

## **Textiles Reuse and Recycling**

*“Don’t Judge, Just Donate”*

Besides clothing, such as shirts, pants, dresses and shorts – textiles include bedding materials, backpacks, curtains, towels, stuffed animals, gloves, belts, ties, purses, handbags, shoes, slippers, undergarments and even holey socks!

The Town of Canterbury is now accepting textiles that you may consider unwearable, like holey socks and ripped t-shirts, and recycle them to make other products such as wiping rags, car seat and pillow stuffing, and household insulation. The key to this program is to get the message to our residents – “Don’t Judge – Just Donate”.

At the Transfer Station, we have receptacles to accept usable clothing items for the Red Cross and for Kid Education. These are both great programs for clothing items that can be re-used. We now have a container that is used to accept all of the other textile items for recycling, thus keeping these items out of the bulky waste stream.

A complete listing of textiles items that are accepted in the Textile Recycling Program can be found in this newsletter as well as on the Canterbury website under the Transfer Station Tab.

Remember for textile recycling – “Don’t Judge – Just Recycle”.



## Acceptable Items for Recycling

All of the following can be donated in any condition as long as it's clean and dry:

Bay State Textiles pays a rebate based on the weight of donations.

**Support your local community!!!**

### Footwear:

Shoes	Boots	Sneakers
Heels	Work Boots	Cleats
Pumps	Dress Boots	Slippers
Sandals	Winter Boots	Flip Flops

### Clothing:

Tops	Pants	Undergarments
Sweaters	Jeans	Socks
Sweatshirts	Sweatpants	T-Shirts
Dresses	Skirts	Slips
Tank Tops	Shorts	Pajamas
Blazers	Slacks	Coats

### Accessories:

Hats	Gloves	Scarfs
Pocketbooks	Duffle Bags	Totes
Belts	Ties	Bathrobes

### Linens:

Sheets	Pillows	Comforters
Blankets	Towels	Throw Rugs
Draperies	Table linens	Placemats

### Stuffed Animals

In any condition, 95% of all textiles can be recycled or reused

*Reduce - Reuse - Recycle*

***Please Bag All Donations***

**\*\*\*\*Items NOT Accepted: Mattresses, Couch Cushions, Lawn Furniture Cushions, Foam Products (mattress pads, etc.), Carpet Remnants, and Rugs (larger than 2' x 4')**



## Donate, Recycle, Don't Throw Away

### *A Sample of Educational Benefits*

#### **Economics:**

- Real world business plan for Business Club or DECA students.
- Textile Recycling reduces trash tipping fees.
- Rebate supports local community.
- Vital industry for developing countries.

#### **Environmental:**

- The dyes and chemicals in textiles, leach into the soil, contaminating both surface and groundwater.
- It takes around 1,800 gallons of water to grow enough cotton to produce one pair of blue jeans.
- Saves gasoline, polyester is made from petroleum and can be recycled indefinitely.
- Textiles break down in landfills creating harmful greenhouse gas's, that contribute to global warming.

#### **Community Service:**

- Recycling textiles brings communities together to do the right thing!
- Helping residents save thousands of dollars on trash tipping fees.
- Program provides project to meet community service hours needed.

#### **Peer to Peer Education:**

- H.S. Environmental Club educating lower level students .
- Group projects , encouraging a shared educational experience.
- Encourage children to share what they've learned with family and friends.

# donate **recycle** don't throw away



The average U.S. citizen throws away **81 lbs.** of clothing each year

**95%** of textiles WORN OR TORN can be recycled

**15%** yet only 15% gets donated or recycled

**85%** goes into our landfills

That amount is equal to 26 billion lbs. or **310,000 truckloads**

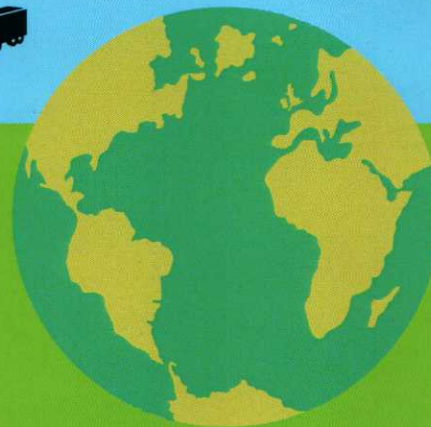


Textile recyclers reuse and recycle **5 BILLION LBS.** of textiles each year



MORE THAN **\$100** MILLION

Amount of funding generated for charities from second-hand clothing sales



Since 1932  
**SMART**

SECONDARY MATERIALS\*  
AND RECYCLED TEXTILES

The Association of Wiping Materials, Used Clothing and Fiber Industries

donate recycle don't throw away™



A PROGRAM OF SMART THE ASSOCIATION OF WIPING MATERIALS AND RETAILER TEXTILE ASSOCIATION