

National Recycling Day 2023

National Recycling Day or America Recycles Day is celebrated on November 15. It is the only nationally recognized day dedicated to promoting and celebrating recycling in the United States.

The day is focused on individual action. Encouraging individuals to rethink, reduce, reuse, repurpose and recycle in every aspect of their life.

Started in 1994, with 40 states taking part, it has grown from there.

Some quick facts from the EPA about recycling beyond the bin, and a challenge for your efforts...

- 1 recycled tin soda can saves enough energy (by not having to power the mining of material, distillation of metal and mold a new can) to power a TV for three hours. A case of soda cans will save three days of power. How many cans would it take to recycle for your next binge-watching show? Can you do it?
- 1 recycled glass jar save enough energy to power a computer for 25 minutes. How many minutes are you on your phone/computer for social media exchanges? Could you recycle that many jars to afford your interests?
- 1 recycled plastic bottle saves enough energy to power a 60-watt bulb for 3 hours. If you power your house with light, how many hours do you use this light? Could you recycle enough plastic to power your light for a week?

How Iowa State University will celebrate America Recycles Day...

1. In the morning of November 15, Steve Kohtz the recycle guy will join the Iowa Recyclers Association at the Governor's office in the Iowa Capitol for a Governor's proclamation about America Recycles Day.
2. At 1:00 PM Steve will set up a tabling event at the Awning of Parks Library to discuss recycling and all the benefits to it. Encourage recycling individually and promote "Fill the Bins," on Iowa State Campus.
3. A yard sign parade will be set along the central campus North sidewalk with facts about recycling.
4. All day students, faculty and staff will be encouraged to show their ideas on reusing recycled materials in their everyday life; by creating a Social Media announcement and tagging Recycling Services. A drawing will be made of these announcements and the winner will receive a 5 recycled storage totes in three sizes.

5. Show your MUG SHOT! Take a selfie of you and your reusable water bottle or coffee mug and place it on social media tagged to Recycling Services and you will be entered into a drawing for a Cyclone Refillable Stanley Water Bottle.

There are many other opportunities for you to participate in America Recycles Day, for example:

1. donate your gently used blankets and towels to an animal shelter.
2. reach out to friends and do a clothing swap.
3. Learn more about what recycles in your city or on campus.

America Recycles Day is one day to celebrate the efforts of recycling. But it really goes on everyday with the decisions you make in which way you BOSS YOUR TOSS. It's your choice. Come out and celebrate America Recycles Day.