



Thinking beyond recycling

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I love a lot less
trash...



Sorry Oscar!

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z1SiUrvUnk>



Consumption and your role



- Throw “away”
- Recycling is great, but reusing and reducing is the best choice.



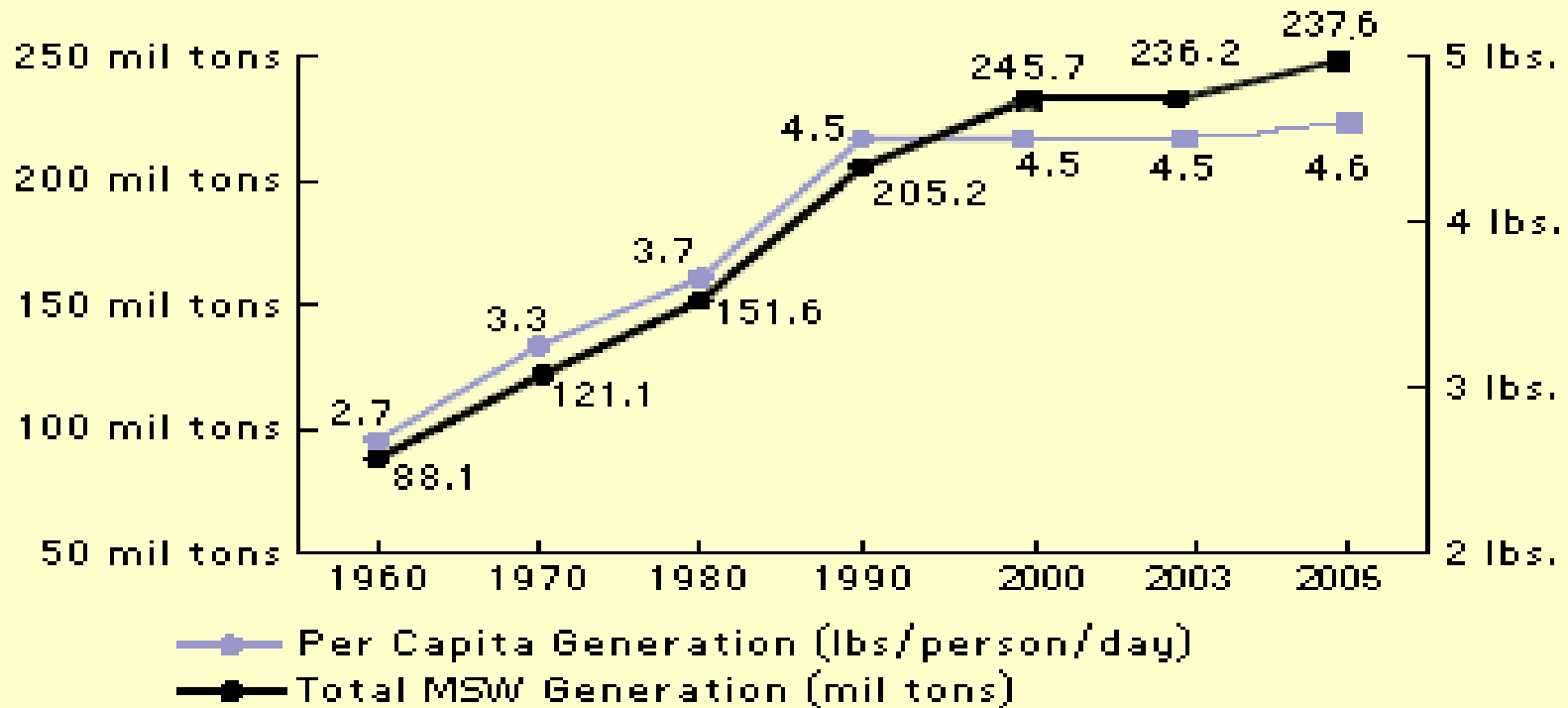
How much waste does your family put in the trash can?

- 4.5 pounds per person per day.
- Family of four generates 18 pounds per day.
- 126 pounds per week for a family of four.



Throwing away more

Trends in MSW Generation 1960-2005

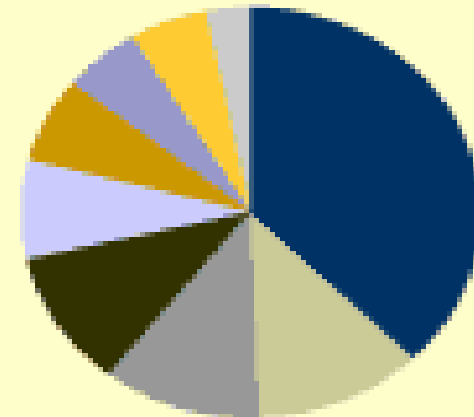




What we are throwing away

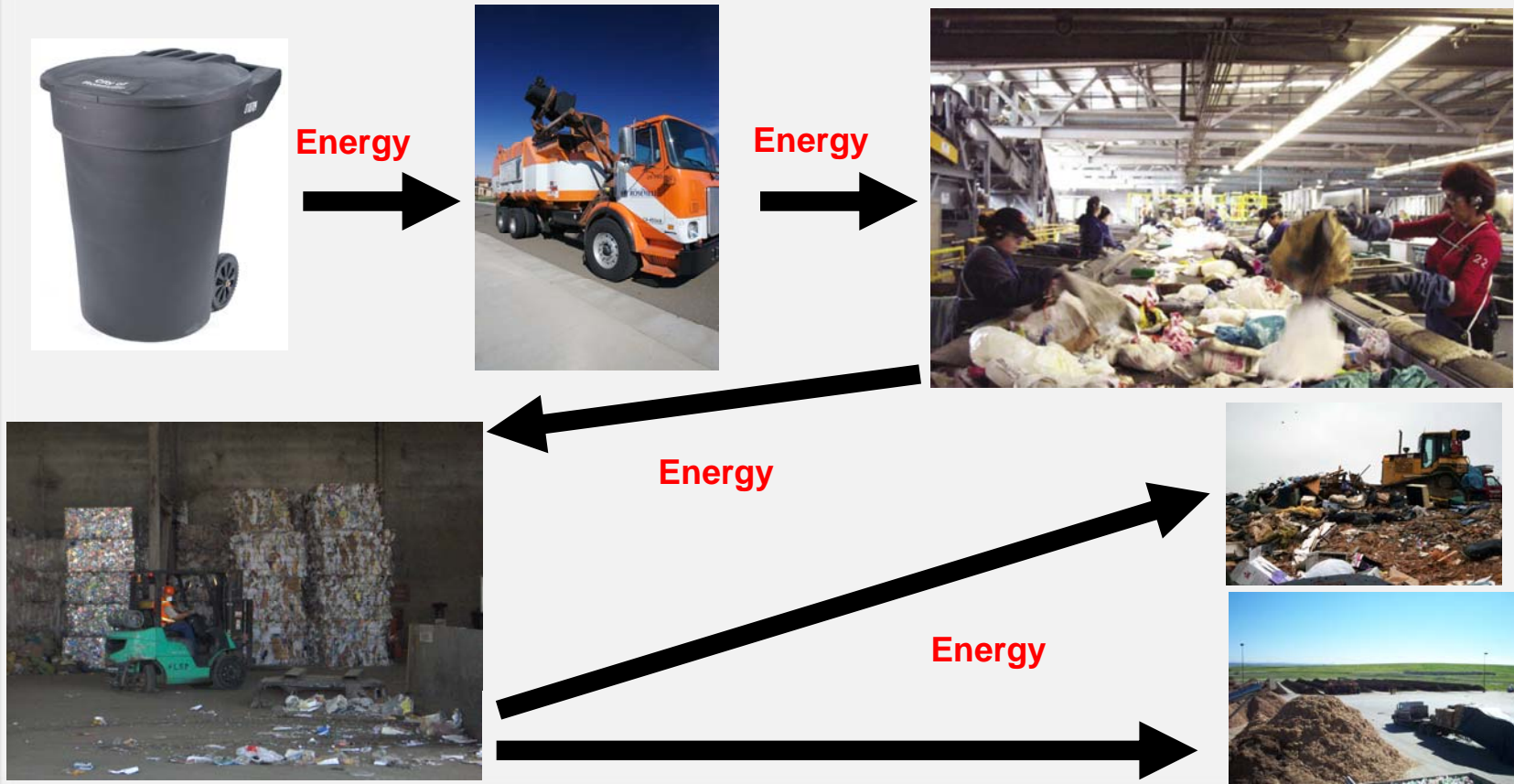
**2005 Total Waste Generation—
245 Million Tons
(before recycling)**

- Paper 34.2 %
- Yard Trimmings 13.1 %
- Food Scraps 11.7 %
- Plastics 11.9 %
- Metals 7.6 %
- Rubber, Leather, and Textiles 7.3 %
- Glass 5.2 %
- Wood 5.7 %
- Other 3.4 %





The energy connection





Recycling is good, reducing and reusing is better

- “Throw away” - it goes somewhere and takes a lot of time, energy and people to deal with the trash we all generate. Affects environment.
- Reusing/reducing = less trash = Less energy to transport it and process it = better for the environment.



The top 10 ways you can help

Junk Mail

- 10** Get off junk mail lists. It takes 20 minutes to get rid of junk mail for two to five years.

9 Avoid Single Use Items

Avoid buying single-use items like paper or plastic plates, cups and disposable silverware.

8 Reusable Shopping Bags

Bring some reusable shopping bags with you when you shop, or better yet, keep some in your car.



The top 10 ways you can help

7

Over-Packaged Snacks

Avoid purchasing items like juice boxes and over-packaged snacks that have packaging that cannot be recycled.

6

Office Paper

One of the top sources of waste is paper—print double-sided where you can and your office copy machine to print double sided as the default.



The top 10 ways you can help

5

Compost Your Kitchen Waste

Set up a composting bin at home for yard waste or try vermicomposting (composting with worms) your fruit and vegetable scraps from the kitchen.

4

Pack a No-Waste Lunch for Work or School

Use a reusable insulated bag or lunch box with reusable plastic containers instead of using disposable plastic sandwich bags; a thermos or reusable jug instead of a can of soda; metal silverware and cloth napkins that can be washed and reused.



The top 10 ways you can help

3

Shop with the Environment In Mind

Besides looking for the cheapest price, also look for products that have the lowest cost to the environment.

2

Water Bottles

Don't grab that bottled water, purchase a reusable water bottle and fill at your tap at home; you will save money and the environment.



The top 10 ways you can help

1

Make a Visit to Your Local Thrift Stores

You'd be surprised the treasures you can find at a price that can't be beat. Besides, making your purchase at a thrift store often goes to help people in your community. Garage sales are also great places to find gently used items for bargain basement prices.



Which trash can is yours?
What could it be?



or



City of Roseville, California



Questions?

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