dumping. The amount of dumping that happens is staggering, along the Mississippi River, in an area less than 1 mile long volunteers pulled out 70 tons of debris. This video challenges you to become personally involved in the care of our resources through the Adopt-a-River program.

Source: Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

Topic(s) Citizen Action
Topic(s) cleanup
Topic(s) litter
Topic(s) Water

Affluenza (1997)

Length: 57.00  Age Level: Junior High +

Affluenza is a fascinating look at one of the greatest social maladies of our time: overconsumption and materialism. Hosted by National Public Radio's Scott Simon, this video explores both the comical and sobering aspects of our consumerism and its enormous impact on our families, communities and the environment. It leaves the viewer with the positive message that it is possible to spend less money and be happier.

Source: Bullfrog Films

Topic(s) Environmental Issues Overview
Topic(s) Waste Implications

After the Storm (2003)

Length: 22.00  Age Level: Middle school +

Across the world people live, work and play in watersheds. This video takes a look at what a watershed is and how we play a role in the biggest water quality problem and solutions in the nation; polluted runoff. This video highlights three case studies, in the US, that shows the interconnections between our water supply, water quality and economic vitality, and what citizens can do to protect their watershed.

Source: US EPA Audio-Visual Library

Topic(s) Water Quality
Alu Man the Can (1987)
Length: 15.00  Age Level: Grades K - 2
Alu Man, the aluminum can, learns that he shouldn't just be thrown away as garbage, but instead should be recycled and used over and over again. In his journey to the recycling center, he meets Nettie Newspaper, Mr. G (the garbage can), BJ Bottle and Randy Recycler. Using simple puppets, this story introduces recycling-related concepts to preschool and early elementary students.
Source: Minnesota Office of Environmental Assistance

Ambiente Familiar (Family Environment) (1996)
Length: 30.00  Age Level: Grade 4 +
This video is in the style of an "environmental soap opera" featuring a Mexican-American family in West St. Paul, MN. The stories of the Alvarez family teach about the importance of environmental issues, including the "3 R's" and mercury pollution. Some of the video is in Spanish (subtitled) with some English.
Source: Minnesota Office of Environmental Assistance

An Inconvenient Truth; A Global Warning (2006)
Length: 96.00  Age Level: high school +
Former Vice President Al Gore presents an eye-opening and compelling view of the future of our planet and our civilization. This wake-up call that cuts through myths and misconceptions to deliver the message that global warming is a real and present danger. This video brings home Gore's persuasive argument that we must act now to save the earth. Each and every one of us can make changes in the way in which we live our lives and become part of the solution.
Source: Paramount Classics

Asthma in the Air (1999)
Length: 8.00  Age Level: elementary +
Kids with asthma speak out about how air pollution, especially ground-level ozone (smog) feels to them. They offer tips on what to do during elevated ozone days and simple ways to reduce ozone causing pollution.
Source: Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

Length: 14.00  Age Level: Elementary
This video looks at the many changes autumn brings to the forests. Glorious colors are one trademark, as plants and trees show their warm yellow, red and orange colors. Autumn also provides seeds, berries and nuts for the birds and animals, in preparation for winter, where some store food underground while others eat extra so they can store it as fat in their body, while others migrate.
Source: Maslowski Wildlife Productions

Back from the Brink: Saving America's Cities by Design (1996)
Length: 56.40  Age Level: High School +
This program tells the story of three American cities - Portland, Oregon, Suisun City, California, and Chattanooga, Tennessee - that have revitalized themselves by using architecture and planning as tools for restoring a sense of community, improving livability and enhancing economic viability. Each city sought to revitalize its urban center and started by establishing a long-term vision for its future, asking residents "How would you like to see your city develop?" Innovative plans for economic growth are paired with long-term strategies for managing growth.
Source: The American Architectural Foundation

Length: 20.00  Age Level: High School +
This video begins with a short dramatization of the difficulties an office worker encounters when he decides to walk to a restaurant at lunch from a remote office location, illustrating the challenges faced with auto-oriented planning. Through examples in and around Wisconsin, this video introduces key design concepts, community strategies and the wide range of social, economic and environmental benefits of pedestrian friendly development.
Source: Citizens for a Better Environment - WI

February 2009
Barney & Friends: Our Earth, Our Home (1992)
Length: 30.00  Age Level: Preschool - K
Barney the Dinosaur and his friends get excited about things they can do to protect the Earth. Fun-filled songs teach about recycling, conserving water, and how to keep our water, air and land clean. We see that sharing and caring for the Earth can be fun.
Source: Time-Life Video

Topic(s) Conservation
Topic(s) Overview

Becoming Good Neighbors: Enriching America's Communities By Design (1998)
Length: 56.42  Age Level: Adult
In this documentary, four U.S. cities demonstrate how public participation can strengthen and improve, both physically and socially, neighborhoods. The video shows how a new high school can benefit an entire community; how an old strip mall can become a vibrant town center; how design decisions can empower residents of a subsidized housing project, fostering a sense of ownership; and how a town's history can help secure its future. The idea, "If you build a project with the community, you end up building a community" is demonstrated in each of these cities.
Source: The American Architectural Foundation

Topic(s) Green Building
Topic(s) Sustainable Design
Topic(s) Sustainable Development

Length: 8.24  Age Level: High School +
For a typical product, 70% of the cost of development, manufacturing, and use is determined in its design phase. By integrating environmental considerations, also known as Design for the Environment (DfE), into the upfront product design, a company can increase efficiency, reduce waste of materials and energy, and reduce costs. This video introduces you to DfE and looks at four distinct Minnesota companies (IBM, Pillsbury, Medtronic & 3M) that incorporated DfE into their product design with significant success.
Source: Minnesota Office of Environmental Assistance

Topic(s) Energy Efficiency
Topic(s) Pollution Prevention
Topic(s) Sustainable Design
Topic(s) Waste Management

Length: 16.00  Age Level: High school +
This video, the third in a 3-part series, identifies areas where you can prevent waste. Several Oregon businesses are highlighted showing that waste prevention is achievable and by making a small change in your operation can create a big change in the bottom line, both financially and environmentally.
Source: Oregon State University

Topic(s) Packaging
Topic(s) Reuse
Topic(s) Waste Reduction

Length: 66.00  Age Level: High school +
This 2-part video documentary illustrates the many benefits of using the environment as an integrating context (EIC) in education, for the students and the teachers. EIC-based learning is not primarily focused on learning about the environment, it's about using a school's surroundings and community as a framework for students to construct their own learning.
Part 1: Introduces an elementary, middle and high school where teachers use EIC to improve motivation, learning and academic achievement. Part 2: shows teaching teams using EIC to create innovative, interdisciplinary instruction to increase group and individual learning.
Source: State Education and Environment Roundtable

Topic(s) Schools

Bill Nye the Science Guy: Atmosphere (0)
Length: 25.00  Age Level: Elementary +
There is something in the air as Bill Nye talks about the atmosphere, its five different levels, and how it protects the Earth. In Atmosphere, Bill soars into the heavy topic of atmospheric air pressure and radio waves.
Source: Disney Educational Productions

Topic(s) Air Pollution
Topic(s) Atmosphere

Bill Nye the Science Guy: Biodiversity (2000)
Length: 25.00  Age Level: Elementary +
In Biodiversity, Bill Nye sets up office in an ocean, a forest, and a field to commune with nature and show what happens when one link falls out of nature's chain.
Source: Disney Educational Productions

Topic(s) Biodiversity
Topic(s) Ecosystems
Bill Nye the Science Guy: Biodiversity/Garbage (1994)
Length: 46.00  Age Level: Grades 3 - 8
Biodiversity (23 min.) - The Earth's Environment is actually made up of millions of different "environments" - individual ecosystems that support and sustain life all over the planet. Biodiversity is the broad range of living things that exist on the planet, including plants, animals and human beings. This episode demonstrates how much life is on Earth, describes the complexity of natural relationships, and stresses the need to preserve the biodiversity of the planet.

Garbage (23 min.) - Bill Nye and his troop of youthful scientists tackle the issue of garbage. All living things produce waste, but this program demonstrates how much waste people generate, how this waste is unique, and how humans can actually choose to reduce, reuse and recycle the garbage they create. This fast-paced video touches on packaging, composting, household hazardous wastes, pollution and recycling.

Source: Disney Educational Productions

Bill Nye the Science Guy: Climates (0)
Length: 25.00  Age Level: Elementary +
Climate can be simply defined as how warm or wet a place is. Bill Nye shows how the climate of a place can be affected by location on the globe (the Equator or the Earth's poles), natural features of the earth near that place (such as mountains), patterns of air in the upper atmosphere, and the global effects of the oceans. One experiment demonstrates that the gas carbon dioxide (CO2) is a heat retainer, and shows how a growing concentration of this gas in the Earth's atmosphere could slowly cause changes in climate patterns through a gradual global warming.

Source:

Bill Nye the Science Guy: Garbage (0)
Length: 25.00  Age Level: Elementary +
Bill Nye and his troop of youthful scientists tackle the issue of garbage. All living things produce waste, but this program demonstrates how much waste people generate, how this waste is unique, and how humans can actually choose to reduce, reuse and recycle the garbage they create. This fast-paced video touches on packaging, composting, household hazardous wastes, pollution and recycling.

Source: Disney Educational Productions

Bill Nye the Science Guy: Farming (0)
Length: 25.00  Age Level: Elementary +
In Farming, Bill discovers why farmers really dig their soil. Chris Ballew, of the rock group Presidents of the United States of America, sings a special version of the band's hit "Peaches".

Source: Disney Educational Productions

Bill Nye the Science Guy: Energy (0)
Length: 25.00  Age Level: Elementary +
See how to conduct home experiments that transform potential energy into kinetic energy and use falling water to make energy.

Source: Disney Educational Productions

Bill Nye the Science Guy: Erosion (0)
Length: 25.00  Age Level: Elementary +
The planet looks a lot different than it did when it formed four and a half billion years ago. In this video, Bill shows students how the process of erosion can make slow, almost invisible modifications or sudden drastic alterations to the landscape.

Source: Disney Educational Productions

Bill Nye the Science Guy: Earth's Seasons (0)
Length: 25.00  Age Level: Elementary +
Bill Nye the Science Guy goes full tilt to give the reasons for the seasons. In this video, Bill's worldly perspective shows why it's winter in America when it's summer in Australia.

Source: Disney Educational Productions

February 2009
Bill Nye the Science Guy: Human Transportation (0)
Length: 25.00  Age Level: Elementary +
Transportation is on the move, whether it floats, rolls, or flies! In Human Transportation, find out how humans move around to search for food, shelter, and to meet other humans.
Source: Disney Educational Productions
Topic(s) Energy
Topic(s) Transportation

Bill Nye the Science Guy: Lakes & Ponds (0)
Length: 25.00  Age Level: Elementary +
Lakes and ponds are formed when water collects (or pools!) in a low place in the ground. Where does all that water come from? Find out in this exciting program as Bill ponders this and many other freshwater questions.
Source: Disney Educational Productions
Topic(s) Lakes
Topic(s) Water
Topic(s) Water Quality

Bill Nye the Science Guy: Pollution Solutions; Archaeology (1996)
Length: 46.00  Age Level: Grades 3 - 8
Pollution Solutions (23 min.) - You might think that pollution only comes from big factories or power plants, but it's ordinary people that produce most of the world's pollution. Pollution can be found on land, in the air, and in the water - even noise can be a form of pollution. Bill Nye shows us all kinds of pollution, and gives ideas about how we can prevent it and clean it up. If everyone does just "a little" to clean up the Earth, it can add up to "a lot."
Archaeology (23 min.) - Archaeology is the study of ancient peoples and their cultures. Bill Nye explains the importance of archaeologists' work, and looks at how science is used to make sense of it all. Archaeologists often study what people have thrown away over time to get clues to understanding ancient cultures. What would your garbage tell them about you and your life?
Source: Disney Educational Productions
Topic(s) Archaeology
Topic(s) cleanup
Topic(s) Garbage
Topic(s) Pollution
Topic(s) Pollution Prevention

Bill Nye the Science Guy: Rivers & Streams (0)
Length: 25.00  Age Level: Elementary +
Get wet with Bill Nye the Science Guy as he follows the flow of rivers and streams. Bill tracks the origins of these bodies of water and shows us what impact they have on our lives.
Source: Disney Educational Productions
Topic(s) Rivers
Topic(s) Streams
Topic(s) Water

Bill Nye the Science Guy: Rocks & Soil (0)
Length: 25.00  Age Level: Elementary +
In Rocks & Soil, Bill unearths the hard facts on volcanoes, landslides, tectonic plates, rivers, weather, and their varied effects on the creation of rocks and soil. Check out how to unearth fossils in sedimentary rocks and soil and discover why there's a piece of quartz in watches.
Source: Disney Educational Productions
Topic(s) Rocks
Topic(s) Soil

Bill Nye the Science Guy: Storms (0)
Length: 25.00  Age Level: Elementary +
In Storms, see what happens when huge masses of air collide. Destructive or not, storms benefit us. The tropical regions of the Earth would be too hot to inhabit-- and the subpolar regions too cold-- if we didn't have hurricanes and typhoons to distribute the Earth's heat so efficiently.
Source: Disney Educational Productions
Topic(s) Storms
Topic(s) Weather
Bill Nye the Science Guy: Water Cycle (0)
Length: 25.00  Age Level: Elementary +
Did you know that most of the water on the planet is the same water that’s been here since the Earth formed? In Water Cycle, Bill uses a whimsical model to demonstrate the phases of the water cycle: evaporation, condensation, precipitation, and collection.
Source: Disney Educational Productions
Topic(s) Water

Bill Nye the Science Guy: Wetlands (0)
Length: 25.00  Age Level: Elementary +
Bill Nye sloshes across American wetlands and gets a little bit muddy while he shows us how these swamps, bogs, and marshes help control floods, naturally filter water, and provide a good home to lots of living things, especially wildlife.
Source: Disney Educational Productions
Topic(s) Biodiversity

Bill Nye the Science Guy: Wetlands; Rivers & Streams (1996)
Length: 52.00  Age Level: Elementary +
Wetlands (26 min.) Bill Nye sloshes across American wetlands and gets a little bit muddy while he shows us how these swamps, bogs, and marshes help control floods, naturally filter water, and provide a good home to lots of living things, especially wildlife.
Rivers & Streams (26 min.) Get wet with Bill Nye the Science Guy as he follows the flow of rivers and streams. Bill tracks the origins of these bodies of water and shows us what impact they have on our lives.
Source: Disney Educational Productions
Topic(s) Biodiversity

Bill Nye the Science Guy: Wind (0)
Length: 25.00  Age Level: Elementary +
In this video, Bill visits a wind farm and checks out windsurfers to demonstrate some of the ways to harness the power of the wind. Scientist and pilot Garry Dean invites us to ride along as he breaks the sound barrier in his supersonic jet.
Source: Disney Educational Productions
Topic(s) Alternative Energy

Biological Control: Learning to Live with the Natural Order (1993)
Length: 25.00  Age Level: Grades 6 +
Concerns about the use of man-made pesticides and chemicals to control agricultural pests has led to the investigation of alternative methods for preventing insect damage. Using natural predators to control insect populations - integrated pest management (IPM) - is one option that holds promise. Using dramatic photography, the video explores the effort to combat a particular pest, the Russian wheat aphid, and explains the long-term benefits of this type of control.
Source: National Biological Control Institute

Blue Vinyl (2002)
Length: 96.36  Age Level: Junior high +
This award winning documentary takes a look at the world’s second largest selling plastic - polyvinyl chloride (PVC). With humor, hope and a piece of vinyl siding firmly in hand, Judith Helfand and co-director Daniel B. Gold travel from Helfand’s hometown to America’s vinyl manufacturing capital and beyond in search of answers about the nature of (PVC). The result is a humorous but sobering and uniquely personal exploration of the relationship between consumers and industry. What makes BLUE VINYL unique is the balance of humor and horror, facts and anecdotes, and the face off between cynicism and hope. Although the film reveals a complex web of alleged corporate conspiracies and the tragic loss of human life from chemical exposure, BLUE VINYL also poses a refreshingly simple question: Is it possible to make products that never hurt anyone at any point of their life cycle when manufactured, when used, or when disposed of? With this reasonable question, Helfand turns her attention to her parents’ modest, vinyl-sided home, where she attempts to convince her parents to take the vinyl off the house.
Source: Transit Media

Building Cities of Green (1999)
Length: 10.00  Age Level: High School +
Trees make communities more healthy and livable. However, the true economic and environmental value of trees has often been overlooked and/or undervalued - often times because people don’t know how to relate the value into dollars. This video describes specific areas in which a trees' value can be calculated: energy conservation, air quality, and storm water management. In addition, American Forests has put together a five step plan for "tree-smart" sustainable development.
Source: American Forests

February 2009
College campuses can have a positive impact on the environment and the learning process through teamwork and innovation. This video looks at four campuses that have incorporated the Campus Ecology initiative. The University of Colorado added a bus pass program eliminating the need to construct more parking facilities and reduced traffic congestion. Oberlin College, A.J. Lewis Center incorporated ecological design in their building. Clemson University partnered with Habitat for Humanity to promote sustainable landscaping and State University of New York focused on energy efficiency in their building and in their studies.

Source: National Wildlife Federation

---

Container glass, meaning glass bottles and jars, is a highly recyclable material. It can be used over and over, conserving natural resources and energy while reducing solid waste. This video shows how glass is collected, cleaned and made into new glass containers to put back on the store shelves.

Source: Consumers Glass

---

Businesses in the US generate billions of pounds of wastes each day. This video gives an overview of how pollution prevention practices can help small businesses reduce waste, reduce liability, improve working conditions and save money. Examples from three Wisconsin small businesses are highlighted showing how simple steps can make for a positive change.

Source: Greater Milwaukee Toxics Minimization Task Force

---

Each city has unique historical, geological and ecological characteristics. Tree coverage is one indicator of the natural environment. This video looks at the impact sprawl has on the environment and how our urban and suburban forests provide more than just shade. Through GIS and satellite images, the impact trees have on water quality, air quality and soil conditions are discussed.

Source: American Forests

---
Cleaning Up Toxics at Home (1990)
Length: 25.00  Age Level: Junior high +
This video discusses a number of household hazardous waste items found around the home. It gives hints for storing and using potentially hazardous products including paint, oil, cleaners and pesticides. It also shows many alternatives to hazardous products. Prevention is shown through wise purchasing and citizens are encouraged to use consumer power to find and demand non-toxic alternatives! Contains good footage of chemical reactions.
Source: League of Women Voters of California
Topic(s) Household Hazardous Waste (HHW)
Topic(s) Integrated Pest Management

Clear Choices (1996)
Length: 13.00  Age Level: Junior high +
Minnesota has land that's rich in natural beauty and the water that runs through it is essential to our everyday life. The environmental problems we face today didn’t happen overnight. This video takes a look at what students can do to reduce their impact on the environment, and offers useful tips to help make clear choices.
Source: Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
Topic(s) Reduce
Topic(s) SMART
Topic(s) Waste Management

Length: 12.32  Age Level: High school +
Americans have shown a great deal of enthusiasm for the first part of recycling - the separation and collection of recyclable materials. The next important step is to "close the loop" - locate and purchase products made with recycled content. This video identifies strategies for teaching consumers how to identify common recycled-content products, and can be used as a marketing tool for those who want to start or publicize a buy-recycled campaign.
Source: Keep America Beautiful, Inc.
Topic(s) Buy Recycled
Topic(s) Recycle

Length: 13.20  Age Level: Adult
This video looks at what the Environment as an Integrating Context (EIC) model is and shows how, through a 3-year study, improved students knowledge, skills and attitudes. The EIC model focuses on using a school's surrounding and community as a framework for students to construct their own learning and addresses how to most effectively teach on subject matters.
Source: State Education and Environment Roundtable
Topic(s) Schools

Closing the Loop!: The Recycling Racoon Meets the Post-Consumer Label Man; The Recycling Racoon's Amazing Adventure (1996)
Length: 47.00  Age Level: Grades K - 6
The Recycling Racoon Meets the Post Consumer Man (25 min.) - The Recycling Racoon (RR) and roving reporter Wanda Wanaknow meet the Post-Consumer Label Man, who teaches them about the labeling of recycled products. The video explains how to identify and understand the recycled content label on products, with a special emphasis on "post-consumer" content. Recycled products are shown in the store and at school, showing how easy it is to find products that "close the recycling loop."
Added Bonus:
The Recycling Racoon's Amazing Adventure (22 min., produced in 1991) - Shocked by how much garbage a family is throwing away, the Recycling Racoon (RR) teaches one homeowner about the importance of recycling and waste reduction. RR explains what recycling is and how easy it is to prepare materials for curbside recycling, as well as proper disposal tips for yard waste and household hazardous wastes. Finally, they go to the grocery store and learn some techniques for environmentally-sensitive shopping.
Source: Roundtable Productions
Topic(s) Buy Recycled
Topic(s) Recycle
Common Automotive Wastes (1996)
Length: 18.00  Age Level: High school +
In addition to knowing all about the internal and external parts of automobiles, the auto repair industry today must keep up with all the environmental regulations concerning storage and disposal of hazardous wastes used. This video discusses numerous types of wastes associated with the automotive repair industry; including antifreeze, lead-acid batteries, sludges and residues, soiled rags, tires, used oil, solvents and paint-related wastes and how to properly store, transport and dispose of them.
Source: Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
Topic(s) Automobiles
Topic(s) Tires

Complete The Circle: How To Buy Recycled (1995)
Length: 26.30  Age Level: Junior high +
In this documentary, actress Joanne Woodward shares the message that to keep recycling working we need to take the next step; buy products made from recycled materials. The life cycle of recycled products is described, going behind the scenes to show just what happens to materials after they are left at the curb. Woodward tells shoppers how to find recycled goods (by reading the labels) in their local supermarkets and how to distinguish true environmental benefits from misleading product claims. The benefits of recycling are touched on, as well as some "safe bets" - products that are almost always made out of recycled content materials (even though they may not be labeled as such) such as, aluminum, glass, and tin/steel.
Source: Environmental Defense Fund
Topic(s) Buy Recycled
Topic(s) Recycling

Compost: Truth or Consequences (1998)
Length: 15.00  Age Level: High School +
This video is designed for people interested in home composting. Using a few basic science concepts, the video explains the role of the various decomposers and demonstrates the proper ratio and mixture for a compost bin (carbon, nitrogen, water and air). It also answers some common questions such as, how to avoid specific odors, how to maintain the proper bin temperature, and what the best bin size is.
Source: The Cornell Waste Management Institute
Topic(s) Compost

Conserving America: The Rivers (1988)
Length: 59.00  Age Level: Midde school +
Americans are slowly relearning the values of their rivers, natural wonders that have largely been taken for granted. Currently only 1% of America’s rivers are protected under the Federal Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. In this video, narrated by Burgess Meredith, you will journey with individuals across the US who are involved in protecting, conserving and restoring rivers and teaching to “put back more than you take”.
Source: Metropolitan Pittsburgh Public Broadcasting
Topic(s) Conservation
Topic(s) Rivers

Length: 15.00  Age Level: Adult
Cost effectiveness and affordability of building projects are directly related to efficient design. Whether new construction or re-construction, architects and builders explain strategies that can help you conserve materials and reduce waste generation, including modular planning, reuse during renovation, and design for disassembly.
Source: University of Wisconsin Extension
Topic(s) Construction & Demolition
Topic(s) Green Building
Topic(s) Waste Reduction

Compost...Because a Rind is a Terrible Thing to Waste (1996)
Length: 29.10  Age Level: High School +
Composting offers businesses and institutions an opportunity to reduce the amount of food waste they discard as trash. This video looks at a variety of businesses, both small & large scale, successfully composting and saving money through reduced waste disposal. Different types of compost technologies and the fundamentals of composting are also addressed. Also looked at the is the idea of vermicomposting or composting with worms.
Source: Media Services Resource Center
Topic(s) compost
Topic(s) Food Waste

Length: 15.00  Age Level: Adult

Waste isn’t waste until it is wasted. Of the nation's solid waste, 20-26% is construction and demolition (C & D) waste. This video looks at the factors and opportunities that drive construction and demolition recycling. Builders, contractors and haulers give tangible examples of how they save money, both directly and indirectly, by reducing, reusing and recycling.

Source: University of Wisconsin Extension

Topic(s) Construction & Demolition
Topic(s) Green Building
Topic(s) Waste Reduction


Length: 15.00  Age Level: Adult

Including recycled products and materials in construction projects adds opportunities for contractors and builders, and makes a positive statement about the environment as well. This video outlines some important points about specifications, choosing and evaluating the performance of recycled products and integrating recycled and reused materials into existing construction practices.

Source: University of Wisconsin Extension

Topic(s) Construction & Demolition
Topic(s) Green Building

Cooling the Urban Forest (1996)

Length: 14.00  Age Level: Junior high +

In this entertaining video, two kids, who have been blamed for their high electric bills in their home, seek advice from the Professor, who is in the process of studying trees and their impact on temperature. The professor teaches them the process of investigating through the scientific method and how trees play a much bigger role than just providing shade and lowering electric bills.

Source: Purdue University

Topic(s) Climate
Topic(s) Energy
Topic(s) Greenhouse Effect
Topic(s) Seasons

Cost of Cool: Youth, Consumption & the Environment (2001)

Length: 26.35  Age Level: Grades 8+

Hosted by Baywatch star, Alexandra Paul. This video shows teenagers the environmental price it takes to have the latest, "coolest" stuff. From T-shirts to sneakers, it shows the impact of their manufacturing process on the world's resources. The consumer cost of these items are compared to their environmental cost and offers a revealing examination of over-consumption. This video encourages teens to think about their beliefs and understand the effects for themselves and the world if we each consume more wisely. This is an excellent video to springboard discussion.

Source: The Video Project

Topic(s) Citizen Action
Topic(s) Environmental Issues Overview
Topic(s) Reduce

Creating a Sustainable Future: Perspectives from Five Communities (2000)

Length: 7.00  Age Level: Adult

This short video provides viewers with an introductory perspective on sustainability by briefly presenting members of five communities that have successfully initiated sustainability projects in Minnesota: Duluth (Stowe Elementary School), Lower Chippewa River Basin, Seward Neighborhood in Minneapolis, St. Joseph, and Steele County. Viewers are encouraged to make their community a better place today as well as for future generations. The video also provides inspiration and serves as a discussion piece for groups of citizens.

Source: Minnesota Office of Environmental Assistance

Topic(s) Sustainable Development

Creating Communities that Work (1995)

Length: 16.00  Age Level: High School +

Communities across the United States are developing sustainable development strategies, by which they incorporate economic development approaches to benefit the local environment and the quality of life. This video highlights several success stories: a community development effort in Davis, California; a community planning process to re-site the town of Pattonsburg, Missouri after severe flooding; efforts to revitalize Portland, Oregon, and; a community-based project to develop green spaces in New York City.

Source: Smart Communities Network

Topic(s) Sustainable Development
Creating Open Space Networks through Conservation Subdivision Design (1996)
Length: 52.00  Age Level: High School +
Traditional housing development often destroys natural assets like open space, natural habitats and scenery in favor of streets, sewerage and generic lots for homes. This video details an interesting, alternative method of planning for development which is less land-consumptive, maintains the same population density as the traditional model, but preserves significant amounts of open space, scenery and natural habitats. The accompanying book also includes model building and zoning language that will help communities improve how they grow and develop.
Source: Randall Arendt
Topic(s) Sustainable Development

Crunch Smash Trash! Monster Machines That Recycle (1994)
Length: 29.00  Age Level: Preschool +
Setting movement and machines to classical music. This video, with minimal narration, takes kids beyond the recycling bin to show what happens when we recycle and the different monster machines needed to get the job done. Kids will see cars shredded to Tchaikovsky, glass smashed to Handel and steel bashed to Bach.
Source:
Topic(s) Recycle
Topic(s) Waste Management

Digital Dump, The; Exporting Re-use and Abuse to Africa (2005)
Length: 23.00  Age Level: High school +
This documentary reveals the concerns about global trade in toxic, obsolete, discarded computers and other e-scrap collected in North America and Europe and sent to developing countries by waste brokers and recyclers. In Lagos, Africa, while there is a legitimate market and ability to repair and refurbish old electronic equipment including computers, monitors, TVs and cell phones, the local experts complain that of the estimated 500 40-foot containers shipped to Lagos each month, as much as 75% of the imports are junk and are not economically repairable or marketable. Consequently, this e-waste, ends up gathering dust in warehouses or dumped and burned near residences in empty lots, roadsides and in swamps creating serious health and environmental contamination.
Source: Basel Action Network
Topic(s) Hazardous Waste
Topic(s) Pollution
Topic(s) Waste Implications

Do The Rot Thing; The Simple Art of Home Composting (1997)
Length: 22.00  Age Level: High school +
This video demonstrates basic steps and shares simple tips that make composting at home fun and easy. You can reduce waste, recycle and reap a harvest of home-made compost by using materials from cooking and gardening. You'll meet four Alameda County residents who show how they use compost, the natural fertilizer that improves every type of soil, around their yards.
Source: Alameda County Waste Management Authority
Topic(s) Compost

Length: 60.00  Age Level: Junior High +
This video, hosted by Scott Simon, looks at all aspects of managing America's municipal solid waste (garbage). After World War II came the advent of disposables and a garbage crisis that forced America to look at managing waste differently. Many issues are discussed, including recycling, incineration, landfills, economics, liability and transportation. An interview with William Rathje, a garbologist, offers insight to how waste breaks down in a landfill. A family of 5 is shown how much garbage they produce in one year. New technologies are finding use in the byproducts of a landfill. This video clearly shows that solid waste needs to be seen, believed and understood.
Source: Maryland Public Television
Topic(s) Garbage
Topic(s) Landfills
Topic(s) Overview
Topic(s) Waste Implications
Topic(s) Waste Management

Drum Beat for Mother Earth: Persistent Organic Pollutants Threatening Indigenous Peoples (0)
Length: 56.00  Age Level: High School+
The smallpox blankets are back-- this time as toxic chemicals from transnational corporations that enter us through our traditional foods. You can't see them. You can't smell them. You can't taste them. These chemicals threaten our clan relationships, our treaty rights, our health, and our future generations. This video examines the ways in which persistent organic pollutants affect the health of indigenous peoples and threatens the ability of these populations to maintain their traditional lifestyles.
Source: A & E Home Video
Topic(s) Indigenous Peoples
Topic(s) Pollution

February 2009
E Connection, The (1997)
Length: 150.0  Age Level: Grade 5 - Adult
A five-part, television series on Minnesota's environment and the people who live in it. This video touches on 17 environmental topics such as the Mississippi River, Urban Planning, Climate Change, Wetland Restoration, Biodiversity, E Careers and more.
Source: KTCA
Topic(s): Biodiversity, Climate, Energy, Overview, Reduce, Rivers, Urban Planning

E² | Energy: The Economics of being Environmentally Conscious (0)
Length: 180.0  Age Level: High School +
Global in scope and comprised of six 30 minute chapters, E² Energy features the people, places and innovations that suggest a more environmentally benight future is possible and within reach. Includes episodes on Harvesting the Wind in southwest Minnesota, Energy for the Developing World, Paving the Way (energy consumption by cars), Growing Energy, California’s progressive Energy Policies, and Coal and Nuclear Energy.
Source: PBS Home Video
Topic(s): Energy

E² | Design: The Economics of being Environmentally Conscious (Season 2) (0)
Length: 180.0  Age Level: High School +
Global in scope and comprising six 30-minute chapters filmed in HD, the second season of "e²: Design" features the designers and drivers of change in the world of sustainable architecture. Equal parts visual style and storytelling acumen, each episode explores the potential of the built environment to help turn around our global climate crisis. Includes segments on the Druk White Lotus School, Greening the Federal Government, Bogota, Affordable Green Housing in New York City, Adaptive Reuse in the Netherlands, and the nonprofit organization Architecture 2030.
Source: Films Incorporated Video
Topic(s): Architecture, Green Building, Sustainability

Earth to Kids (1990)
Length: 28.00  Age Level: Grades 3 - 8
The choices that you make every day can have a big impact on the amount of garbage you produce. This video teaches how to evaluate some kinds of products for their environmental impact. This includes "convenience" or overpackaged food items, disposable items that could be replaced by reusable options, and why some forms of packaging are less wasteful than others.
Source: Films Incorporated Video
Topic(s): Reduce

Length: 8.30  Age Level: Junior high +
Hosted by Stephan Reynolds, this video explains the "Ease" and "E's" of office paper reduction. Stephan visits several offices and does impromptu interviews with employees regarding their paper use. We learn that using paper is very expense - up to 30 times more than the cost of the paper itself. We also learn that reducing office paper is economical, environmental, and efficient. In addition, tips on how to reduce office paper are demonstrated.
Source: Minnesota Office of Environmental Assistance
Topic(s): Waste Reduction

February 2009
Length: 120.0  Age Level: Grades 4-6
Broken into 4-segments, this video series takes an in-depth look at a variety of environmental issues associated with water, soil, forests, and parks. In part 1, Water, topics including the water cycle, where Minnesotans get their water from, and sources of groundwater pollution are discussed. In part 2, Soil, the different types of soil, the soil profile, and methods for composting are highlighted. Part 3 focuses on the intricacies of the forest ecosystem. The three biomes and the animals that live in them are discussed in part 4.
Source: Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

Endangered Planet: People’s Century (1999)
Length: 60.00  Age Level: High School +
This historical documentation chronicles some of the most public and atrocious, global, environmental disasters of the 20th century. The story begins in 1959 in Minemata, Japan documenting mercury poisoning, then moves through everything from Rachel Carson, nuclear power, man’s mission to space, the first Earth Day, Green Peace, Love Canal, the Reagan Administration, Chernobyl, and closes again with Minemata. The overall message that the viewer is left with is that there is one planet Earth to sustain us; our decisions and actions have environmental consequences, many of which have a global impact.
Source: WGBH Boston Video

Length: 53.00  Age Level: High School +
From the first agriculture settlements, to the industrial revolution, to widespread urbanization, humans have been transforming the environment for thousands of years. In this program, Lester Brown, president of World Watch Institute, along with other academic experts study the environmental impact humans have had on the planet and present their perspectives on ecological stewardship and survival for the future.
Source: Films for the Humanities and Sciences

Environmental Education Teacher Preparation Project (1997)
Length: 16.36  Age Level: Adult
The Minnesota Environmental Education Teacher Preparation Project involved ten higher education institutions in Minnesota. In the summers of 1996 and 1997, these universities developed and piloted a set of coordinated environmental education courses for classroom teachers and students enrolled in teacher education programs. This video highlights how, as a result of this training, teachers are implementing environmental education into their classrooms. The courses have been added as permanent offerings in the majority of the participating universities.
Source: Minnesota Office of Environmental Assistance

Escape From Affluenza (1998)
Length: 56.00  Age Level: High School +
Escape From Affluenza, the sequel to Affluenza, examines American consumption habits and the quality of life that we associate with more money and material things. In addition, it highlights numerous families that have discovered how to simplify daily living and how to live better on less. The concepts of Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle are demonstrated as an essential and more fulfilling way of life.
Source: Bullfrog Films

Exporting Harm: The High-Tech Trashing of Asia (2002)
Length: 23.00  Age Level: High School +
This remarkable and disturbing video documents the end-of-life destinations of "recycled" electronic waste in China. It reveals the environmental and occupational hazards that these citizens encounter on a daily basis and conveys why it is essential that we reduce toxicity and establish producer responsibility as a management technique in the U.S. It was produced by the Basel Action Network (BAN), an international network of activists seeking to put an end to economically-motivated toxic waste export and dumping - particularly hazardous waste exports from rich industrialized countries to poorer, less-industrialized countries.
Source: Basel Action Network

February 2009
Eyes of Nye: Genetically Modified Foods (2005)
Length: 24.00  Age Level: High school +
Genetically modified foods refer to foods produced by a plant whose genetic make-up, or DNA, has been altered. This video explores the benefits and risks of genetic modification of food-producing plants. You will hear from traditional wheat breeders, researchers who analyze organic & pesticide-free crops, and from corporations engaged in genetic engineering, along with questions surrounding the use of genetically modified (GM) foods.
Source: Disney Educational Productions
Topic(s) Agriculture
Topic(s) Biodiversity
Topic(s) Pesticides

Eyes of Nye: Global Climate Change (2005)
Length: 24.00  Age Level: High school +
Global climate change refers to changes in worldwide climactic conditions, especially temperature. In this video find out how scientists measure climate change and see how carbon dioxide affects temperature. The complexities of the scientific questions surrounding the climate change debate are also explored.
Source: Disney Educational Productions
Topic(s) Agriculture
Topic(s) Biodiversity
Topic(s) Pesticides

Eyes of Nye: Nuclear Energy (2006)
Length: 25.00  Age Level: Middle School +
Join Bill Nye as he weighs the risks and advantages of using nuclear power as an alternative source of energy. Visit a nuclear reactor and a proposed nuclear waste site and hear from the experts.
Source: Disney Educational Productions
Topic(s) Alternative Energy
Topic(s) Energy
Topic(s) Nuclear Power

Eyes of Nye: Transportation (2005)
Length: 24.00  Age Level: High school +
Bill Nye is in the driver’s seat as he explains the environmental impact of American car culture. In this video you will see how computers can simulate traffic flow, find out about fuel-efficient alternatives and discover what you can do to reduce traffic-related air pollution.
Source: Disney Educational Productions
Topic(s) Air pollution
Topic(s) Automobiles

Length: 60.00  Age Level: High School +
The atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki marked the end of the WWII - and the beginning of the nuclear arms race. Simultaneously, the peaceful potential of nuclear energy was being developed. Early optimism and enthusiasm for nuclear energy dissipated as the dangers of radiation and nuclear accidents became evident. Many governments ignored protests and challenges to nuclear programs despite growing evidence of the many long-term dangers.
Source: WGBH Boston Video
Topic(s) Energy

Fern Gully: The Last Rainforest (0)
Length: 72.00  Age Level: Pre-K
Magic and adventure await in FernGully, a spectacular rainforest where a bat named Batty joins together with Crysta, Pips and the Beetle Boys to save their marvelous world. Venturing beyond FernGully, Crysta discovers Zak, a human who is helping to demolish the rainforest. Once Zak sees the beauty and magic of FernGully, he vows to save it. But is it too late for FernGully? (Animated film)
Source:
Topic(s) Biodiversity
Topic(s) Conservation
Topic(s) Natural Resources

Length: 26.55  Age Level: High School +
The largest wood-fired pottery kiln in North America is located in central Minnesota. This video chronicles the very first firing of this kiln, which lasted nine days. In the process, we learn how Richard Bresnahan, renowned potter, uses sustainable practices in his profession (i.e. he uses local clays and glazes for his pieces and uses local wood for the kiln).
Source: KTCA
Topic(s) Sustainable Design

February 2009
Flow (0)
Length: 84.00   Age Level: High School +
This documentary investigates what experts are calling the most important political and environmental issue of the 21st century: the world water crisis. Producer Irena Salina builds a case against the growing privatization of the world’s dwindling fresh water supply with an unflinching focus on politics, pollution, human rights, and the emergence of a domineering world water cartel. Interviews with scientists and activists intelligently reveal the rapidly building crisis at both the global and human scale, and the film introduces many of the governmental and corporate culprits behind the water grab, while begging the question “Can anyone really own water?”
Source:
Topic(s) Water

Food Waste and Paper Composting (1997)
Length: 11.00   Age Level: Grade 7 +
This video discusses how a new product (compost) can be created from a potential environmental liability (paper and food waste). Grocery stores, schools, farmers, and residents are shown as active participants in composting programs. The costs associated with composting, landfilling, recycling, and incinerating are compared. Different variations of compost, including some with non-recyclable paper, are shown to be of high value (especially for crops).
Source: American Forest & Paper Association
Topic(s) Compost
Topic(s) Food Waste

Garbage Day! (1994)
Length: 22.00   Age Level: Elementary
What’s it like to be a garbage man? Experience a day with a trash collector, starting early in the morning with cleaning the trucks, and continuing through a full day’s work—with a few add-ons just for giggles, like putting water balloons through the trash compactor and running over watermelons with a bulldozer. Students will see how garbage trucks pick up various types of trash bins and dumpsters, and will learn how trash, recycling, and yard waste are handled once they reach the waste management facility. (Age: K-2)
Source: Childvision Educational Films
Topic(s) Garbage
Topic(s) Trash

Garbage is Resource Full (1983)
Length: 24.30   Age Level: Grades 4 +
Provides an overview of the generation of wastes and the options that are available to reduce, reuse and recycle household wastes.
Source: Information Service Branch

Garbage! The Revolution Starts at Home (2008)
Length: 75.00   Age Level: Middle School +
"Garbage! The Revolution Starts at Home" is a feature documentary about how the household has become one of the most ferocious environmental predators of our time. Concerned for the future of his family, director Andrew Nisker asks an average urban family to keep every scrap of garbage that they generate for three months, in their garage. He then takes them on a journey to find out where it all goes and what it's doing to the world. From organic waste to the lights they use at Christmas time, the McDonald family discovers that for every action there is a reaction that affects them and the entire planet.
Source:
Topic(s) Garbage
Topic(s) Waste Implications

Length: 7.00   Age Level: Adult
Otter Tail County began researching alternative markets and uses for recycled glass so that rejected glass as well as other types of glass (dishes, window glass, drinking glasses, etc.) could be recycled. In 1996, the Otter Tail Highway Dept decided to use recycled glass as a part of the Highway 74 road base. An overview of this successful project, including the specifics of how the glass was blended and how the road was constructed, are highlighted.
Source: Otter Tail County Solid Waste Department
Topic(s) Solid Waste Overview
Topic(s) Waste Management

Global Warming: Public Agenda and Government Responsibility ()
Length:   Age Level: High School
This DVD features short, independent clips from Good Morning America, 20/20, This Week, World News Tonight, and Nightline that relate to the issue of global climate change. Students and teachers can use these clips as talking points for discussion, using the on-screen debate questions included in the teacher's guide.
Source: ABC World News
Topic(s) Climate
Global warming: The Signs and the Science (0)
Length: 26.00 Age Level: High School +
This video introduces you to inspiring innovators: scientists, homeowners, golf course managers, groundkeepers, and business owners - all who are growing and managing healthy lawns without pesticides. Practical tips and suggestions that can be implemented in your yard are shown.
Source: Wisconsin's Environmental Decade Institute
Topic(s) Lawn Care
Topic(s) Pesticides
Topic(s) Water Quality

Great Lakes, Great Lawns (1996)
Length: 26.00 Age Level: High School +
This video will introduce you to inspiring innovators: scientists, homeowners, golf course managers, groundkeepers, and business owners - all who are growing and managing healthy lawns without pesticides. Practical tips and suggestions that can be implemented in your yard are shown.
Source: PBS Home Video
Topic(s) Climate Change
Topic(s) Global Warming

God's Creation & Global Warming (2000)
Length: 15.00 Age Level: High School +
This video introduces the impact of global warming and how people of God are being called to action. Interviewing several faith leaders, the common thread is that individual impacts have a collective effect when local congregations stand together. Within the faith community there needs to be a unilateral call to action for justice and stewardship to have a positive impact on God’s creation.
Source: National Council of Churches
Topic(s) Greenhouse Effect
Topic(s) Religion
Topic(s) Stewardship

Length: 19.00 Age Level: High School +
This video explores the history and politics of garbage, a substance both hidden and omnipresent. To investigate the roots of our waste, the history of garbage from the 1800s to the post-WWII golden era of consumption, up through the contradictions of modern day recycling are looked at. Using interviews, scenes from massive dumps, and an array archival footage this film uncovers the links between modern industrial production, consumer culture and our disposable lifestyle.
Source: AK Press
Topic(s) Environmental Issues Overview
Topic(s) Waste Implications
Topic(s) Waste Management

February 2009

**Length:** 6.12  
**Age Level:** Adult

This video is an overview of the document entitled, A GreenPrint for Minnesota: The State Plan for Environmental Education. The plan contains strategies for action to help Minnesotans become environmentally literate citizens. This video addresses three primary goals of the GreenPrint: to help K-12 teachers integrate environmental education into their curriculum; to encourage use and partnerships among the various environmental education learning centers; and to incorporate environmental education into community education and activities.

**Source:** Minnesota Environmental Education Board

**Topic(s)** Environmental Issues Overview  
**Topic(s)** Schools

---

**Hazardous Fairy Tales (1996)**

**Length:** 21.00  
**Age Level:** Grades Pre-K - 1

These modernized versions of classic fairy tales teach the importance of safely using and storing hazardous household products. Colorful animation helps carry the message of properly reading labels and handling hazardous materials, then suggests alternatives to hazardous products.

**Source:** St. Paul Neighborhood Energy Consortium

**Topic(s)** Household Hazardous Waste (HHW)

---

**HenryCycle Special (1996)**

**Length:** 23.00  
**Age Level:** Grades K - 5

This professional, fully animated video features the adventures of “the superhero of recycling,” HenryCycle. This entertaining story for younger elementary students offers tips on recycling, shows how to cut down on waste around the house and in the yard, and gives ideas to reduce waste on every trip to the store.

**Source:** The Media Guild

**Topic(s)** Recycle  
**Topic(s)** Reduce  
**Topic(s)** Reuse

---


**Length:** 26.00  
**Age Level:** Elementary

We throw away an average of 6 lbs. of garbage everyday. Where does it all go? Follow Emma, Max and Twyla from New York City as they follow their garbage from their home to the landfill. Through music and imagination they discover the different types of vehicles and equipment needed to move their garbage. They kids also learn about recycling and see first hand how a milk jug is turned into a slide at their playground.

**Source:** Bullfrog Films

**Topic(s)** Landfills  
**Topic(s)** Recycling  
**Topic(s)** Waste Management

---

**Home Composting: Turning Your Spoils to Soils (1991)**

**Length:** 17.00  
**Age Level:** Grades 6 +

Known as "black gold" among gardeners, compost helps soils retain moisture and reduce erosion while helping you reduce the amount of waste you throw away. This video describes how easy it is to start a compost pile at home for yard and kitchen waste, as well as explaining the benefits of mulches and leaving grass clippings on the lawn.

**Source:** Waste Planning and Standards

**Topic(s)** Compost

---

**How Did This Get Here? (1992)**

**Length:** 9.22  
**Age Level:** Grades 7 +

Litter acts like a magnet - where there is a little bit, more is attracted to that spot. Being careful not to litter is not enough; it is everyone’s responsibility to help clean up, too. Nearly half of litter comes from unclosed trash bags, overfilled cans and dumpsters and garbage trucks. The video gives a few ideas on litter prevention, and explains the role of Keep America Beautiful in helping groups organize litter prevention programs.

**Source:** Keep America Beautiful, Inc.

**Topic(s)** Litter

---


**Length:** 12.45  
**Age Level:** Grades 7 +

About 37% of our solid waste (by weight) is made up of paper, but people and businesses are collecting a growing percentage of waste paper for recycling into useful products. This video explains many of the collection systems for waste paper in a variety of settings, and explains the importance of source separation to get quality recyclable paper.

**Source:** American Forest & Paper Association

---

February 2009
Have you ever thought about how much food, everyday products, and fuel you've consumed during the course of your life? From our cars to our clothes dryers to our disposable toothbrushes, our impact on planet Earth is astonishing. Whether you’re a child who drinks milk or an adult who enjoys a bottle of wine, Human Footprint takes a phase-by-phase journey through life to illustrate the enormous imprint every American makes during his or her time on Earth. Incorporating surprising facts with playful visuals, this enlightening portrait reveals our level of consumption—and the simple changes we can all make to reduce our negative impact on the world.

Source: National Geographic

I Need the Earth and the Earth Needs Me (1990)

Length: 19.42  Age Level: Grades K - 1

Clean air, water and soil are important to all things living on the earth. Children and a narrator tell why the earth is important to us and how we can help keep it clean.

Source: GM Photographic

I'm Saving the Earth: What Are You Doing? (1992)

Length: 13.00  Age Level: Middle school +

This entertaining video follows Dave Cole, an environmental auditor through the Seagull household. Where he shows, and is shown, tips and ideas to reduce waste, conserve water and properly dispose of household hazardous waste.

Source: Environmental Video Products

It's All Connected: Kid's Version (1992)

Length: 8.50  Age Level: Grades 1 - 8

In this fun and fast-paced video, students Stephanie and Latrice address the topic of household pollution and how to get rid of it. Its message is that hazards and poisons around the house don't just go "*poof! gone*" from the planet, and the hazardous products that we use to clean up our bathrooms, dishes and clothes may not be easily removed from our water - and may be harmful to our health. Lessons can be expanded beyond the focus of the Great Lakes to other water pollution.

Source: Lake Michigan Federation

It's All Connected: Public Service Announcements (PSA's) (1992)

Length: 1.30  Age Level: All

There are three Public Service Announcements (PSA's) on this video that suggest "recipes for change." Each one offers a non-toxic alternative to a common household cleaner. The three examples shown are for kitchen cleaner, toilet bowl cleaner, and drain cleaner.

Source: Lake Michigan Federation

It's Eco-Logic (1996)

Length: 16.00  Age Level: Grades 4-8

Twelve year old Michael gets a homework assignment from his teacher to think of ways that kids can save the earth. Severn Cullis-Suzuki, the youngest winner of the Global 500 Environment Award, highlights many tips and examples of environmentally friendly actions that kids can do such as packing a waste-free lunch, eating low on the food chain, planting a wildlife garden, reusing old materials, and many more.

Source: Bullfrog Films

February 2009
It's Gotten Rotten (1996)
Length: 20.00  Age Level: Grades 8 +
The science of composting literally goes under the microscope in this video. Great, up-close photography gives viewers a chance to see the microorganisms and invertebrates that make up the "work force" of composting. A high school science lab provides the set for applying biology, life and physical sciences to understand how the composting process breaks down organic matter and turns it into a useful soil amendment. Includes a reference copy of "Composting in the Classroom," a comprehensive teacher's guide with research projects for high school students.
Source: Media Services Resource Center

Jane Goodall: Reason for Hope, A Spiritual Journey (1999)
Length: 60.00  Age Level: Junior High +
This program is an overview of the life of Jane Goodall - from her early days in London, to decades in the forests of Gombe (Africa), through her crusades around the world to promote hope. This video looks beyond the scientific career of Jane Goodall to show more of the woman herself. Her remarkable life and her deeply held spiritual and environmental beliefs are the focus of this program.
Source: KTCA

Keeping the Earth (1996)
Length: 27.00  Age Level: Grades 10 +
This video focuses on human stewardship of Creation - Earth and all of its plant and animal life. "Keeping the Earth" lays a foundation for understanding between science and Judeo-Christian religious philosophies. By combining the story of Genesis with the worldviews of prominent religious leaders and scientists, this piece is an excellent starting point for discussions of human beings' responsibilities to maintain and preserve the Earth.
Source: Union of Concerned Scientists

Kev Koom Siab (Environmental Video in Hmong with English subtitles) (1995)
Length: 58.41  Age Level: Jr High +
This environmental video was produced specifically for the Hmong community, but can be applied to a much wider audience with its English subtitles. The hour-long video is divided into five 10-minute sections: Garbage; Reduce, Reduce, Recycle; Composting/Yard Waste; Hazardous Waste; and Recyclables.
Source: Kev Koom Siab Program

Kids and Lead Hazards: What every family should know (0)
Length: 30.00  Age Level:
What you don't know can hurt your children. Lead poisoning is the number one preventable disease among American children, yet more than one out of every six preschoolers in the U.S. has dangerously high levels of lead in his or her blood, which can lead to mental retardation and irreversible brain damage. This program takes an in-depth look at the problem and supplies concrete information on what families can do to minimize exposure and protect their kids.
Source:

Length: 14.00  Age Level: Grades 1-6
Kids are taught the importance of making less garbage by practicing the 4 R's: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, and Rot (or composting). Kids are shown how to choose packaging with recycled content material, how to separate recyclables, how to reuse items, and how to compost grass, leaves, and food.
Source: Alameda County Waste Management Authority
Leading the Way (1992)
Length: 12.42  Age Level: Grades 7 +
Residents of Ramsey and Washington counties each produce an average of 5.5 pounds of garbage each day. The amount of waste sent to the landfills is reduced by a comprehensive program of curbside recycling, composting and a mechanical sorting system. The video shows how this system, the Ramsey/Washington County Resource Recovery Project, separates and processes the remaining trash into four categories: ferrous and non-ferrous metals, glass and grit, and burnables.
Source: Ramsey/Washington County Resource Recovery Project

Lean, Green, Drivin' Machine (1994)
Length: 15.00  Age Level: Grades 10 +
Everyone who drives a car bears the responsibility of managing the impact of their automobile on other people and the environment. Using an interactive computer program, a teenager teaches her father what she learned about properly managing the potentially hazardous materials in the car. The program covers safe handling of used oil and oil filters, antifreeze, lead-acid batteries, gasoline and washer fluid, and provides practical environmental tips for becoming an informed, responsible driver.
Source: Environmental Hazards Management Institute

Let's Talk About It/Same Sides (0)
Length: 20.00  Age Level: High School +
Two dramatic skits depict characters debating the positive and negative effects of nanoscale technology. One skit focuses on the role of nanotechnology in the future of medicine; the other grapples with the environmental impacts of nanoscale technology. Includes discussion guides.
Source: Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

Look Again: Journey of the Blob (1989)
Length: 9.46  Age Level: Grades 5 +
A young boy discovers the importance of keeping contaminants out of the water supply when he dumps his science experiment - "the Blob" - into a nearby stream. This unnnarrated film follows the blob through the water cycle until it returns back to the boy's home through the tap. The video is a good start for discussions on acid rain or water pollution, as well as the idea that there is no "away" (when you "throw something 'out'.")
Source: Bullfrog Films

Length: 62.00  Age Level: Adult
This video showcases ways to minimize the healthcare industry's impact on the environment through the development of a facility-wide waste management plan. It is divided into three sections: the concept of an environmental footprint, the purpose of a waste management plan, and the components of a waste management plan. An individual section can be used as a training tool, or it can be viewed in its entirety. It provides a comprehensive picture of the types of waste generated at a healthcare facility and how to practically minimize and reduce these wastes.
Source: University of Vermont

Mercury and the Healthcare Professional (1997)
Length: 17.00  Age Level: Adult
Mercury finds wide application in equipment and supplies used in the healthcare industry. This 17-minute video informs healthcare professionals about the sources of mercury in hospitals and clinics and encourages them to use mercury-free alternatives. The video also outlines the proper management procedures for mercury-containing products. The manual, Mercury Use in Hospitals and Clinics, accompanies the video and provides more detail about sources and management options.
Source: Minnesota Office of Environmental Assistance

February 2009

Length: 240.0  Age Level: Middle school +

Disc 1 - Episode I: Ordering the Land (16,000 BP - 1870’s) Witness 16,000 years of Minnesota’s fascinating history. This unique place in North America is revealed through state-of-the-art animations, graphics stories and re-creations. Native Americans describe their long relationship with the land and with the arrival of Europeans a new way of looking at the land will change the region forever. Discover what happens when early entrepreneurs fail to understand the geology of St. Anthony Falls.

Disc 1 - Episode II: Changes in the Land (1870’s - 1900) Voices from the past and stunning nature videography re-create the natural world Euro-Americans first encountered. Find out what happens to the abundant species as commercial hunters and the railroad arrive, how Minneapolis becomes the flour milling capital of the world and how a catastrophic forest fire ushers in a new way of looking at the land.

Disc 2 - Episode III Out of the Ashes (1900-1940’s) Never-before-seen historic footage brings to life the beginnings of conservation in Minnesota. Discover why Minnesota is at the forefront of conservation in the US and the key role women play. See what happens to the Mississippi River as population in the Twin Cities explodes and find out which prominent conservationist begins his career promoting the destruction of wolves.

Disc 2 - Episode IV Second Nature (1940’s and beyond) Momentous changes are brought to Minnesota by WWII. Simple inventions like nylon nets and the introduction of exotic species bring the fishery of Lake Superior to the brink of collapse. Through rarely seen footage, experience the extensive pollution of Lake Superior caused by the disposal of over 60,000 tons of waste a day and hear how a group of citizens play a central role in stopping this pollution. Discover ways in which our own homes and businesses result in changes in the land as far away as the rain forests of South America.

Source: University of Minnesota Twin Cities Campus

Length: 7.00  Age Level: Junior high +
The world’s population is over 6 billion and every minute it increases by another 140 people. This video explores how population growth impacts Minnesota Resources. Through a timeline of 1800-2025, and a map of Minnesota, it shows population growth and the impact it has three natural resources: iron ore, top soil and wheat.

Source: World Population Balance

Mister Rogers' Neighborhood: The Environment and Recycling (1990)
Length: 30.00  Age Level: Pre-K - Grade 1
This show was aired on April 17, 1990. It focuses on teaching pre-school children about recycling, litter and conservation. Copies of the teacher’s activity guide are also available.

Source: HDR Engineering, Inc.

Modern Marvels: Garbage (1999)
Length: 50.00  Age Level: High School +
What is garbage and where does it go? This video looks back into history at how garbage was handled in many different cultures at many different times. Various waste management trends are highlighted, such as the beginning of incineration, "sanitary" landfills, and recycling. It brings us to the present time and describes some of the current waste issues from nuclear wastes to trash in space.

Source: A & E Home Video

More (1991)
Length: 4.00  Age Level: Grade 7+
This short video demonstrates that the resources of our world are finite by simply using the single word "More" along with a series of animated images. The video is a good springboard for discussion on consumption and other environmental issues.

Source: AIMS Multimedia

February 2009
Natural Resources of Rice County: Forests (2003)
Length: 30.00  Age Level: Junior high +
Rice county, Minnesota, has a variety of forest types with unique characteristics, using GIS data and historical records, this video looks at how the forests have changed since pre-European settlement. The forest layers are described, from the canopy layer to the leaf litter layer, and local experts are interviewed and discuss the history, environmental, economic and aesthetic benefits of forests. This video also offers tips and ideas of what you can do to take action and be a steward, even in your own back yard.
Source: River Bend Nature Center
Topic(s) Biodiversity
Topic(s) Conservation
Topic(s) Forests

Natural Resources of Rice County: Habitat Corridors (2003)
Length: 30.00  Age Level: Junior high +
This video explores and explains what habitat corridors are, and identifies current and potential corridors in Rice County. The use of maps, artwork and literature are shown to understand pre-settlement landscape and habitat. One model used to show the change in the land over time is computer aided mapping using GIS data. Concerns about habitat corridors are grouped into two categories: fragmentation of the land and economics. These concerns are explained with simple ecological actions citizens can take in their own yard, their neighborhood and across the county to preserve, protect and restore land.
Source: River Bend Nature Center
Topic(s) Biodiversity
Topic(s) Conservation
Topic(s) Wildlife Preservation

Natural Resources of Rice County: Prairies (2003)
Length: 29.00  Age Level: Junior high +
Prairies and forests once covered much of Rice County Minnesota. Through the use of historical records and DNR maps, it shows how the landscape has changed in the county and the state. Local experts describe the characteristics and benefits of a prairie, including a model for farming practices, and also address the threats to a prairie. They suggest how you can help, by creating your own prairie patch in your back yard.
Source: River Bend Nature Center
Topic(s) Biodiversity
Topic(s) Prairie
Topic(s) Wildlife Preservation

Natural Resources of Rice County: Rare and Endangered Species (2003)
Length: 30.00  Age Level: Junior high +
In Rice County, Minnesota there are two special and unique species. They are the Dwarf Trout Lily and the Wood turtle. Experts from the Minnesota DNR explain the habitat of both and why they are protected under the Minnesota's Endangered Species law. They also explain how they study the different species and the tools used for both and the challenges their habitat face, like buckthorn, ATV's and land management practices. They also suggest how citizens can take action to improve the natural resources or even become a citizen scientist.
Source: River Bend Nature Center
Topic(s) habitat
Topic(s) Wildlife Preservation

Natural Resources of Rice County: Rivers (2003)
Length: 28.00  Age Level: Junior high +
Every person is dependent on water for our very existence, and the quality of water is often equated to our quality of life. This video examines the health and history of rivers in South Central Minnesota. The Cannon River Watershed is highlighted. Interviews with local experts explain what a watershed is and provides background of point source and nonpoint source water pollution. They offer ways to learn more and offer possibilities for action to protect and improve our natural resources.
Source: River Bend Nature Center
Topic(s) Citizen Action
Topic(s) Pollution
Topic(s) Rivers
Topic(s) Water

Newton's Apple: Glass Blowing, Smiles, Enviroarcheology (0)
Length: 26.00  Age Level: Middle School
This episode of Newton's Apple includes a 6-minute segment on "enviro-archeology"-- studying cultures past and present by looking at the waste they produce. (Other segments on this episode include glass blowing and the psychology of smiles.)
Source: Twin Cities Public Television
Topic(s) Garbage
Newton’s Apple: Recycling, Wolverines, Concrete (0)

Length: 27.00  Age Level: Middle School

Glass produced from recycled glass instead of raw materials reduces related air pollution by 20% and related water pollution by 50%. This episode includes a five-minute segment on what happens to glass from the time it leaves the consumer's house on a recycling truck to the time it finds its way back to the shelves as a recycled product. (Other topics in this episode include AIDS, concrete, and wolverines.)

Source: Twin Cities Public Television

Topic(s): Glass

Newton’s Apple; Garbage & Infrared Light (1993)

Length: 30.00  Age Level: grades 4+

How much garbage do Americans throw away? What can we learn about individual life-styles from studying solid waste? What are some future solid waste disposal alternatives? Peggy works with University of Arizona archaeologists who dig into landfills and analyze trash to learn about what we throw away, and what happens to it in a landfill. How do we detect infrared light? How is it produced and how does it compare with visible light? What are some of the technologies that take advantage of infrared radiation? David uncovers exciting technological advances that use infrared light.

Source: KTCA

Topic(s): Archaeology

Topic(s): Energy

Topic(s): Recycling

Topic(s): Waste Management

Next Industrial Revolution, The (2001)

Length: 55.00  Age Level: Grades 7 +

William McDonough and Michael Braungart are leading businesses into the next industrial revolution by putting into practice their cutting-edge ideas on sustainable design. This inspiring video introduces and explains the theories and driving principles of the new paradigm shift towards a sustainable world: The 'Clean' Industrial Revolution. The film also explores how different businesses - including Nike, Ford Motor Co., Oberlin College, Herman Miller Furniture, and more - have used these ideals to transform themselves to work with nature and enhance profitability.

Source: Bullfrog Films

Topic(s): Green Building

Topic(s): Sustainable Design

Not Under My Roof! Protecting your baby from toxins at home (2001)

Length: 17.00  Age Level: Adult

Childhood illnesses in the US are rising. Most of the 80,000 chemicals in common use today have never been checked for harmful effects to our children. This video, hosted by Olivia Newton-John and Kelly Preston, discuss issues concerning toxins in the home and offer simple steps you can take to make your home safer for your children and family.

Source: Children's Health Environmental Coalition

Topic(s): Household Hazardous Waste (HHW)

Topic(s): Lead

Topic(s): Overview

Topic(s): Pesticides

Organic Gardening: Composting (1972)

Length: 10.00  Age Level: Grades 7 +

Composting is a natural process through which organic materials break down and decompose over time. People can "give nature a hand" by creating compost piles, which concentrate the micro-organisms that digest organics such as yard wastes, vegetable and fruit scraps and some types of animal manures. This video lays out the basics of composting, using a large pile and showing the layers of "brown" (carbon-rich) and "green" (nitrogen-rich) matter that is key to creating rich, usable compost.

Source: Bullfrog Films

Topic(s): Compost

Outside With Billy B. (1994)

Length: 30.00  Age Level: K-2

Through a variety of songs and with the help of some forest characters (Beatrice the Bee, and Yardley the Squirrel), Billy B. teaches children about pollination. Both wind and bees can pollinate flowers. But only bees make honey, while flowers make seeds. Sing along with Billy B. and friends while learning scientific facts.

Source: Do Dreams Music

Topic(s): Science

Over & Over & Over: Giving Life to Old News (1993)

Length: 7.20  Age Level: Grades 2 - 8

Where do the newspapers that you set out for recycling go? This narrated video invites you to see how old newspaper gets collected, recycled and reused.

Source: Star Tribune Audio Visual Services

Topic(s): Newspaper

Topic(s): Recycle
Length: 19.30   Age Level: Grades 4 +
Lonnie the Loon, with some help from his friends from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA), offers tips to protect and preserve the environment in Minnesota. Ideas are passed along to reduce waste and keep our water, air and land clean. We can all help out by doing little things that will help prevent serious pollution - pass it on!
Source: Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

Pay As You Throw: A New Trend in Sustainable Solid Waste Management (0)
Length: 78.00   Age Level: Adult
This video is a detailed orientation to waste management systems in which residents pay volume- or weight-based fees for trash disposal-- Pay As You Throw, or PAYT. Module I (15 minutes) is a general introduction to PAYT for residents and others who may be unfamiliar with the program. Module II (62 minutes in four parts) is appropriate for solid waste managers, city planners, or others interested in the design, implementation, results and operational details surrounding PAYT.
Source: United States Environmental Protection Agency

Pennsylvania's First Green Building (1998)
Length: 28.00   Age Level: High School +
Situated on a reclaimed brownfield site, Pennsylvania's Dept of Environmental Protection's new regional headquarters is a model green building. The project started with a team that used an integrated systems thinking approach in which the client and owners collaborated with the architects, engineers, manufacturers, contractors and others to design and build a green building. Many sustainable ideas, designs, and products are highlighted such as energy savings, raised floor heating and cooling systems, alternative lighting, recycled content products, landscaping alternatives, and many more.
Source: The Environmental Fund for Pennsylvania

Planet Neighborhood: Community (1997)
Length: 56.00   Age Level: High School +
This video is part of a 3 part series looking at the latest in energy saving technology and good design. This video highlights how citizens have been able to effect change and explore the new technologies that have empowered them. The video is hosted by William McDonough, architect, environmental designer, and Dean of the School of Architecture, University of Virginia.
Source: Bullfrog Films

Planet Neighborhood: Home (1997)
Length: 56.00   Age Level: High School +
This video is part of a 3 part series looking at the latest in energy saving technology and good design. This video highlights how homeowners, architects, builders, and an inventor utilize green technology and innovative design in construction of new homes and renovation of old homes. The video is hosted by William McDonough, architect, environmental designer, and Dean of the School of Architecture, University of Virginia.
Source: Bullfrog Films

Planet Neighborhood: The Car (1997)
Length: 10.00   Age Level: Jr. High +
The automobile industry recycles 75% of a car. They are continuously striving to eliminate waste and move towards a "cradle to cradle" approach (as opposed to "cradle to grave"). This video describes how automobiles are disassembled and various parts are recycled, including metals and many plastics, and turned into new auto parts.
Source: Bullfrog Films

Planet Neighborhood: Wetlands Technology (1997)
Length: 10.00   Age Level: Junior high +
Wetlands are nature's way of filtering water. Most sewage treatment facilities remove about 90% of organic waste and less than 50% of phosphates and nitrates, returning the polluted water back into the environment. This video shows how some cities are using unique wetland technology to treat their wastewater with surprising results. You'll also see how high school students are building a wetlands model in hopes of cleaning up Chattanooga Creek, a superfund site.
Source: Bullfrog Films

February 2009
**Planet Neighborhood: Work (1997)**  
**Length:** 56.00 **Age Level:** High School +  
This video is part of a 3 part series looking at the latest in energy saving technology and good design. This video features a variety of work related environmental challenges (i.e. sick building syndrome) and some ingenious technologies that have provided solutions. The video is hosted by William McDonough, architect, environmental designer, and Dean of the School of Architecture, University of Virginia.  
**Source:** Bullfrog Films  
**Topic(s)** Automobiles, Sustainable Development

**Pollution Prevention Makes Sense (1994)**  
**Length:** 13.00 **Age Level:** Adult  
Preventing hazardous waste and eliminating or reducing toxics in manufacturing and production processes can increase efficiency, improve working conditions and save money. Five Minnesota companies explain why they implemented pollution prevention programs, offer tips to get started and discuss how assistance from the Minnesota Office of Environmental Assistance (OEA) and the Minnesota Technical Assistance Program (MnTAP) helped them achieve significant reductions.  
**Source:** Minnesota Office of Environmental Assistance  
**Topic(s)** Pollution Prevention

**Polystyrene Foam and the Environment (1994)**  
**Length:** 13.00 **Age Level:** Grades 5 +  
Polystyrene (PS) is a versatile, useful and durable material. In this video, the plastics industry addresses some of the environmental and health concerns about the use and disposal of polystyrene foams for products such as food service containers and trays. The comparisons and statistics typically compare polystyrene to other disposable options such as coated paper products, while no information is presented on reusable options such as washable dishes and utensils.  
**Source:** Minnesota Office of Environmental Assistance  
**Topic(s)** Recycle

**Popular Little Planet (1992)**  
**Length:** 30.00 **Age Level:** Grades 3 - 8  
The Earth's population is over 5 billion people, with 172 additional infants being born every minute. The two young hosts of this video try to help the audience visualize such a large number of people and understand some of the basics of population growth. In addition, through skits and quizzes, viewers learn about the effects of a large and growing population on the environment and our natural resources.  
**Source:** Sunburst/Wings for Learning  
**Topic(s)** Population

**Postcards from Home (1994)**  
**Length:** 25.31 **Age Level:** High School +  
This video highlights the efforts of the Minnesota Design Team (MDT), a volunteer group of design and community development professionals, as they apply their community-based planning and design process in the town of Waverly, Minnesota. The design team members tour Waverly, conduct town meetings, and facilitate small groups to work on specific issues identified by residents and community leaders. The process Waverly residents have had an dedicated to helping Minnesota communities shape their futures through environmental and physical design. Their process for community visioning and planning is applied to Waverly, Minnesota. Design team members tour Waverly, conduct town meetings, and facilitate small groups to work on specific issues identified by residents and community leaders.  
**Source:** Minnesota Design Team  
**Topic(s)** Sustainable Design, Urban Planning
Preserving our Global Environment (1994)
Length: 53.00  Age Level: High School +
This program focuses on three global environmental issues; Population growth, biodiversity loss and global warming. It shows how they interrelate and what kind of actions are necessary for global environmental protection.
Source: World Resources Institute
Topic(s) Biodiversity
Topic(s) Greenhouse Effect
Topic(s) Population

Length: 11.00  Age Level: Junior high +
This video features Sandra Steingraber who is a cancer survivor, ecologist, and mother. She shares some of her personal experiences of her pregnancy and discusses the scientific research that explains what's happening at each stage of pregnancy. She also discusses the links between environmental toxins and how they affect the developing fetus as well as young children. Then many other concerned parents and activists share things that they have done in their own communities to make a difference in preventing toxic exposures and creating a healthy living environment.
Source: Minnesota Office of Environmental Assistance
Topic(s) Citizen Action
Topic(s) Mercury

Prophet for All Seasons: Aldo Leopold (1980)
Length: 56.00  Age Level: Junior High +
This video, broken into two parts, examines the life of Aldo Leopold. An internationally respected scientist and conservationist instrumental in formulating policy, promoting wilderness, and building ecological foundations for two Twentieth Century professions - forestry and wildlife ecology.
The first part is a biography of Leopold's life and how his perception of the environment and the idea of a land ethic was developed and deepened through observation, reflection and experience. The second part is a summary of each season and what makes them unique as seen through Leopold's eyes.
Source: Leopold Education Project
Topic(s) Biodiversity
Topic(s) Conservation
Topic(s) Stewardship

Protecting Our Environment: Recycle (1991)
Length: 16.00  Age Level: Grades 4 +
Filmed in Minnesota, this video looks at some of the materials that are typically recycled. Contains footage of how materials such as aluminum, glass, steel and newspaper are collected, sorted and recycled. Also includes information about what kind of new products these materials are used to make, "closing the recycling loop."
Source: AIMS Multimedia
Topic(s) Recycle

Protecting Our Environment: Reduce (1990)
Length: 14.00  Age Level: Grades 4 +
This video gives some concrete suggestions on how we can reduce what we throw away. Buying durable goods and taking care of them helps them last longer, reducing waste. Over-packaged and disposable goods waste energy and resources while creating more trash than is necessary, but using refillable containers may actually save money. Selecting less-toxic household products can also help reduce the stress on our environment.
Source: AIMS Multimedia
Topic(s) Reduce

Protecting Our Environment: Reuse (1991)
Length: 15.00  Age Level: Grades 4 +
Reuse can be defined as extending the usable life of an item by repairing, modifying or creating new uses for it. This video identifies many opportunities for reusing common, everyday items. Easy examples include reusing bags at the store, finding great used bargains at thrift stores and garage sales, repairing broken items instead of throwing them away and composting yard and kitchen scraps. The way you reduce, reuse and recycle can make a big difference in the 4.4 pounds of garbage the average person creates each day.
Source: AIMS Multimedia
Topic(s) Reuse

Race to Save the Planet #1: The Environmental Revolution (1990)
Length: 60.00  Age Level: High School +
This opening segment of this series looks at the two major historical turning points of human civilization - the change from mobile hunting and gathering societies to settled agricultural communities, and the harnessing of fossil fuels that led to the Industrial Revolution of the 18th century. These shifts in society have had major impacts on population and resource use across the globe, and fundamentally altered the human relationship with the environment. The resulting global environmental changes and challenges are examined throughout the series.
Source: The Annenberg/CPB Multimedia Collection
Race to Save the Planet #2: Only One Atmosphere (1990)

Length: 60.00   Age Level: High School +

The Earth's atmosphere is a "global commons," where the actions of a few parties can impact everyone. This video looks at the many causes and the wide-ranging effects of ozone depletion and the "greenhouse effect" on the health of the planet and its inhabitants. Meeting the challenges of global climate change requires an international response and a great deal of cooperation between nations.

Source: The Annenberg/CPB Multimedia Collection

Race to Save the Planet #3: Do We Really Want to Live this Way? (1990)

Length: 60.00   Age Level: High School +

Pollution from Western industrial economies becomes concentrated in the air and water. This segment profiles the air quality problems in Los Angeles, California, and the pollution of Europe's Rhine River. The products and services bought by consumers, and their resulting pollution, have fouled these once-clean resources and forced us to establish expensive clean-up efforts to try and repair the damage. The program also suggests the importance of preventing pollution in the first place, using new technologies and techniques that do less harm to the environment.

Source: The Annenberg/CPB Multimedia Collection

Race to Save the Planet #4: In the Name of Progress (1990)

Length: 60.00   Age Level: High School +

Industrial development has environmental and social costs. The extraction of natural resources disrupts the landscape, and industry pollutes the land, air and water. People are affected as farmland and towns are displaced in favor of new mines, factories, buildings and urban housing. As nations around the world develop on the Western industrial model, they are finding that environmental and social issues and economic growth are often in conflict. New technologies and more traditional ideas like a locally-based economy are generating sustainable models for society.

Source: The Annenberg/CPB Multimedia Collection

Race to Save the Planet #5: Remnants of Eden (1990)

Length: 60.00   Age Level: High School +

Preserving wildlife and habitat requires balancing the needs of nature and those of humans. Today, instead of conquering nature, people are finding out that they need to work with natural systems to preserve and protect the Earth's diversity of plant and animal species. Conservation is testing the limits of human understanding of nature's interdependence, as people try to create sustainable refuges, parks and preserves that will not be destroyed by human population growth.

Source: The Annenberg/CPB Multimedia Collection

Race to Save the Planet #6: More for Less (1990)

Length: 60.00   Age Level: High School +

Modern industrial society is overdependent on fossil fuels for its energy needs. This segment looks at energy alternatives that are now being explored and employed to reduce this dependence all over the world - biomass, alcohol fuels, improved nuclear reactor designs and small-scale solar systems. In addition, great strides are being made in using energy and resources more efficiently, achieving greater comfort at a lower cost with less waste.

Source: The Annenberg/CPB Multimedia Collection
Modern intensive agriculture has made tremendous gains in food production, with yields tripling since 1950. However, these gains have not come without costs, including water pollution, soil depletion, loss of biodiversity, and extensive use of chemical herbicides and pesticides. More effort is going into exploring agricultural methods that work with natural systems, rather than fighting them, and creating farming which can support sustainable yields around the world.

Source: The Annenberg/CPB Multimedia Collection

Race to Save the Planet #8: Waste Not, Want Not (1990)
Length: 60.00   Age Level: High School +
Garbage barges, toxic waste dumping, overflowing landfills and pollution of coastal waters by sewage dramatize the need for alternatives to disposal, such as reducing the production of waste, reusing and recycling.

Source: The Annenberg/CPB Multimedia Collection

Race to Save the Planet #9: It Needs Political Decisions (1990)
Length: 60.00   Age Level: High School +
The term "environment" and ideas about how it is to be protected have different meanings in countries around the globe. This segment looks at the environmental challenges faced by three nations at very different stages of economic development - Zimbabwe, Thailand and Sweden. Each nation must reconcile the needs of the people with those of the natural environment. In addition, there is the challenge of planning for a sustainable future - the actions of today will have consequences for future generations.

Source: The Annenberg/CPB Multimedia Collection

Length: 82.00   Age Level: Adult
"Household Hazardous Waste at Recycling Centers: Problems and Opportunities" was the theme for the April 'Brown Bag' discussion for the Recycling Association of Minnesota (RAM). Leslie Goldsmith of the MPCA gives an overview of the household hazardous waste program in Minnesota and a summary of the direction for public education.

Source: Minnesota Office of Environmental Assistance

Reading the River (1998)
Length: 18.00   Age Level: High School
River monitoring provides an important source of information for scientists about the health of our waters. This video discusses the purposes of river monitoring, what life around the river tells us about it, quality control in river monitoring tests, and how to read a river.

Source: Rivers Council of Minnesota

Recycle More (2002)
Length: 14.00   Age Level: Middle school +
The average county in America produces enough waste in a single day to cover a football field with two feet of compressed trash. We know recycling is good for the planet, but do we actually know the real impact of the waste we create every day?

Join Mike and Elisa for a typical day at school and learn what high school students think about recycling and see how students are making a difference.

Follow Elisa and Mike on a trip to their local landfill to see the effects of mass consumption and waste production. See what happens to your recycled goods as you trace a bottle from a school recycling bin through the step-by-step process that transforms it into plastic lumber. This video illustrates the process of recycling, and inspires viewers by showing real students learning about the 3Rs: Reduce, Reuse and Recycle.

Source: The Video Project

February 2009
Recycle Rex (1993)
Length: 10.00  Age Level: K-3
This animated program features Recycle Rex and his friends. They learn that they all produce trash that doesn't go "away". They also discover what it means to "Close the Loop." By recycling their trash, reducing their waste, and reusing their belongings, they will minimize the need for new landfills.
Source: Disney Educational Productions
Topic(s) Garbage
Topic(s) Recycle
Topic(s) Reduce
Topic(s) Reuse

Recycling in the Workplace ()
Length: 16.27  Age Level: Adult
Two business people discuss the process and benefits of business recycling.
Source: Diversified Recycling Systems
Topic(s) Recycle

Recycling is Fun! (1991)
Length: 12.00  Age Level: Grades K-5
Three youngsters investigate the problems associated with the amount of garbage produced and how it is then treated (landfilling). They learn that natural resources are finite and that it is important to reduce, reuse, and recycle.
Source: Bullfrog Films
Topic(s) Garbage
Topic(s) Recycle
Topic(s) Reduce

Recycling Pays (1994)
Length: 7.00  Age Level: High School +
Recycling makes good business sense, especially in the construction and demolition industries. Job-site recycling can save money for a contractor by reducing the amount of materials going to landfills, and may generate revenue through the sale of the recovered materials. Using recycled-content building supplies and reusing salvaged materials in construction help close the recycling loop.
Source: Metro Solid Waste Department
Topic(s) Construction & Demolition
Topic(s) Recycle

Recycling Raccoon's Amazing Adventure, The (1991)
Length: 24.00  Age Level: Grades K - 6
Shocked by how much garbage a family is throwing away, the Recycling Raccoon (RR) teaches one homeowner about the importance of recycling and waste reduction. RR explains what recycling is and how easy it is to prepare materials for curbside recycling, as well as proper disposal tips for yard waste and household hazardous wastes. Finally, they go to the grocery store and learn some techniques for environmentally-sensitive shopping.
Source: City of Lakeville
Topic(s) Recycle

Recycling with Worms (1995)
Length: 12.20  Age Level: Grades 3 - 8
Worm composting is an effective way for people to "recycle" the organic portion of their daily garbage. Krista and her nerdy friend Simon explain the basics of using redworms ("Red Wigglers") to turn food waste into a rich fertilizer that is great for plants and lawns. Worm bins are not hard to construct or maintain, and they can be used in spaces as small as an apartment or as large as an office building. Redworms are able to convert a wider range of food wastes into a usable soil amendment more quickly than regular composting bins.
Source: Bullfrog Films
Topic(s) Compost
Topic(s) Worm Composting

Recycling Within Reach (English version) (1988)
Length: 13.00  Age Level: Junior High +
Small changes in one's personal habits can make a big difference for the environment. By separating your recyclables from your trash, and composting your food and yard wastes, you extend the useful life of some valuable raw materials and decrease the amount of garbage that needs to be buried or burned. Making least-waste choices when shopping, like buying durable goods and buying bulk products with less packaging, will further reduce the amount of waste you throw "away."
Source: St. Paul Neighborhood Energy Consortium
Topic(s) Compost
Topic(s) Recycle
Recycling Within Reach (Hmong version) (1988)
Length: 13.00   Age Level: Junior High +
Small changes in one's personal habits can make a big difference for the environment. By separating your recyclables from your trash, and composting your food and yard wastes, you extend the useful life of some valuable raw materials and decrease the amount of garbage that needs to be buried or burned. Making least-waste choices when shopping, like buying durable goods and buying bulk products with less packaging, will further reduce the amount of waste you throw "away."
Source: St. Paul Neighborhood Energy Consortium

Recycling Within Reach (Spanish version) (1988)
Length: 13.00   Age Level: Junior High +
Small changes in one's personal habits can make a big difference for the environment. By separating your recyclables from your trash, and composting your food and yard wastes, you extend the useful life of some valuable raw materials and decrease the amount of garbage that needs to be buried or burned. Making least-waste choices when shopping, like buying durable goods and buying bulk products with less packaging, will further reduce the amount of waste you throw "away."
Source: St. Paul Neighborhood Energy Consortium

Recycling Works for Minnesota (2002)
Length: 15.00   Age Level: Elementary +
Hosted by Stephan Reynolds of the Minnesota State Lottery’s Environmental Journal, this video highlights why recycling is so important to Minnesota. It shows why recycling makes economic sense for Minnesota’s business through interviews and site visits to some Minnesota stores. Viewers are also shown where to find recycled products in these various stores. Throughout the video, Minnesotans are interviewed on the street to find out what they know about the environmental benefits of recycling.
Source: Media Rare, Inc.

Recycling: Ideas and Incentives for Apartment Communities (1990)
Length: 12.30   Age Level: Adult
Discusses a pilot program targetting multi-family recycling systems in Fitchburg, Wisconsin. The video outlines several steps an apartment owner or manager should take in organizing a recycling program, stressing the need to use the resources in the specific community and to find out the specific needs of each building. Aimed at recycling program organizers, some of the pilot program's findings are presented.
Source: Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

Recycling: Markets and Procurement ()
Length: 13.44   Age Level: High School +
A variety of business representatives speak about their recycling programs and efforts to purchase recycled products. Attention is given to the importance of buying recycled-content products to reuse the materials reclaimed through recycling and "close the recycling loop."
Source: Illinois Department of Commerce and Communi

Recycling: The Earth At Risk (1993)
Length: 30.00   Age Level: Grades 5-12
One way to reduce the amount of garbage going to a landfill and/or incinerator is to recycle it. Paper, plastic, glass, aluminum and steel all can be recycled. This video identifies the make-up of the waste stream and discusses how waste is generated. In addition to recycling, this video defines and explains the importance of source reduction and precycling as the best alternatives to reducing waste.
Source: Schlessinger Video Productions

Red Wiggler Connection (1997)
Length: 30.00   Age Level: High School +
California Master Composters Shelly Grossman and Toby Weitzel talk about worm composting. This video covers the life cycle of a worm, how to set up a worm bin, ways to use vermicompost, and tips for keeping a worm colony healthy and productive.
Source:

Topic(s) Worm Composting
Reduce, Reuse, Recycle: It's Elementary (1991)

Length: 19.30  Age Level: K - 6

Looks at the solid waste problem (particularly in Illinois), "NIMBY" (Not In My Backyard) and some solutions to the problem. The video focuses on an elementary classroom presentation with visual explanations of reduction, reuse and recycling. Some examples are given of recycling and composting efforts at some specific elementary schools, and tips are provided for setting up a school recycling program at your school, emphasizing student involvement.

Source: Department of Commerce and Community Affairs

Regionally Coordinated Composting Opportunities (0)

Length: 7.00  Age Level: Adult

This video describes the benefits of large-scale composting for disposal of agricultural manure and city waste.

Source: Winrock International

Renewing the River: Rebuilding Habitat on the Upper Mississippi River (0)

Length: 23.00  Age Level: High School +

The Mississippi River used to rise and fall in rhythm with nature's cycles of flood and drought. In the 1930s, navigational dams were built to "tame" the river and keep the water constantly deep for commercial navigation. While these changes provided economic benefits to people, the river lost much of its once-abundant aquatic vegetation, islands, and habitats. Renewing the River is a story of the recovery and rebirth of fish and wildlife habitat on the Mississippi River. By controlling water levels to periodically recreate low-flow conditions on the river, ecologists have demonstrated that it is possible to restore aquatic vegetation and other habitats.

Source: Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

Restoring the Balance: Biological Control of Purple Loosestrife (1996)

Length: 28.00  Age Level: High School +

Purple loosestrife, a flowering plant species from Eurasia, has become an invasive weed in many ecosystems across North America because it lacks a native biological enemy. This video, suitable for natural resource management professionals, environmental educators, and students, explains the history of the invasion of Purple Loosestrife, describes various alternatives for controlling the plant's spread, and documents how biocontrol insects are chosen, bred, and introduced.

Source: Cornell Cooperative Extension

Rethinking the American Dream (2002)

Length: 19.32  Age Level: High School +

This video helps viewers think about their current lifestyles and presents individual choices that can improve our natural environment and personal quality of life. Produced by the Oregon State Extension Service, the video focuses on what Americans report is most important in life: health, fulfilling work, education, connection with family, friends, community and the natural world, and spirituality. It points out how merely consuming stuff and increasing material wealth can get in the way of achieving these important goals.

Source: Oregon State University

Return to Sender: A Story about Littering ()

Length: 13.00  Age Level: Grades 1-6

Ten-year-old Jennifer is oblivious to the trail of trash that she leaves behind wherever she goes. That is, until she begins to get nightly visits from the trash she has left behind. She then begins to realize the role and responsibility that we all have in preventing the world around us from becoming a dumping ground.

Source: Disney Educational Productions

February 2009
Reusable Packaging of Lexan Resin

Length: 8.33  Age Level: Adult
Refillable containers made of a durable plastic material called lexan offer an alternative to disposable paper and plastic packaging for consumers of milk and other beverages. It is lightweight, shatter-resistant and can be returned and refilled 100 or more times before it is recycled. The video includes an example of a New York school district which eliminated 4.5 million disposable paper milk cartons from its annual waste stream using refills.

Source: Minnesota Office of Environmental Assistance

Sarah's Tree (1992)

Length: 10.47  Age Level: Grades 1-6
Sarah has an assignment to find out what you can do to help a tree grow strong and healthy. She asks her neighbor, Mr. Anderson this question. He explains to her that all trees, plants and people need clean air, water, soil, and sunshine to survive. He further explains some things we can do to ensure a clean environment to grow this strong tree: reducing the amount of trash we create, reusing items, and recycling. By practicing the three R's, we are reducing the amount of pollution generated and creating a healthy environment for the tree to grow.

Source: Iowa Department of Natural Resources


Length: 30.00  Age Level: Grade 3 - Adult
Garbage is a big problem, but there are things that we can do to reduce the amount of waste we produce. Narrated by a young girl, this entertaining video emphasizes the importance of recycling, composting and minimizing the amount of packaging in the products you buy. An excellent overview for waste and recycling that is suitable for all ages.

Source: Sunburst/Wings for Learning


Length: 15.00  Age Level: Grades 11 +
The video gives an overview of the "best management practices" for running a cleaner salvage yard. Teaches the important and necessary processes to follow to salvage cars in an environmentally-safe manner. While intended for salvage yard operations, much of the information is useful for home mechanics who should follow many of the same procedures for handling old automotive parts. Also includes the 220-page reference "Motor Vehicle Salvage Facility Environmental Compliance Manual."

Source: Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

Saturday Night with Connie Chung: "Dr. Trash" (1990)

Length: 10.00  Age Level: Jr High +
Dr. William Rathje, an archeologist and self-proclaimed "garbologist" at the University of Arizona, is interviewed on the program "Saturday Night with Connie Chung." He has performed archeological digs in landfills to identify what is in the waste stream and to address some of the misconceptions about garbage, landfills and recycling. He also identifies the fastest growing item in our landfills: paper. This video is also available from the Mobil Oil Corporation.

Source: Radio-TV Monitoring Service, Inc.

Scrooge Recycled (1993)

Length: 20.00  Age Level: Middle School
Charles Dickens' classic story "A Christmas Tale", with a green twist. An American teenager finds himself haunted by the spirits of past, present, and future, who warn him to be more conscious of waste and consumption.

Source: Northwest Community Television
Sesame Street Lead Away! (Video Pack) (1996)
Length: 13.30  Age Level: Preschool
The "Lead Away!" project uses the appeal of Sesame Street characters (including Elmo, Rosita, and Oscar the Grouch) to help teach young children basic health and safety habits that can minimize their exposure to lead. At the same time, the campaign provides parents and caregivers current, practical information on dangers and sources of lead-poisoning. The packet includes this video, a booklet entitled "Lead: The Silent Threat", and a 10-minute audio tape (the booklet and audio tape are in Spanish and English.)
Source: National Lead Information Center
Topic(s) Lead

Simple Solutions to Water Pollution (1994)
Length: 11.30  Age Level: Grades 7 +
Our water supplies are highly susceptible to pollution from many urban and rural sources, from run-off from your yard to industrial wastewater. By starting at home, you can help reduce the amount of hazardous substances going into our lakes and rivers. Non-toxic versions of many household products can be mixed up at home that will be effective, safer and cheaper than their store-bought alternatives. This video includes ideas for non-toxic items such as air fresheners, cleansers and furniture polish, while giving clues for identifying hazardous products all around your home.
Source: Lake Michigan Federation
Topic(s) Household Hazardous Waste (HHW)

Simple Things You Can Do to Save Energy (The Power is in Your Hands) (1993)
Length: 15.00  Age Level: Grades 3 - 6
An entertaining look at energy use throughout the house, with tips and ideas to conserve energy, save money, and help protect the environment. Sarah, your host, and a cast of other students take you on a room-by-room energy audit. Through amusing skits, they teach all about how to conserve energy around the whole house. With a little help from your parents, you can make a real difference - "the power is in your hands."
Source: The NoodleHead Network
Topic(s) Conservation
Topic(s) Energy

Simple Things You Can Do to Save Energy in School (1995)
Length: 15.00  Age Level: Grades 4 - 9
Your youthful host, Sarah, takes you on a humorous tour around a typical school to look for ways to save energy and make it more comfortable, economical and environmentally-friendly. She helps find improvements that can be made in lighting, insulation and weatherstripping, heating and water conservation, and even has time to mention recycling. Some examples are things that can be addressed by classroom teachers and their students, while others would require major assistance from the building maintenance staff.
Source: The NoodleHead Network
Topic(s) Conservation
Topic(s) Energy

Six Degrees Could Change The World (2008)
Length: 90.00  Age Level: Middle School +
By the year 2100, many scientists believe that the Earth's average temperature could rise by as much as six degrees Celsius. In a compelling investigation, National Geographic leads a degree-by-degree journey to explore what each rising--and critical--degree could mean for the future of our people and planet. This documentary illustrates how global warming has already affected the reefs of Australia, the ice fields of Greenland, and the Amazonian rain forest. With a sobering look at the effects of our world's insatiable appetite for energy, this film explains what's real, what's still controversial, and how existing technologies and remedies could help dial back the global thermometer. (Comprised of six 15-minute segments.)
Source: National Geographic
Topic(s) Climate Change
Topic(s) Global Warming

Solid Waste Solutions Volume 1: Integration (1993)
Length: 24.18  Age Level: High School +
A modern integrated waste management system includes recycling, incineration (waste-to-energy), composting and landfilling. The appropriate combination of these methods will depend on a variety of local social, political and environmental factors, but these options will rarely be effective by themselves. Waste prevention by businesses and consumers reduces the amount of trash which needs to be processed in the first place, and requires changes in the way people think about waste.
Source: Environmental Video Workshop
Topic(s) Solid Waste Overview
Length: 25.50 Age Level: High School +
To most people, recycling just seems like a good thing - "as American as apple pie." Recycling waste can serve many purposes, especially reducing waste and recovering raw materials for further manufacturing. While recycling is no "free lunch" - processing and transporting materials does cost money - the benefits may also be substantial, and they extend beyond the simple economics of recycled versus virgin materials. This video examines the strengths and weaknesses of the recycling process from collection to purchasing recycled-content products, and explains why it is an important element of an integrated waste management program.
Source: Environmental Video Workshop
Topic(s) Recycle

Solid Waste Solutions Volume 3: Composting (1993)
Length: 25.20 Age Level: High School +
Composting is seen by the public as a clean, natural way of getting rid of garbage. In this video, solid waste experts discuss the many different ways of composting waste, from small-scale backyard composting to centralized composting of mixed solid waste. Quality compost has many uses, and it reduces the volume of solid waste by nearly 50%, but large composting operations are not inexpensive and require a good deal of knowledge and work to operate effectively.
Source: Environmental Video Workshop
Topic(s) Compost

Length: 26.00 Age Level: High School +
The public image of waste incineration and waste-to-energy (WTE) plants is rather negative in the United States. This video examines the advantages and disadvantages of WTE technologies, with a good visual explanation of the processes used to incinerate wastes, as well as what is done to treat the emissions and ash. A major message of the discussion is that WTE has a place in an integrated solid waste management system, and can nicely complement efforts to reduce, reuse and recycle segments of the waste stream.
Source: Environmental Video Workshop
Topic(s) Waste-to-Energy

Length: 26.55 Age Level: High School +
Landfills are the most common disposal alternative for solid waste in the United States, handling up to 75% of what is discarded as trash. This video looks at landfills in-depth, with experts in the solid waste management examining the technology behind them and discussing some of their strengths and weaknesses. Specific topics include landfill liners, degradability, leachate, new techniques and incinerator ash 'monofills.'
Source: Environmental Video Workshop
Topic(s) Landfills

Solid Waste: Resources & Opportunities (2003)
Length: 18.20 Age Level: Middle school +
Do you consider solid waste a problem, a resource or an opportunity? This video offers insight and history on solid waste management in Minnesota. The various aspects of managing the garbage we produce, costs associated with cleaning up old dumps, economics, employment and the components of an integrated waste management system are discussed. Interviews with different waste associations talk about the future and challenges facing waste management in Minnesota.
Source: MN Solid Waste Administrators Association
Topic(s) Garbage
Topic(s) Solid Waste Overview
Topic(s) Waste Management

Length: 23.00 Age Level: Junior high +
This video offers insight and history on solid waste management in Minnesota. The various aspects of managing the garbage we produce, costs associated with cleaning up old dumps, economics, employment and the components of an integrated waste management system are discussed. Interviews with four different waste associations talk about the future, progress made already, along with new and old challenges facing waste management in Minnesota.
Source: MN Solid Waste Administrators Association
Topic(s) Garbage
Topic(s) Overview
Topic(s) Waste Implications
Topic(s) Waste Management
**Sorting Out Minnesota's Garbage (1992)**

*Length: 7.00  Age Level: Grades 4 +*

The Minnesota Solid Waste Composition Study done by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) and the Metropolitan Council is described in detail. From random samples throughout Minnesota, experts learned what was being discarded by Minnesota residents. Knowing what materials are still in the waste stream helps the state plan for recycling and describes how a garbage sort is conducted and shares the results of a Minnesota garbage sort. From the information gathered, suggestions for waste management decisions are made.

**Source:** Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

**Topic(s)** Solid Waste Overview

---

**Source Reduction Now! (1992)**

*Length: 12.00  Age Level: Adult*

Emphasizes the need for reduction over recycling. Demonstrates how to set up a source reduction program in commercial, industrial and institutional facilities. Also provides information about how businesses have profited from reducing their waste. OEA grant.

**Source:** Minnesota Office of Environmental Assistance

**Topic(s)** Reduce

---

**Story of Stuff (2008)**

*Length: 20.00  Age Level: Junior High +*

From its extraction through sale, use and disposal, all the stuff in our lives affects communities at home and abroad, yet most of this is hidden from view. The Story of Stuff is a 20-minute, fast-paced, fact-filled look at the underside of our production and consumption patterns. The Story of Stuff exposes the connections between a huge number of environmental and social issues, and calls us together to create a more sustainable and just world. It'll teach you something, it'll make you laugh, and it just may change the way you look at all the stuff in your life forever.

**Source:** Free Range Studios

**Topic(s)** Consumption, Sprawl, Sustainable Communities

---

**Subdivide and Conquer: A Modern Western (0)**

*Length: 57.00  Age Level: High School +*

In the West, as in the rest of the country, sprawl is gobbling up the land. After examining the causes of sprawl and its devastating effect on our sense of community and the environment, Subdivide and Conquer suggests remedies, and shows examples of sound public policy and good land use planning. It seems that, when presented with a real choice, most of us want to live in distinct, well-designed neighborhoods, with all the amenities and attractions that they provide, and where we don't have to spend inordinate amounts of time in our cars.

**Source:** Bullfrog Films

**Topic(s)** Sprawl, Sustainable Communities

---

**Sustainable Table: What's on your plate? (0)**

*Length: 52.00  Age Level: High School +*

Sustainable Table, a feature documentary, is an unadulterated look into the food we eat. What's on your plate? Where does it come from? What effects does it have on the environment and your body? What can you do to help? Over nine months, documentary producer Mischa Hedges traveled the west coast, learning about our food system. Through interviews with Kenneth Williams, a champion vegan bodybuilder; Fred Kirschenmann of the Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture; Howard Lyman, author of "Mad Cowboy", and others, he learned about how deeply the standard agricultural methods are undermining human health and the ecosystem. This video explores the health and environmental effects of today's food system, and investigates more sustainable alternatives for the future.

**Source:** Digital Sense Productions

**Topic(s)** Sustainable Agriculture

---

**Take a Look ()**

*Length: 10.00  Age Level: Grades 1 - 4*

Some of the basics of composting and recycling are explained in this segment of "Take a Look." A home composting bin demonstrates how kitchen scraps and yard wastes can be turned into something useful for the garden (although a poor example of a compost container is used - no air holes.) A song about recycling is paired with some footage of recyclables being collected and processed. Two activities are included; how to make paper, and an experiment to see how quickly things decompose in the ground (note: the second experiment is not a good explanation of what happens in a landfill, which would not receive the water to help materials decompose.)

**Source:** TV Ontario, U.S. Sales Office

**Topic(s)** Compost
Recycle Topic(s)

Length: 15.00  Age Level: Grades 7-12
Using chlorine in the pulp and papermaking process produces dioxin. Dioxin is a poison in which there is no safe level. This video examines these concerns and considers both the environmental and human health impacts. Learn what to look for when purchasing paper in order to prevent pollution and maintain a healthly environment.
Source: The Chlorine Free Products Association, Inc.

Topic(s) Citizen Action
Topic(s) Hazardous Waste
Topic(s) Pollution
Topic(s) Water Quality

Length: 10.00  Age Level: Grades 8 +
From rag pickers to modern recyclers, textiles and cloth have long been collected for recycling. In the United States, over 3 billion pounds of cloth is collected is year for recycling - about 16% of all discarded textiles. This video takes a quick look at the "recycling loop" for textiles - collection, processing and distribution - and gives ideas on how to increase their recycling rate. (note: While the video emphasizes the filling of landfills, recycling textiles simply makes efficient use of our resources.)
Source: Council for Textile Recycling

Topic(s) Recycle
Topic(s) Textiles

The Recycled House (1993)
Length: 17.00  Age Level: Grades 10 +
A Danish demonstration project for using "recycled" demolition wastes in new construction identified several opportunities for reducing the amount of debris being sent to landfills. A new housing complex was constructed from materials from a nearby condemned structure which was "selectively dismantled," salvaging timber, bricks and aggregate, roofing slate and doors for reuse. Tradespeople and project managers provide some insight into the advantages and drawbacks of the experiment.
Source: Wessing Film & TV

Topic(s) Construction & Demolition
Topic(s) Recycle
Topic(s) Sustainable Development

Think Before You Throw (1995)
Length: 11.44  Age Level: Grades 4 - 8
Where does your garbage go when you throw something "away"? Gina and WLSSD's mascot, Harvey YouMe, show where your trash goes when it is discarded, and show how to properly sort your waste to keep materials out of landfills in northeastern Minnesota. This includes recycling, keeping household hazardous waste out of the trash, reducing the waste packaging you buy, reusing old items and composting.
Source: Western Lake Superior Sanitary District (WLSS

Topic(s) Solid Waste Overview

Length: 7.00  Age Level: High school +
Follow 2 teenagers through a typical day at school in this clever, fast-paced look at the issue of teenage consumption. Find out what an average teenage girl spends more than $18,000 on in her lifetime. See where the components in your TV and stereo come from and trace the environmental impact of their production. Learn about the effects of accelerated consumption and discover simple things to keep in mind every day to have a positive impact on our planet.
Source: The Video Project

Topic(s) Citizen Action
Topic(s) Waste Implications

This Isn't Garbage: The Waste Audit (0)
Length: 7.00  Age Level: High School +
Students at McGill University sort through one day's worth of trash produced at the university and discover that more than 50% of the university's "trash" is actually recyclable in their community.
Source: McGill University Public Interest Research Grou

Topic(s) Recycling
Topic(s) Trash
Topic(s) Waste Reduction

Tina's Journal (0)
Length: 17.00  Age Level:
Tina, an energetic teenager, is captivated by how we can benefit from recycling and reducing waste. Her enthusiasm builds as she learns more about these issues by visiting a recycling processing facility, a landfill and San Francisco stores and institutions that have incorporated waste reduction, reuse, and recycling into their daily operations. As she learns, Tina also educates her parents and her friends at school. Her infectious enthusiasm will inspire teenagers to make a difference.
Source:
Topic(s) Recycling

February 2009
Toxic Air in Minnesota and Your Health (1999)
Length: 18.00  Age Level: High School +
This two-part video contains two media stories about pollutants in the air we breathe and how they might affect our health. WCCO's Dimension features a study of two Minnesotans. For two days, each participant wears a device that measures pollutants in the air around them (both indoor and outdoor). The results are shared and ways to lessen exposure to various air pollutants are discussed. Part 2 is a clip from "The Environmental Journal" that focuses on outdoor air pollution, which is identified as a widespread problem in Minnesota. The show explains how the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency is studying different kinds and quantities of air pollutants from not just factories but also sources such as cars, planes, cleaners, painting, and wood burning.
Source: Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
Topic(s) Pollution
Topic(s) Pollution Prevention

Tracing the Cycles in Recycling (1992)
Length: 13.07  Age Level: Grades 5 +
Where do your recyclables go after they get taken from the curb or dropoff recycling bin? This video shows how several common recyclables - waste paper, aluminum and steel cans, glass and plastic bottles - are collected and processed to make new products made with recycled content. Each material is shown as it is taken through the recycling loop at a Minnesota company. To keep these materials clean and valuable, be sure that you collect and separate the materials that are accepted by your local recycler.
Source: Hennepin Recycling Group
Topic(s) Recycle

Trade Secrets: A Moyers Report (0)
Length: 120.0  Age Level: High School +
Innovations in chemistry over the past 50 years have produced thousands of man-made chemicals. The majority of Americans believe that the government is making sure that they are protected from any harmful substances, but are they right? In this report, Bill Moyers sets the record straight, drawing on industry documents and interviews with historians, scientists, and public health professionals who explore the effects of chemicals on the public's health and safety.
Source: Films for the Humanities and Sciences
Topic(s) Environmental Issues Overview
Topic(s) Plastic

Length: 12.00  Age Level: Adult
Preventing waste before it is produced is not only the best way to solve the garbage crisis - it also saves money. This 12-minute video shows how businesses can eliminate waste and increase profits with reusable and source-reduced transport packaging. Seven basic steps to make the switch are outlined and demonstrated by businesspeople who have done it.
Source: Minnesota Office of Environmental Assistance
Topic(s) Packaging
Topic(s) Reduce
Topic(s) Transport Packaging

Trashing the Oceans ()
Length: 16.38  Age Level: Grades 5 +
Tells of the problem of trash in the ocean, mainly plastics, and the effect these materials have on sea animals. It explains a project that is underway to get fishermen to stop throwing their plastic waste into the ocean.
Source: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administrati
Topic(s) Overview

Length: 31.00  Age Level: Middle School +
When you leave the room for a few minutes, should you turn the light off, or leave it on? When waiting in the driveway for your carpool member, should you let the car idle or turn it off? Paper or plastic? This video quizzes viewers about their environmental awareness with a challenging hundred-point test. Hosted by actor Tom Selleck with a host of celebrity cameos, the program teaches about recycling, conservation, pollution prevention and general environmental protection. (Grades 7-12+)
Source: AIMS Multimedia
Topic(s) Overview
Topic(s) Recycling
Topic(s) Waste Reduction
Topic(s) Water

February 2009

Length: 23.00  Age Level: Adult
The state of Wisconsin is working on various highway construction projects that use recycled materials such as glass, coal combustion products (i.e. fly ash), and foundry sand. The benefits of using these reclaimed materials include diverting these materials from the landfill, preserving the life of sand and gravel pits, and the numerous economic benefits. In addition, this video highlights the value of the partnerships that have been created between the state agencies, federal agencies, industry, and business.

Source: Wisconsin Transportation Information Center

Topic(s) Construction & Demolition
Topic(s) Glass

Using Recycled Shingles in Minnesota: A Quality Product from Beginning to End (2003)

Length: 8.15  Age Level: High school +
Each year more than 40 tons of shingle by-product, the shingles left over from the manufacturing process, are produced in Minnesota and the only option for disposal is landfilling. An asphalt shingle contains the same basic ingredients as hot-mix asphalt: aggregate, asphalt cement and mineral filler. This video looks at the benefits and research done using shingle by-products in the production of pavement. The next challenge will be to look at tear-off shingles - shingles from residential homes.

Source: Minnesota Department of Transportation

Topic(s) Recycling
Topic(s) Waste Management

Waste in Time (1994)

Length: 22.30  Age Level: Grades 4 - 8
Juliette, a teenager from the present, is magically transported to an underground world with strange noises, awful smells and weird surroundings - an angry landfill! She is joined by two companions; Gregory from the 1970s, and Maya from the future. Juliette finds that the most important thing she can do is prevent trash from being created in the first place (the example used focuses on excess packaging waste). Juliette learns to rethink her bad habits so that they won't continue into the future.

Source: The Media Guild

Topic(s) Reduce

Waste Not (1993)

Length: 10.00  Age Level: Adult, Hospital Management
Hospitals throw away 13 pounds of waste per patient bed daily. With source reduction practices in surgery, food service, offices and patient services, that amount can be reduced. Funded through an OEA grant, the video emphasizes the role of individual employees in identifying opportunities to reduce waste and implementing least-waste methods for health services.

Source: Minnesota Hospital and Health Care Partnershi

Topic(s) Hospitals
Topic(s) Waste Reduction

Waste Not, Burn Not (1996)

Length: 8.30  Age Level: Grades 9 +
Residential garbage burning poses health and environmental risks, and with few exceptions is illegal in Minnesota. This video addresses some common misunderstandings about the use backyard burn barrels for managing household garbage, and identifies alternatives for handling your wastes that are less dangerous and more effective. Developed by Chisago County Environmental Services though a grant from the Minnesota Office of Environmental Assistance.

Source: Minnesota Office of Environmental Assistance

Topic(s) Backyard Burn Barrels
Topic(s) Backyard Burning

Way Cool Game of Science: Diversity and Adaptation (2006)

Length:   Age Level: Middle School +
A two-team interactive game which tests students' knowledge of science topics related to biodiversity and adaptation. Questions are randomly selected from a library of about 150 questions, so that students never play the same game twice. Depending on how quickly students progress through the questions, the game should take about 30 minutes to complete.

Source: Disney Educational Productions

Topic(s) Adaptation
Topic(s) Biodiversity
Topic(s) Natural Resources
**Way Cool Game of Science: Earth History, Resources, & Environment (0)**

**Length:** Middle School +  
**Age Level:** Middle School +

A two-team interactive game which tests students' knowledge of science topics, including climate, waste reduction, water resources, and pollution. Questions are randomly selected from a library of about 150 questions, so that students never play the same game twice. Depending on how quickly students progress through the questions, the game should take about 30 minutes to complete.

**Source:** Disney Educational Productions  
**Topic(s):** Climate, Garbage, Pollution, Water

---

**Way Cool Game of Science: Population and Ecosystems (2006)**

**Length:** Middle School +  
**Age Level:** Middle School +

A two-team interactive game which tests students' knowledge of science topics. Questions are randomly selected from a library of about 150 questions, so that students never play the same game twice. Depending on how quickly students progress through the questions, the game should take about 30 minutes to complete.

**Source:** Disney Educational Productions  
**Topic(s):** Ecosystems, Natural Resources, Population

---

**Way to Go, Minnesota! (1995)**

**Length:** Grades 5 +  
**Age Level:** Grades 5 +

A Minnesota music video showing many of the things which help make Minnesota a pleasant and environmentally-friendly place to live. Produced by the Minnesota Office of Environmental Assistance, the video briefly shows everything from alternative fuels and mass transit to resort recycling and used oil disposal.

**Source:** Minnesota Office of Environmental Assistance  
**Topic(s):** Overview

---

**We Love Our Lakes: Lake Stewardship in Pope County (2005)**

**Length:** High school +  
**Age Level:** High school +

Over the years, Pope County shorelines have attracted new residents and home builders to the area. The residents know their enjoyment of the lakes and value of their property depends on keeping the shoreline clean and intact. In this engaging video, you can learn more about best management practices (BMP) for septic systems, fertilizers, boat uses and other practices that can beautify your home and minimize the impact against lakes and surrounding wildlife. In doing so, you will help preserve the delicate balance between people and nature and insure that all of us will be able to enjoy these lakes for years to come.

**Source:** Pope County Coalition of Lake Associations  
**Topic(s):** Law, Stewardship, Water Quality

---


**Length:** High School +  
**Age Level:** High School +

Our daily activities impact carbon dioxide (CO2) levels in the atmosphere. Increased CO2 levels have lead to the greenhouse effect. The greenhouse effect is the subject of heated debate among scientists, climatologists, and politicians. Some believe that the Earth's temperature will rise by nearly 10 degrees over the next century, while others believe the weather will stay relatively "normal". Decide for yourself after seeing the data and hearing the arguments of both sides. Then learn about the pro's and con's of the existing energy options including fossil fuels, nuclear, wind, hydor, and solar.

**Source:** WGBH Boston Video  
**Topic(s):** Climate, Energy, Greenhouse Effect

---

**Where the Garbage Goes (1997)**

**Length:** Preschool  
**Age Level:** Preschool

Now your kids can jump into the drivers seat of all the haulers, grinders, dozers, loaders and compactors used at a state-of-the-art waste handling facility. Our host, George, is on the job giving kids a behind-the-scenes look at all the awesome heavy equipment. Go to work with George and the crew on mountains of rubbish and recycling! Kids learn why it is important to recycle, what compost is, and where our garbage goes.

**Source:** Fred Levine Productions  
**Topic(s):** Compost, Garbage, Recycling
Length: 13.00  Age Level: Grades 3 - 6
When Alby, the classroom pet mouse, escapes from his young caretakers, a group of students set out to find their little, white "needle in a haystack." As they search, they learn all about the recycling program of the city of Saint Paul.
Source: St. Paul Neighborhood Energy Consortium
Topic(s) Recycle
Topic(s) Saint Paul

White Hole, The (1990)
Length: 10.00  Age Level:
In this simply animated film, a mysterious Black Hole the size of a basketball appears in a local park. Everything it touches seems to magically "disappear." Society decides to use this black hole to dispose of its wastes, even though it isn't clear where it all goes. This works well, until one day a White Hole appears just as mysteriously...and starts to spit out all the waste that was thrown away! The video is an interesting starting point for discussions about litter or disposal of solid and hazardous waste - there is no "Away!"
Source: Bullfrog Films
Topic(s) Litter
Topic(s) Waste Management

Length: 6.30  Age Level: K-2
A young English boy, Timothy Glean, falls into a knot in a tree and meets a Wizard. The Wizard shows Timothy the future through a crystal. Through this crystal, Timothy sees that year after year his home town becomes more and more polluted. Timothy realizes that he must do something to stop the pollution. The Wizard tells him that he needs to go on a mission to educate others about the 3 R's : Reduce, Reuse and Recycle.
Source: Glean Publications, Ltd.
Topic(s) Pollution Prevention
Topic(s) Recycle
Topic(s) Reduce
Topic(s) Reuse

World Population (1990)
Length: 6.30  Age Level: Middle School+
This video is a dramatic representation of the history of world population growth. Using a global map and dots which represent concentrations of 1 million people, the viewer is given a time lapse look at the increase (and decrease) of the world's population from the year 1 A.D. through the year 2020 (projected). It is an excellent starting point for discussions of sustainability and resource conservation, as well as general environmental and social issues.
Source: Zero Population Growth
Topic(s) Population
Topic(s) Sustainable Development

World War III: The Population Explosion and Our Planet (0)
Length: 50.00  Age Level: High School +
Expanding human population is on a collision course with the biosphere that sustains life on our planet. Destruction of the natural world and increased human suffering are a direct result of relentless population growth. Produced by a PBS affiliate, this powerful new video is a comprehensive global look at the warlike impact of the explosive growth in human population. World War III travels to four countries-- Kenya, India, China, and the United States-- to examine the economic and social causes of population growth, as well as its troubling impact on the people and ecosystems of these countries.
Source: Oregon Public Broadcasting
Topic(s) Population

Length: 31.00  Age Level: High School +
Over 20 organisms commonly found in worm bins are shown through a microscope. Creatures including fungi, bacteria, protozoa, mites, centipedes, worms and more are shown and described by a narrator.
Source: Flowerfield Enterprises
Topic(s) Worm Composting

Wormania! (1995)
Length: 26.00  Age Level: Grades 4 - 8
Worms are important to the environment in ways that are difficult to see. With songs, footage and demonstrations, Mary Appelhof - the "Worm Woman" - shows in detail how worms aerate the soil, breed, help nutrients get to plants and fertilize the soil. A short section shows how to create a worm bin to reduce kitchen wastes. Includes an activity book for teachers and the book "Worms Eat My Garbage," explaining how to set up and maintain a worm composting system.
Source: Flowerfield Enterprises
Rainforests represent only 7% of the world’s land, but they contain 50% (or more) of the world’s species - animals and plants that cannot be found anywhere else on the planet. These precious rainforest habitats, and the species that they support, are being destroyed at an alarming rate. Your young host takes you into the rainforest to explain their value, demonstrate concepts like biodiversity and extinction, show what is happening to the rainforests, and explain what is being done to learn about the rainforests and protect them.

Source: Sunburst/Wings for Learning

Your Eco-Home in Fridley (2003)

Length: 40.00  Age Level: High School+

In Fridley, Minnesota, trash is being reprocessed to generate enough energy to power 30,000 homes each year. Tour the plant where trash is converted to refuse-derived fuel, and see how this fuel is distributed and converted to electricity. Part II of this video explains the MPCA’s program to make Minnesota schools “mercury-free zones.” Meet Clancy, the mercury-detecting dog, and watch him ferret out mercury-containing devices such as thermometers and pressure detectors in schools.

Source: City of Fridley

Your Own Backyard (1995)

Length: 33.00  Age Level: Jr High +

This video provides an excellent overview of how you can manage your lawn and garden in the least toxic way. The most important thing is to start with a healthy soil. Tips for learning more about the kind of soil you have and how to improve its condition are given. Next, ways to maintain a healthy lawn - including fertilizing, mowing, planting and more - are shown. Then an in-depth segment on maintaining a healthy garden, with information on composting, non-toxic pest control and pesticide safety, is provided.

Source: Western Lake Superior Sanitary District (WLSS

Your Own Backyard: Plus Question and Answers (1995)

Length: 60.00  Age Level: Junior High +

This video provides an excellent overview of how you can manage your lawn and garden in the least toxic way. The most important thing is to start with a healthy soil. Tips for learning more about the kind of soil you have and how to improve its condition are given. Next, ways to maintain a healthy lawn - including fertilizing, mowing, planting and more - are shown. Then an in-depth segment on maintaining a healthy garden, with information on composting, non-toxic pest control and pesticide safety, is provided. At the end, there is a half-hour call-in discussion with a panel of garden and lawn care experts.

Source: Western Lake Superior Sanitary District (WLSS


Length: 58.00  Age Level: High School +

This video features interviews of numerous leaders in the recycling and waste reduction field. They respond to and discuss in detail the question, "Is zero waste an idealistic dream or a realistic goal?" Many examples of how waste is diverted from the landfills and used as a resource are shown. Theories and ideas related to both natural and social systems (i.e. welfare to waste program, impacts of extracting natural resources, the economics of recycling, etc.) are highlighted.

Source: GrassRoots Recycling Network


Length: 16.00  Age Level: Grades K-6

Zort's planet is having trash disposal problems, so he comes to Earth to find solutions. He meets a helpful young earthling who provides him with a wealth of useful information. Together they discover what items can be recycled, how the recycling process works, what can be done to reduce the amount of waste you produce (i.e. packaging waste), and where remaining trash goes. Numerous examples and practical tips on how each of us can minimize trash and its impacts are given.

Source: Disney Educational Productions