

What REALLY happens in landfills?

In theory organic substances “biodegrade” when they are broken down by other living organisms (such as enzymes and microbes) into their constituent parts, and in turn recycled by nature as the building blocks for new life. The process can occur aerobically (with the aid of oxygen) or *anaerobically* (without oxygen). Substances break down much faster under aerobic conditions, as oxygen helps break the molecules apart.

Landfills Too Tightly Packed for Most Trash to Biodegrade

Most landfills are anaerobic because they are compacted so tightly, and thus do not let much air in. As such, any biodegradation



that does take place does so very slowly. A landfill study conducted by University of Arizona researchers that uncovered still-recognizable 25-year-old hot dogs, corn-cobs and grapes in landfills, as well as 50-year-old newspapers that were still readable.

The best solution?

The best and most obvious solution is sort out your recyclables from the rest of your trash and reduce your impact on our environment!

For more information on recycling and other environmental concerns, please contact...

WWW.epa.gov - Environmental Protection Agency

WWW.ncjcs.org - Northampton County Junior Conservation School

WWW.dcnr.state.pa.us - Dept. of Conservation and Natural Resources

WWW.sierraclub.org - Sierra Club

WWW.panda.org - World Wildlife Fund, the global Conservation organization

[WWW.depweb.state.pa.us/just for kids](http://WWW.depweb.state.pa.us/just%20for%20kids) - Department Of Environmental Protection

WWW.earthday.net - Earth Day website

WWW.nrc-recycle.org/americarecycles.aspx - America Recycles Day 11/15/08

WWW.sauconcreek.org - Saucon Creek Watershed Com.

WWW.sauconcreektu.org - Saucon Creek Trout Unlimited

Hellertown Lions Club— Aluminum recycling

8AM - 12PM 2nd Saturday of the month @ Wachovia Bank

Lower Saucon Environmental Advisory Council - meets

The 1st Tuesday of each month @ L.S. Township Hall, 7PM

THANK YOU!
THANK YOU!

Dane Andrew Janas

for help in designing this brochure

Victoria Riegel
Senior Girl Scout
Gold Award Project



You used
it
now let's
recycle
it!



Recycling Information

<i>Type of item</i>	<i>Where to Recycle</i>			<i>How Long it would take for this item to Decompose in a Landfill</i>
	Hellertown	Bethlehem	Lower Saucon	
<i>Plastic Bottles</i>	Curbside	Curbside Theis-Cornfeld	Curbside IESI—Bethlehem Landfill	MILLIONS OF YEARS
<i>Plastic Bags</i>	Any grocery stores such as Giant, Superfresh, Wegman's or Weis/Kings.			1 MILLION YEARS
<i>Aluminum Cans</i>	Curbside Blinderman's Recycling	Curbside Theis-Cornfeld	Curbside IESI—Bethlehem Landfill	200 TO 500 YEARS
<i>Glass</i>	Curbside	Curbside Theis-Cornfeld	Curbside IESI—Bethlehem Landfill	50 TO 100 YEARS
<i>Office Paper/ Magazines</i>	Bins at borough hall, post-office, SV schools	Curbside Theis-Cornfeld	Curbside IESI—Bethlehem Landfill	2 TO 5 MONTHS
<i>Compact Fluorescent Light Bulbs</i>	Hellertown Borough Hall	Home Depot	Lower Saucon Township Public Works Garage	UNKNOWN
<i>Newspapers</i>	Curbside	Curbside Theis-Cornfeld	Curbside IESI—Bethlehem Landfill	2 TO 5 MONTHS
<i>Cardboard</i>	Blinderman's Recycling	Theis-Cornfeld	IESI—Bethlehem Landfill	1 YEAR
<i>Phone Books</i>	No places available	Theis-Cornfeld	IESI—Bethlehem Landfill	1 YEAR
<i>Large Appliances</i>	Blinderman's Recycling	Theis-Cornfeld	IESI—Bethlehem Landfill	UNKNOWN
<i>Clothing</i>	American Family Services	Theis-Cornfeld	No places available	UNKNOWN
<i>Metals</i>	Blinderman's Recycling	Theis-Cornfeld	IESI—Bethlehem Landfill	MILLIONS OF YEARS
<i>Construction Materials</i>	Blinderman's Recycling	No places available	No places available	UNKNOWN
<i>Electronics, etc.</i>	Staples takes cell phones, computers, printers, batteries and ink cartridges. Ikea stores recycle batteries, ink cartridges & compact fluorescent lightbulbs			UNKNOWN

Blinderman Recycling
1320 Whitaker St. Hellertown
610-838-9221

Theis-Cornfeld Recycling Center
Illick's Mill Road Bethlehem
610-865-7082

IESI—Bethlehem Landfill
2335 Applebutter Road Bethlehem
610-317-3200