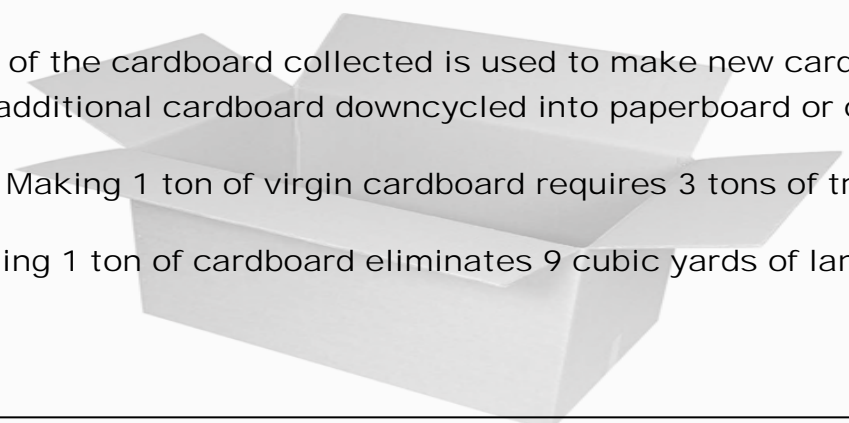


# RECYCLING CARDBOARD

Over half of the cardboard collected is used to make new cardboard boxes, with additional cardboard downcycled into paperboard or chipboard

Making 1 ton of virgin cardboard requires 3 tons of trees

Recycling 1 ton of cardboard eliminates 9 cubic yards of landfill space



## PREPARATION

### Cardboard Recycling Preparation

Since most cardboard is used for shipping, you'll want to remove any shipping materials such as packing peanuts, plastic bags and bubble wrap.

Cut any tape used to seal the top and/or bottom of the box, then collapse the box.

***Flattening boxes is necessary in order to transport most efficiently.***

For boxes that contained large items, you may need to fold or cut the flattened box in half for it to fit in your recycling bin. *Don't put them out if it's raining. Wet cardboard doesn't have a recycling market.*

For boxes that are food-soiled (such as pizza boxes), cut out any oil stains before recycling. *Food-soiled paper doesn't have a recycling market.*

## Frequent Cardboard Recycling Questions

### What's the difference between corrugated cardboard and paperboard?

The term "cardboard" is used for most boxes, but shipping boxes are officially known as corrugated cardboard. The corrugated piece is the extra layer of fiber that zig-zags between the brown sheets, making it tougher to tear and sturdier for shipping. Paperboard is thinner and less durable, used for cereal boxes. These are two different grades of paper with different commodity values, even though you might call both cardboard.

### Why can't wet cardboard be recycled?

Even though the paper recycling process introduces water, when you get paper wet and it dries, it manipulates the fibers (as a result, it feels stiffer). Paper mills also don't want to pay for wet paper because it's heavier with the extra water weight.