



Recycling is an important way to help protect the environment, and it is something that YOU can do! You can make a difference! Companies also make a difference when they choose to recycle. At Marcal Paper Mills in Elmwood Park, New Jersey, more than 200,000 tons of recyclable paper are used each year to make new and clean tissue products. **HERE'S HOW IT WORKS:**

1 A Recycling Bin, Not a Garbage Can



The first step in paper recycling is sorting. People do the sorting when they separate paper from the rest of the garbage. This way, the paper heads to the factory to be recycled and not to the dump or landfill.

FACT!
The average American uses about 580 pounds of paper every year.

2 Making Paper from Paper



Collection companies as well as town and county recycling trucks deliver paper to the factory. Magazines, school papers, flyers, catalogs, and discarded mail are all used to make new recycled content tissue products.

FACT!
Every day, American businesses use enough paper to circle the Earth 20 times.

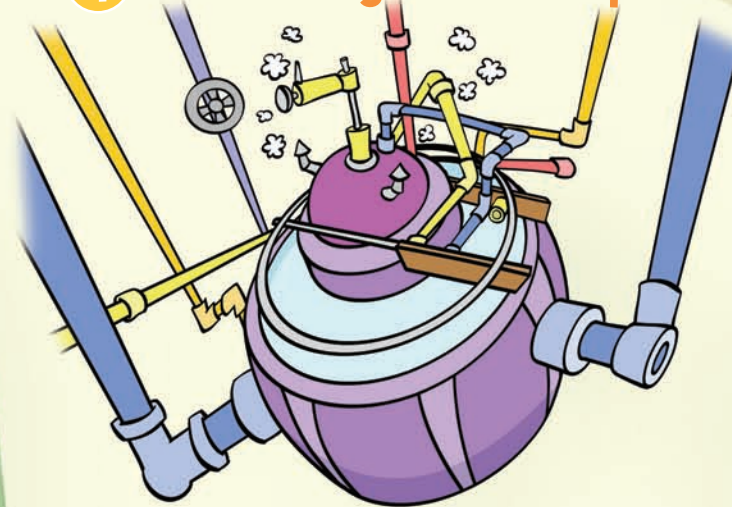
3 Tons of Mush

Here, the recyclable paper makes its first stop at the "de-inking" vat. (It looks like a huge kitchen mixer.) Rotors on the bottom of the vat swirl and mix the recyclable paper with really hot water (over 120° F) and detergents until the paper dissolves into a gray mush called *pulp*. At this stage, paper clips and staples in the paper are captured by the machine and removed from the mixture.



FACT!
Americans dump 180 million tons of garbage each year — more than 72 million tons of this is paper.

4 De-Inking the Pulp



The pulp then moves through several different cleaning stations where very hot water is continuously sprayed over it as it passes over fine mesh screens. These machines remove all inks and printer's coatings out of the pulp.

FACT!
Making paper from recycled materials results in 74% less air pollution and 35% less water pollution.

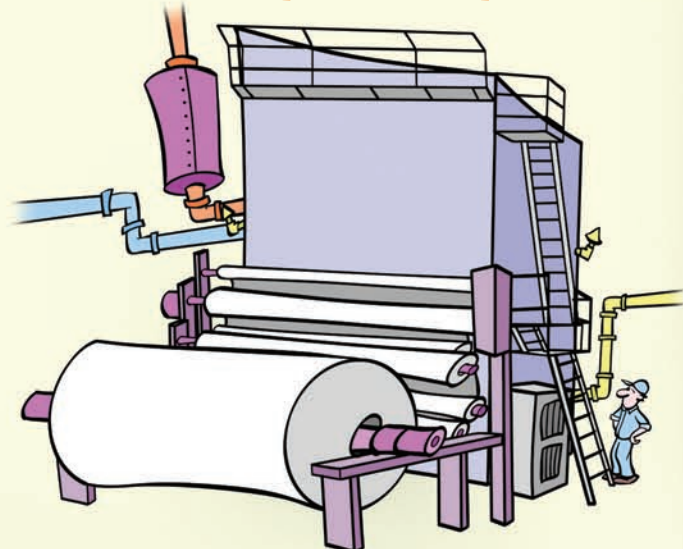
5 Quality Control

At each pulp cleaning stage, samples of the pulp are quality tested to make sure that they are free of ink specks and other contaminants.



FACT!
Americans throw away enough office and writing paper annually to build a wall 12 feet high stretching from Los Angeles to New York.

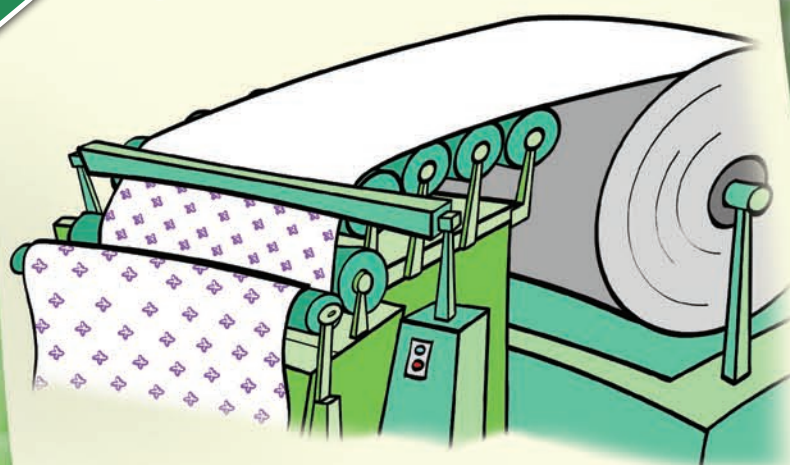
7 From Pulp to Paper



The sanitized wet pulp is drained and pressed through huge, fast-moving screens. The pulp is then moved onto a massive rotating metal dryer that is heated to over 800°F. Finally, a long blade lifts a continuous sheet of tissue paper off of the dryer. Now, it can finally be called paper! The paper is wound into tremendous rolls. More than one mile of new paper is made every minute!

FACT!
One ton of recycled paper saves 17 trees.

8 Adding Patterns



The giant paper rolls are then fed into special machines that add patterns and textures in a process called *embossing*.

9 Roll Away

These machines then re-roll smaller amounts of paper around long cardboard tubes. They then cut the tubes into paper towel and tissue paper sized rolls — the size that you are used to seeing in your own home.



10 Paper from Paper Not from Trees!®



At last, the finished products are wrapped and packaged and sent on their way to a store near you!

Visit www.marcalpaper.com for more information about the papermaking process!

