

New Jersey Clean Communities Litter Activity Book



Clean Communities

The activity book has been produced to educate youth about the harmful effects of litter on wildlife and the environment. Please do your part to make your community cleaner. Our mission is to reduce litter through education. Clean Communities are safe, healthy, sustainable communities.

The NJ Clean Communities Council not only provides grants to towns and counties to help fight litter but also administers the Adopt-a-Beach and Adopt-a-Highway programs.



Time Table for Litter Decomposition

How long do you think it takes for these items to decompose? Match the item to the time. Use your best guess.



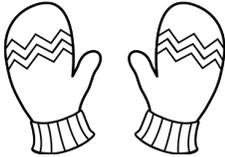
-- Paper

450 Years



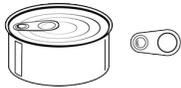
--Cotton Shirt

2-4 Weeks



--Wool Mittens

Undetermined



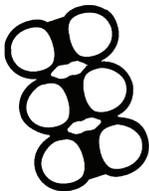
--Tin Can

200-500 Years



--Aluminum Can

1 Year



--Plastic Six Pack

100 Years



--Glass Bottle

1-5 Months

So, Make New Jersey Glitter and Can the Litter !!!

Answer Key -> paper = 2-4 weeks, cotton shirt = 1-5 months, wool mittens = 1 year, tin can = 100 years, aluminum can = 200-500 years, plastic six pack = 450 years, glass bottle = undetermined

Don't Be a Litter Bug Word Search

E A J T Z T Y H C S J X P U U
D S C E P S Q S Q U T J L B G
W A U A E L R A K M C L A Y L
P I N E N V I R O N M E N T Y
C U R G R S E T B U F T T Q K
L T N A E L X W Y P A X S V E
K I A A C R R G U O Y G G F G
R I T Y E A O J S L A M I N A
R J C T P L Q U Y L X W C D B
V E S P E A C G S U W A T E R
R I E C N R D U H T R A E E A
T R R U B B I S H I W H D S G
S G U B V F T F X O K U D M F
J A R C K U Y Z A N C G T F V
Z N G R P M M G L E N R Q M X

Find the hidden words from the list below.

They can be horizontal, vertical, or diagonal - forward or backward:

AIR

ANIMALS

BUG

CANS

CLEANUP

DANGEROUS

EARTH

ENVIRONMENT

GARBAGE

LITTER

PLANTS

POLLUTION

RECYCLE

REDUCE

REUSE

RUBBISH

TRASH

TREES

UGLY

WATER

WRAPPERS

Keep it Clean !

Use the words from the list below to complete the tips on how each of us can help prevent litter pollution.

1. Always set an _____ by not littering.
2. If your parents own a car, make sure they have a _____.
3. When you visit the park, put your _____ in a trash can.
4. Help your family put _____ in a bin at curbside.
5. When you put out the trash at _____ make sure the garbage can lid is on tight.
6. If your school _____ doesn't have a trash can, ask your principal to put one out along with a recycling container.
7. Ask your parents to take you to a recycling _____.
8. Participate in a _____ trash cleanup day.

COMMUNITY
HOME
LITTERBAG
PLAYGROUND

EXAMPLE
LITTER
CENTER
RECYCLABLES



Trash Math

Soda cans here, water bottles there - it all adds up !

Did you know that the average person throws away 5 pounds (lbs) of trash a day?

Figure out how many pounds of trash you throw away:

in one week ... 5 lbs x _____ = _____ lbs per week
Number of days in a week

in one month... _____ lbs per week x _____ = _____ lbs per month
Number of weeks in a month

in one year... _____ lbs per month x _____ = _____ lbs per year
Number of months in a year

Want to convert these numbers to tons? Divide each one by 2,000 !

Recycling Fun Facts

Recycling helps reduce the amount of trash we throw away so make sure you recycle.

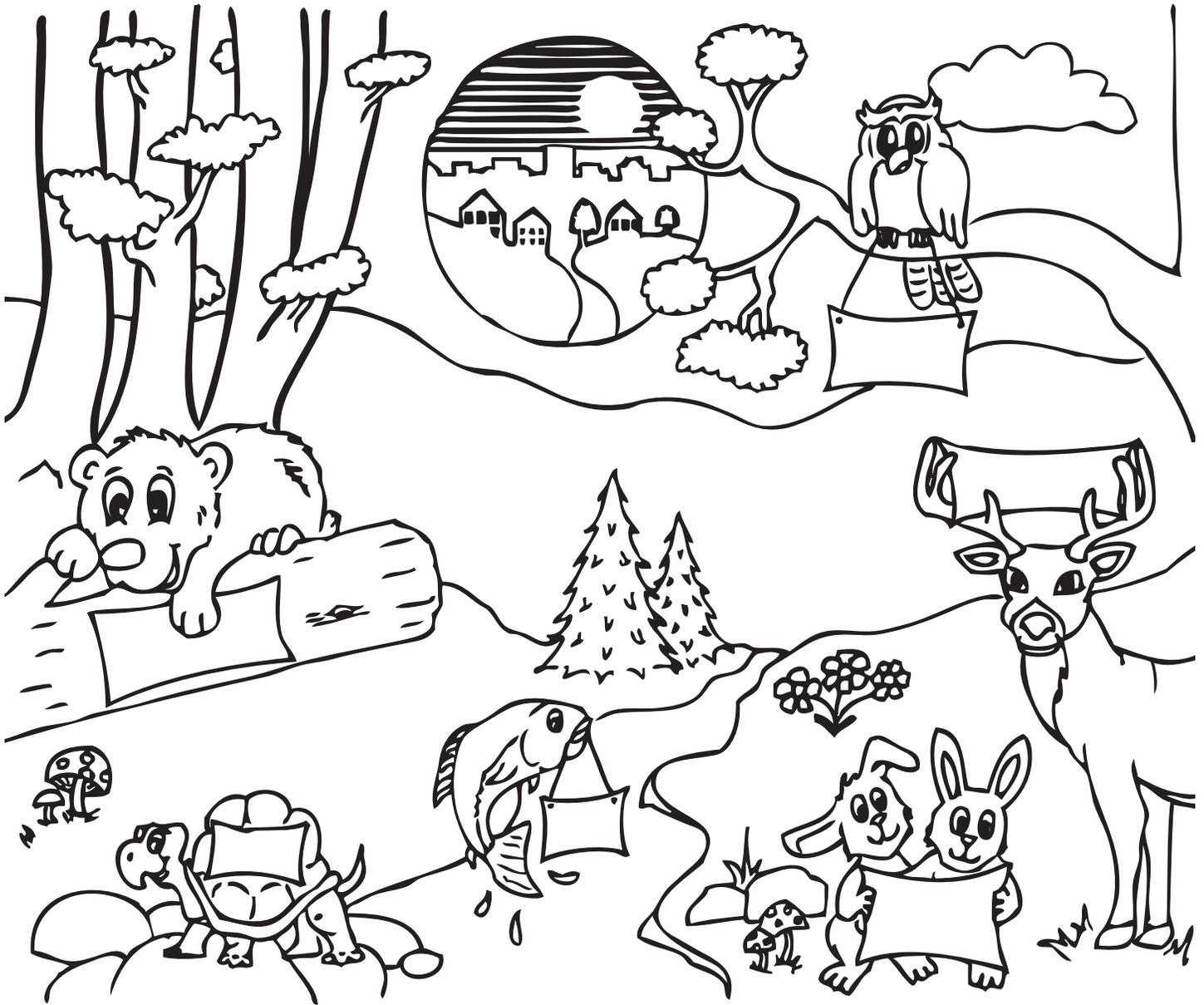


- **The average American uses 650 pounds of paper a year !**
- **Recycling one ton of paper saves 17 trees, 6,953 gallons of water, 463 gallons of oil, and 4,077 kilowatts of energy !**
- **About 50% of the paper used in the United States is recycled**



Match the Message Coloring Page

Keep NJ Litter Free !



A Don't Pollute My Stream !

B Keep The Trash Off My Back !

C I Can't Bear Trash !

D Litter in My Woods, Owl That Hurts !

E Buck The Trend, Litter Sure Does Offend !

F Keep Trash Out Of Our Hare !

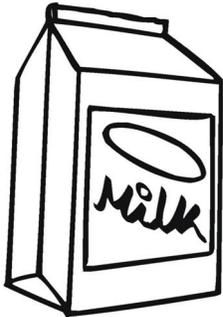
(Write the correct letter in the sign each animal is holding)

To Trash or Not to Trash?

Trash: Broken, discarded, or worthless things, rubbish

Recyclables: Materials which can be reused

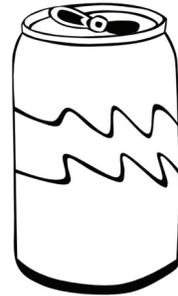
Circle/Color the items below which can be saved from becoming trash



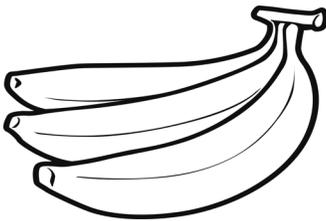
Milk Carton



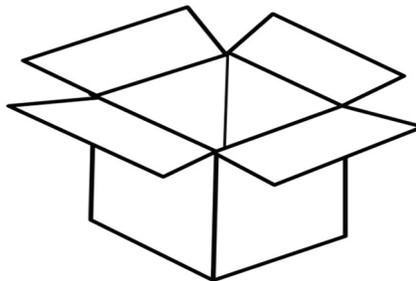
Newspapers



Soda Can



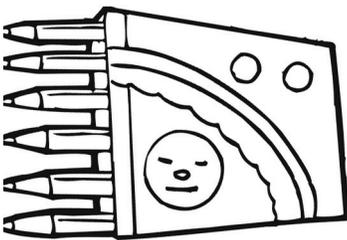
Banana Peels



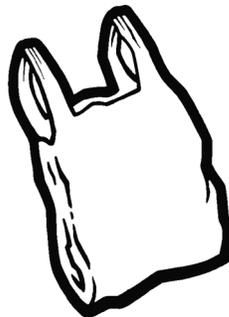
Cardboard Box



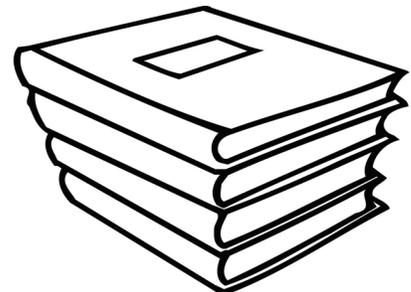
Grass Clippings



Used Crayons



Plastic Bag



Old Books

Word Scramble

See how many litter related words you can unscramble using the clues provided:

ebragga: discarded food waste or any other unwanted or useless material.

rppae: many different kinds can be recycled from your parent's offices and your home.

sgars: if you leave it on the ground instead of bagging it, it can actually make your lawn greener and healthier.

rtetli: pieces of trash that have been carelessly left on the ground, especially in a public place or outdoors.

gbsa: whether plastic or paper, you can use them again until they fall apart. Then they can often be recycled.

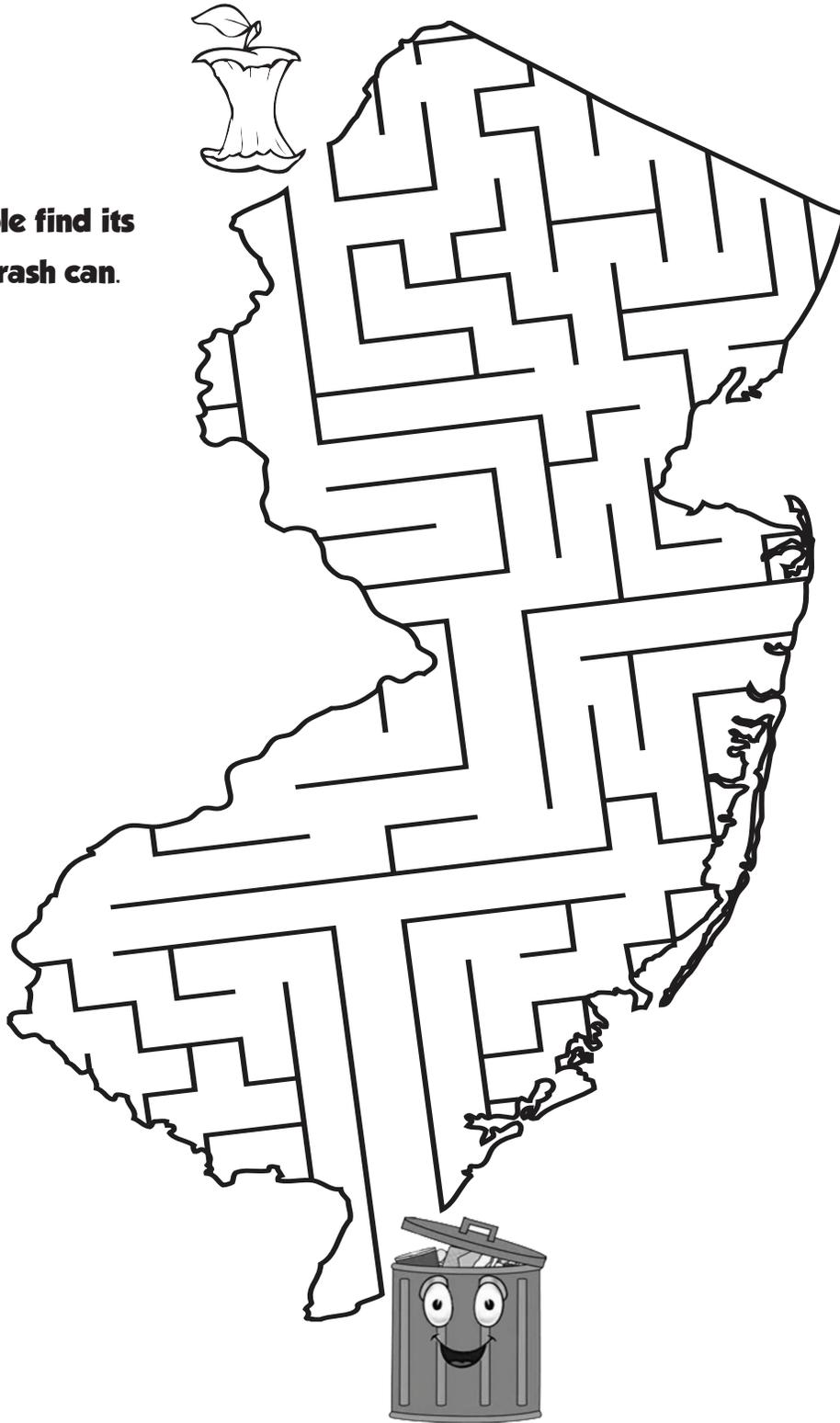
elrcyce: to save or collect waste material so that it can be used again.

nelca: free from dirt or litter.

(We made a list in case you need some help:
recycle, paper, litter, bags, garbage, clean, grass)

Help NJ Put Litter in its Place !

Help the apple find its way to the trash can.



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The NJ Clean Communities Council is a 501c3 nonprofit corporation whose mission is to reduce litter through education. The NJ Clean Communities Council works with the state departments of environmental protection and treasury to administer the Clean Communities program, disbursing grants to 558 municipalities and 21 counties for the implementation of grassroots, community-driven litter abatement programs. The NJ Clean Communities Council also administers New Jersey's Adopt-a-Beach and Adopt-a-Highway programs.

New Jersey Clean Communities Council

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www.njclean.org



Please recycle this book after you use it.

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