

# “Recycled Paper”

Dear Adam and Eve,

**How important can it be to recycle paper? After all, if I just throw it away, sooner or later it will deteriorate in the dirt, right?**

Signed, “What’s the big deal!”

Dear Big Deal,

Let’s think about this a few different ways. If you took all your paper and buried it in your own backyard, say for a month. Imagine your backyard, muddy, messy! After a month, how much of it has really gone to earth?

Now invite your neighbors over to bury their paper in your yard! That’s the only real benefit I can think of— we might get to know our neighbors that way!!

We all have gotten so spoiled, haven’t we, and we don’t even know it. We put our paper and other garbage in cans and “V’Wallah!,” by magic, every week, it disappears!!

According to a [BHG.com](http://BHG.com) quiz, every year we throw away enough paper to make a 12’ wall from NY to CA and for every ton that we don’t recycle, we use 17 trees and 7,000 gallons of water. Can you imagine how many tons of paper are in a wall from NY to CA? And, consequently, how many trees and water we are wasting needlessly?

**Green solution #1:** Recycle all the paper you and your family can possibly do. Also, encourage/insist your office recycle all its paper.

**Green solution #2:** Look for the recycled indication on all the paper you buy.

And, Remember . . .

**RETHINK! REDUCE! REUSE! RECYCLE!**

Please email questions/comments to [DearAdamandEve@timemphis.org](mailto:DearAdamandEve@timemphis.org) or write “Dear Adam and Eve”, Eden Committee, c/o Temple Israel, 1376 E. Massey Rd., Memphis, TN 38120

