



printed on recycled paper

If you're not recycling  
you're throwing it all away

### SWEAT wants to change that!

"SWEAT," the Solid Waste Environmental Action Team, part of the Ecology Center of Ann Arbor, was formed in March 1988 to tackle the solid waste issue. In the past year SWEAT has acted:

- to write and sponsor a city of Ann Arbor "Recycled Products Procurement Resolution." With city councilperson Kathy Edgren's support, in February 1989, SWEAT's resolution passed the city council unanimously. The council's action to buy recycled products for all city offices will create the needed demand and help the recycling industry.
- to help businesses recycle and reduce wastes. Michigan businesses produce almost 90% of the solid waste being landfilled today. Over 70% of that waste is recyclable or compostable. Also, recycling is cheaper than throwing garbage away. With SWEAT's help some local businesses are already actively recycling and reducing their waste, more will start soon.
- to promote the purchase of recycled products. Office paper, newsprint, cardboard and every other recyclable material has never before been more available. Only when we purchase recycled products do we close the circle of waste and REUSE those materials.

### HOW THE ECOLOGY CENTER HELPS THE ENVIRONMENT

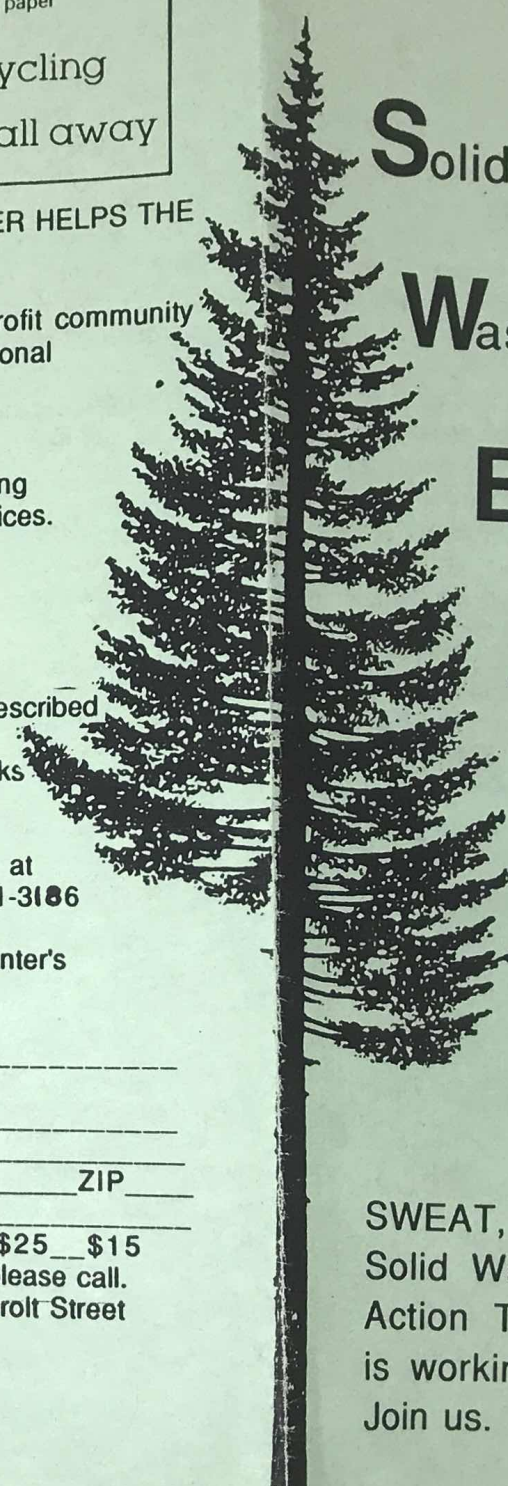
The ecology center, a non-profit community organization sponsors educational program, is active in state and local issues, operates a public environmental library, and provides recycling and energy conservation services.

### HOW YOU CAN HELP THE ENVIRONMENT

- Join one of our issues groups
- Sweat works on the issues described in this brochure.
- The pesticide task force works to reduce the use and misuse of pesticides.
- Volunteer for other projects at the ecology center. Call 761-3186 for more information.
- Help support the Ecology Center's programs and services-- become a member today.

### MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION:

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
 CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
 PHONE \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_ \$250 \_\_\_ \$100 \_\_\_ \$50 \_\_\_ \$25 \_\_\_ \$15  
 \_\_\_ I'd Like to Join SWEAT, please call.  
 The Ecology Center, 417 Detroit Street  
 Ann Arbor MI, 48104



**S**olid  
**W**aste is a problem  
**E**nvironmental  
**A**ction  
 is the solution  
**T**eam  
 work is essential

SWEAT, the Ecology Center's Solid Waste Environmental Action Team is working for a better world. Join us.

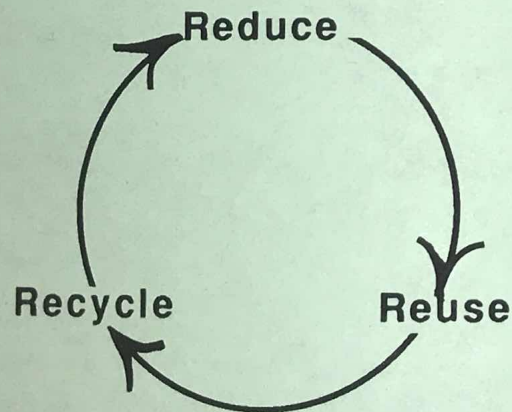


## WHAT A WASTE

Michigan generates 32,000 tons of solid waste per day, **enough to fill the Silverdome in a day and a half.** 80-85% of that waste goes into landfills, despite the fact that 80% of the waste could be recycled or composted.

As landfills reach capacity, we must search for alternative methods of waste disposal. Incineration is a possible alternative but it has serious economic and environmental problems. Incinerator emissions may include such pollutants as dioxins, acid gases, and heavy metals. In addition, 25% of the original waste remains as toxic ash residue that must be disposed. This ash is a source of groundwater contamination.

THERE IS A BETTER ALTERNATIVE!



## REDUCE AND REUSE

We can all help cut down on the amount of solid waste produced by reducing what we throw away.

- Buy reusable products
- Buy in bulk and avoid excess packaging.
- Compost organic waste--yard grass clippings, lumber, and food scraps can easily be made into useful compost.

## RECYCLE

Recycling is an easy and effective way to reduce the stream of waste.

- Buy products in containers that are recyclable.
- Recycle all glass, metal, and paper.
- Find out about curbside recycling.

## USE RECYCLED PRODUCTS

- Using recycled products reduces waste.
- Using recycled paper for one edition of the Sunday New York Times would save 75,000 trees.
- Producing one ton of paper from discarded waste paper instead of virgin pulp uses half the energy, half the water, and save 17 trees and reduces waste to landfills.

## SO WHY AREN'T MORE PRODUCTS MADE FROM RECYCLED PAPER?

- Government subsidies of both the timber and the power industry encourage production and reduce the motivation for conservation and recycling.
- Lack of consumer demand for recycled products is cited by the E.P.A. and the American Paper Institute as the single greatest factor limiting the use of recycled paper.

# Buy Recycled Products.

*They're Worth  
Our Environment*

