



The UK Rubbish Mountain

- The UK throws away 30 million tonnes of rubbish each year. Currently 60% could be recycled.
- 5 million tons of food and 4.5 million tons of food packaging are thrown away each year.
- Sainsburys have just launched new compostable packaging on 500 of its ready meal brands and organic fruit & vegetables - removing millions of plastic trays and bags from landfill sites. Look for the green apple/arrow logo.
- ASDA has moved to its food distribution from road to rail to cut down on emissions
- Tesco is also moving to rail and now awards loyalty points for customers who re-use carrier bags.
- The leading supermarkets spend £15 billion a year on packaging - so each household contributes £500 to this cost.
- 17.5 billion plastic bags were handed out at supermarkets last year
- Easter eggs are typically 14% chocolate and 86% packaging (Hampshire Trading Standards survey).
- UK households throw away 460,000 tonnes of plastic bottles each year.

Src: *The Times*, 08/09/06

Some tips from AGreenerFestival.com

- Try and be environmentally efficient.
- Composting is even better than recycling.
- Almost everyone can compost at home.
- Lobby your council for free composting bin.
- Support shops with green policies - especially if they are using green packaging, selling fair trade goods and have green distribution policies.