Americans represent only 5% of the world's population, but generate 30% of the world's garbage.

Each of us generates on average 4.4 pounds of waste per day per person.

Recycling an aluminum can saves enough energy to run a television set for three hours or light a 100 watt bulb for 20 hours.

Five recycled plastic bottles make enough fiberfill to stuff a ski jacket.

You can make 20 cans out of recycled material with the same amount of energy it takes to make one new one.

Every Sunday, the United States throws away nearly 90% of recyclable newspapers. This wastes about 500,000 trees.

One tree can filter up to 60 pounds of pollutants from the air each year.
October is ‘Walk to School’ Month!

The Hudson TMA encourages parents to walk their children to school rather than drop them off by car. Limiting the congestion of automobiles around our schools at the busiest times of the day is a goal we all should share. We can improve the health and safety of our children, as well as our own, by walking to school as often as possible. You can even start your own “walking bus” to school with your children's friends and classmates. Parents line up with children at pre-arranged “bus stops.” The farthest family begins the trip walking towards school, “picking up” the other families along the way.

It's a great way to start the day and to inaugurate October as the first International Walk to School Month!

Be sure to visit our website www.hudsonoma.org!

Stride & Ride!

Were you at the TMA’s Stride & Ride this year? Kids from all over Hudson County had a blast! There was an awesome bike rodeo, bicycle and walking races, music, balloons and more! Don’t miss out on all the fun - bring your family and your bike down to Stride & Ride next June. See you there!

See You Next June 5th!
Hudson County’s kids are back-to-school and ready to get started! You have your new notebooks, pens, pencils and erasers. And don’t forget your brand-new shoes and sneakers. This year, you’ll also have brand-new chances to learn about all the ways you can help protect Mother Earth.

We all know how smart our parents and teachers are, but sometimes even they need to be reminded that we all must help to preserve our environment. Sometimes adults don’t recycle when they should, simply because they don’t know how important it is to do so. That is where you come in – kids who recycle are a great example to everyone to pitch in and do their part.

If you remind the adults in your life how important conservation and recycling are, not only will they thank you, but the Earth will breathe a huge sigh of relief!!!

Here are a few lessons you can help teach the adults in your life:

- Always shut the lights off when you leave a room – conserving energy saves the environment and saves money too!
- Never leave water running when you brush your teeth – we can save thousands of gallons of water a year just by shutting the tap!
- Try not to use a car for every trip – walking to school or biking to work can help save thousands of gallons of gasoline a day! Carpooling to work is also an awesome way to reduce pollution!
- Remember to recycle all your newspaper, glass and aluminum cans – it takes just a few seconds to recycle, but it can impact our environment for thousands of years!
- Remind your parents to drop off their Household Hazardous Waste at the HCIA’s Annual HHW Collection Days October 4th and 17th – it’s easy and hassle-free!

So can you think of any other ways that you can help teach your parent or teacher a lesson... about going green?? You are the Earth’s best chance to stay green and clean – so speak up, share the lessons you have learned and you will make all the difference in the world!

These young folks ARE Smart!!!

— County Executive
Tom DeGise
You did it again! Hudson County kids were the National Champions in Crayon Recycling! Your dedication to this contest is amazing and I couldn’t be more proud of you. You sure know the value of recycling and the benefits it can have for our environment. So keep up the good work! The HCIA’s 8th Annual Crayon Recycling begins on Monday, November 16th and I know you’ll help us become champs again!

Thomas A. DeGise
County Executive

At the HCIA, we know how smart kids are when it comes to the environment. So remind your parents and teachers about the importance of recycling and conserving energy. Someday this Earth will be all your’s and you can take steps to protect it now. It is simple to change just a few of our behaviors at school and at home. We are counting on you to make the difference by showing adults how it is done!

John L. Shinnick
HCIA Chairman

Every day outside your school, cars and trucks line up to drop kids off, but did you ever wonder how much pollution each one of those cars gives off? This October is Walk to School Month and we are asking every kid who lives close to their school to walk to school at least once — and bring a friend! You will get some great exercise and protect the Earth. Visit www.hudsonoma.org for more info!

Norman M. Guerra
Executive Director

November 15th is America Recycles Day and you know what that means! The Hudson County Improvement Authority’s 8th Annual Crayon Recycling Contest begins on Monday, November 16th. Hudson County students have been crowned nationwide champions – by donating more crayons than any other county in the country – for 4 years running!

Last year more schools than ever joined in and donated over 2,000 pounds of crayons. You can do even better this year — we know it! You have until December 23rd to gather all your old and broken crayons. Give them all to your teacher once you’ve collected them and we’ll do the rest. And once we recycle them you will all receive new, crazy-colored crayons to replace the old ones. But the greatest reward of all will be that you did your part for the Earth!

You will get the chance to see all of the winning schools in the Spring issue of Seasons for Kids and you’ll all be also honored on the HCIA’s website www.hcia.org.

To get your school involved in the Annual Earth Day Poster Contest or the Crayon Recycling Contest please call 1-800-540-0987 or visit www.hcia.org.

Earth Friendly Lingo

Going Green
Helping the planet by causing less pollution and using less energy!

Conserve
To protect natural resources by using materials carefully and not wasting them.

Reduce
Using natural resources wisely and using less than usual in order avoid waste.

Reuse
Instead of throwing out something like a plastic shopping bag, why not use it again?

Solid Waste
Garbage or trash. Remember to always separate your recyclables.

Litter
Garbage that is carelessly thrown away and not put in its proper place.

Pollution
The contamination of our planet’s soil, water or air. Litter on the street can cause pollution.

Little Red Apple Preschool in North Bergen has won the HCIA Crayon Recycling Contest for 2 years in a row. HCIA Environmental Programs Administrator Mary Ellen Gilpin, HCIA Board of Commissioners Treasurer Frank Pestana and HCIA Chairman John Shinnick visited the school this fall to distribute “crazy” crayons to the winning students.
This year’s Annual Earth Day Poster Contest theme was “Being Green Makes Good Cents” and Hudson County’s kids were truly inspired. Combining the lessons of environmental stewardship and energy/cost savings, children got the chance to show off their artistic flare. Hundreds of students participated and the winning posters are displayed throughout the HCIA’s colorful calendar.

Giovanni Privitera from St. Anne’s School in Jersey City was declared a winner of the NJDEP’s Annual Recycling Poetry Contest! Giovanni was in the 4th Grade when he submitted his winning poem. Not only did his poem showcase his amazing creativity, but also highlighted his dedication to protecting our environment through recycling. The NJDEP received about 900 poems from approximately 250 schools for its annual contest and only 12 winners were selected, making this a major accomplishment. Congratulations Giovanni!

You make us PROUD!

The “Green” Web!

There is so much that you can do to help your environment. Call the HCIA for more information! Environmental Hotline: 1.800.540.0987

www.planetpals.com       www.hcia.org
http://www.kidsforsavingearth.org/
www.americarecyclesday.org
www.njclean.org/promotion.html
www.planetgreen.discovery.com
www.earth911.com/hazardous
www.walktoschool-usa.org       hudsontma.org
Tips on how you can Slam Dunk the Junk in your community

Volunteer for a litter cleanup in your town
Adopt a parcel of public property or roadway
Remind people not to litter
– publicize the slogan in your own way
Remember to reuse and recycle
Take personal responsibility...lead by example

Help the New Jersey Clean Communities Council send the message of “clean and green” to all New Jerseyans. Join our online team of people who have committed to “Slam Dunk the Junk,” and sign the “Slam Dunk the Junk” support petition at www.njclean.org.

Sunday, October 4, 9am-1pm
Bayonne: Norton Paints, 148 East 5th Street
Secaucus: Secaucus High School Parking Lot
11 Mill Ridge Road

Saturday, October 17, 9am-1pm
Jersey City: JCIA, 501 Route 440
Kearny: DPW, 357 Bergen Avenue

One of the easiest ways to keep your Hudson County home safe is to remind your friends and family about important Household Hazardous Waste Days!

Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) is very dangerous to the environment because it can contaminate the Earth’s soil and water. By carefully disposing of this garbage at HHW Days, you help to make sure that our environment stays clean and green.

So don’t forget to mark those calendars, remind your parents and help make a real difference!

Secaucus Webelos Collect 2046 lbs of Batteries!

In their 4th year of recycling household batteries, the Secaucus Webelos Troop 87 netted 309 lbs. of batteries for a grand total of 2046 lbs. The scouts have collected batteries from friends, family and neighbors, in addition to organizing collections in both Huber Street and Clarendon Elementary schools, and this year the Secaucus Public Library. All the batteries collected were taken to the HCIA HHW Days collection.

What to bring!
- Pool chemicals
- Household and car batteries
- Propane tanks from your barbecue grills only
- Compact fluorescent bulbs
- Used motor oil
- Old gasoline
- Fire extinguishers
- Oil paint
- Antifreeze
- Computers
- Electronics
- Cell Phones

For more information call our Environmental Hotline: 1-800-540-0987