What does Waste Management do with trash, anyway?
We collect it from nearly 20 million residential, business, industrial and commercial customers.

We burn it to generate green energy.

We recycle paper, plastics, glass, and metals for a variety of new uses.

We dispose of it safely.

We use gas from the decomposition of trash in landfills as a renewable energy source.
The “waste stream” describes the entire life cycle of the garbage we produce—from putting out the trash and recycling for pickup to disposal, energy production and the reuse of recycled materials. Let’s follow the journey…

Recycling Facility

- Glass: Glass bottles being converted to 100% recycled beverage bottles. Process reduces energy consumption by 10% and eliminates emissions.
- Paper: Paper recyclables are separated at the recycling facility. Materials are cleaned using state-of-the-art air quality control systems. Cleaned paper is used for new paper products.

Waste-to-Energy Facility

- Glass: Glass recyclables are crushed to form cullet, which is then used as an alternative fuel.
- Paper: Paper recyclables are separated at the recycling facility. Materials are cleaned using state-of-the-art air quality control systems. Cleaned paper is used for new paper products.
- Plastics: Plastics are ground up, washed, melted and formed into plastic pellets. The pellets are used to make containers, bottles, paint, countertops, and other applications.

Landfill

- Paper: Paper recyclables are separated at the recycling facility. Materials are cleaned using state-of-the-art air quality control systems. Cleaned paper is used for new paper products.
- Plastics: Plastics are ground up, washed, melted and formed into plastic pellets. The pellets are used to make containers, bottles, paint, countertops, and other applications.

Landfill-Gas-to-Energy

- Landfill gas may be used as an alternative fuel source.

Closing the Loop

- Green energy is delivered via utility transmission lines to residential and commercial locations.

Responsibly Disposable

- Consumers can responsibly dispose of items like electronic waste, batteries, and other materials by using our voluntary Think From Source® “drop-off” system.

www.thinkgreenfromhome.com