



## What's in the Garbage?

- 1 How many tons of garbage were disposed at Cedar Hills landfill in 2007? Cedar Hills Landfill receives all the garbage collected in King County.
- a. 30,000 tons
  - b. 10 million tons
  - c. 1,010,429 tons

Answer: C - Over one million tons of garbage were handled and buried by King County in 2007

- 2 How many quarter pound hamburgers would it take to equal the amount of food scraps and soiled paper disposed in 2007?
- a. 3.5 million
  - b. 500 million
  - c. 2 trillion

Answer: C - About 2 trillion or 240,000 tons - That is the equivalent of over 23% of the whole waste stream

- 3 Which represents the amount of paper disposed at the Cedar Hills landfill in 2007?
- a. 107,333,333 Sunday newspapers
  - b. 46,000,000,000 sheets of copy paper
  - c. 920,000 full-grown trees
  - d. Any of the above

Answer: D - Any of the above; each is equivalent to about 161,000 tons or 16% of the whole waste stream

- 4 How much yard waste was disposed at the Cedar Hills landfill in 2007?
- a. almost enough six foot Christmas trees to stretch from Seattle to San Francisco
  - b. 5,000 30-gallon bags of leaves
  - c. 1,000,000 lawn mower bags of grass clippings

Answer: A - Equivalent to 656,213 six-foot trees or 746 miles - That is the equivalent of 4.8% of the waste stream

- 5 How many tons of scrap metal were disposed at the landfill in 2007? The equivalent of:
- a. 26,500 mid-size cars
  - b. 85,655 metal filing cabinets
  - c. 5,944,738,077 nail clippers

Answer: A - 26,500 mid-size cars or 53,000 tons - That is the equivalent of over 5% of the waste stream



## What's in the Garbage?

- 6 The 60,862 tons of plastic wrap/bags disposed of annually is:
- enough plastic grocery bags to fill the Grand Canyon
  - enough plastic wrap to go around the Earth 307 times
  - enough plastic wrap to cover Mt. Rainier and Mt. Hood

Answer: B - Enough plastic wrap to go around the Earth over 307 times. That's 7,684,595 miles of plastic wrap

- 7 If placed side by side, the amount of computers in King County homes that aren't being used is equivalent to:
- 320 football fields
  - Seattle to Bainbridge Island and back
  - 45 miles

Answer: C - 234,602 computers side by side is 45 miles!

- 8 The amount of televisions being stored awaiting a recycling option is equal to:
- the total number of households in Bellevue and Redmond
  - three times the total population of Kirkland
  - the total number of households in King County

Answer: B - three times the total population of Kirkland or 135,074 TVs

- 9 How many appliance units were recycled last year in King County?
- enough ranges to cover the field at Seahawks Stadium
  - enough refrigerators to fill the Exhibition Hall at Seattle Center (floor to ceiling, wall to wall)
  - enough microwaves to cover Lake Union

Answer: B - enough refrigerators to fill the Exhibition Hall at Seattle Center (floor to ceiling, wall to wall) or 14,569

- 10 Of all the garbage that is thrown away, approximately what % is considered a resource, or a material that has a higher value than disposal?
- 25%
  - 49%
  - 75%

Answer: C - 75% of materials currently thrown away today have value for making new products such as newspaper, plastic lumber, compost, cardboard, fleece material, glass bottles, aluminum cans, auto parts and many more!



## Waste Prevention and the 4R's

- 6 In 2007, how much did King County government spend on products that are considered environmentally preferable?
- a. \$8.5 million
  - b. \$41 million
  - c. \$890,000

Answer: B - King County has a commitment to walk the talk by purchasing when possible products that pose a reduced environmental impact over conventional products.

- 7 How much of a savings is this over conventional products?
- a. \$225,000
  - b. Break even
  - c. \$877,000

Answer: C - That's right, purchase of these products not only is better for the environment, but it can help stretch taxpayers dollars.

- 8 In 1989, the Washington State Legislature passed the Waste Not Washington Act that established priorities for managing solid waste in the state. What is the #1 priority?
- a. Waste prevention
  - b. Recycling
  - c. Creating a new landfill after Cedar Hills fills up

Answer: A - If there is no waste in the first place, it doesn't need attention to be managed

- 9 How many tons of waste could be prevented if every King County resident threw away one less paper towel per day?
- a. 2 tons
  - b. 150 tons
  - c. 6,812 tons

Answer: C

- 10 If every household in King County used and threw away one disposable razor a month, how many tons of waste per year would this be?
- a. 4000 pounds
  - b. 122,000 pounds
  - c. 600,000 pounds

Answer: B



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