

The ScrapMap™ II

The recycling process is depicted on the ScrapMap™ as a large circle. Each of the circles on this page shows how we can take something old and create a new and useful product. In the United States in 2013, more than 130 million metric tons of scrap metal, paper, plastic, glass, textiles, rubber, and electronics – valued at more than \$80 billion – were manufactured into new products.

Your Old Computer Can Become New Again

The U.S. electronics recycling industry annually processes up to 4 million tons of used and end-of-life electronics equipment – cell phones, TVs, computers, copiers, fax machines, music players, copiers, and even iPads! More than 70 percent of the electronics collected and recycled here in the U.S. can be sorted and used as ingredients in the manufacture of new products. Shredding or otherwise processing the electronics makes available the valuable materials contained within them – including steel, copper, aluminum, plastic, and glass. The rest are refurbished and resold as functioning electronic equipment both here in the U.S. and internationally.



Your Old Tires Can Help Build the Newest Highways
Each year, Americans generate approximately 300 million scrap tires. In the past, scrap tires — generated when an old, worn tire is replaced with a new tire — were often dumped illegally in lakes, abandoned lots, along the side of the road and in sensitive habitats. Today, scrap tires are playing a much different role as an important part of the manufacture process with more than 90 percent recycled and reused annually. Rubber from scrap tires is used in the manufacture of landscaping mulch; playground mats and athletic surfaces; molded products such as railroad ties, flowerpots, garden hoses, welcome mats; and rubberized asphalt used in the paving of roads. Cutting-edge technologies are even being developed to allow scrap tires to be used in the manufacture of new tires!

Household Plastic Can Be Recycled Over and Over Again in Manufacturing

Since 1950, the global production rate of plastic has grown steadily, and all signs point to continued growth. Because of this, there is a need to ensure that plastics are recycled when they reach the end of their useful lives so that we can protect our natural resources. While we are all familiar with the recycling of food, beverage, and other common plastic household containers, plastic recycling goes far beyond that. Engineered and industrial plastics are found in all types of products, from cars to refrigerators, and these plastics are being recycled every day as well.

