

# PERSONAL WASTE INVENTORY



This worksheet can be used with middle and high school students.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

**Directions:** Place the waste you accumulate during the day in the plastic bag given to you. All waste you produce should be placed in your bag unless it is food or gum. You may choose to keep your bag in your backpack or just carry it. Whatever you decide, please make sure to carry your bag with you everywhere you go. You should weigh your waste in class at the beginning of each day. Record the dates and weights and then answer the following questions.

**Materials:** One (1) 15-20 clear gallon trash bag for each student.

**Extension Activity:** Waste Sort Activity

Day 1 \_\_\_\_\_ lbs.

Day 2 \_\_\_\_\_ lbs.

Day 3 \_\_\_\_\_ lbs.

Day 4 \_\_\_\_\_ lbs.

Day 5 \_\_\_\_\_ lbs.



What is the average amount of waste you throw away daily by weight? \_\_\_\_\_

How much waste do you produce in 1 week by weight? \_\_\_\_\_

How much waste do you produce in 1 month by weight? \_\_\_\_\_ In 1 year? \_\_\_\_\_

How much waste does the class produce in 1 month by weight? \_\_\_\_\_ In 1 year? \_\_\_\_\_

**Fact:** The Franklin County Sanitary Landfill receives, on average, 4,500 tons of waste per day just from Franklin County residents and businesses.

## WASTE SORT ACTIVITY

**Directions:** Record every item that you throw away in a 24-hour period below. List each waste item, identify items that could be recycled in your school or at home, identify items that could be made from recycled materials, or indicate that you are not sure. Remember, just because an item can be recycled does not mean it is accepted for recycling at your school.

Day	Describe the Item	Item Accepted for Recycling (Y or N)	Item Could Be Made from Recycled Material (Y or N)	Not Sure?



Day	Describe the Item	Item Accepted for Recycling (Y or N)	Item Could Be Made from Recycled Material (Y or N)	Not Sure?



Day	Describe the Item	Item Accepted for Recycling (Y or N)	Item Could Be Made from Recycled Material (Y or N)	Not Sure?