Once you've conducted your audit, you can calculate the environmental benefits of your effort! If you estimated your program's potential impact before you began, you can now compare your actual benefit figures. You can use these benefit numbers to report back to your school and local community. Begin with your total numbers for “Milk Cartons Collected” and “Juice Cartons Collected” (columns “f” and “g” of your “Carton Recycling Audit Sheet”). Then, we make it easy with single metric, sheets of paper saved, to calculate the other benefits. All calculations are for annual impact.

**DETERMINE YOUR ANNUAL CARTON USAGE FROM AUDIT DATA**

a. Multiply the total “Milk Cartons Collected” by 180 for Annual Milk Carton Usage: _________________

b. Multiply the total “Juice Cartons Collected” by 180 for Annual Juice Carton Usage: _________________

**CALCULATE THE ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS OF YOUR RECYCLING PROGRAM**

1. **PAPER SAVED ANNUALLY** *(For pounds of paper saved per year, multiply your total sheets saved annually (c) by 100)*

   a. _________________ × 2 = _________________

      Annual Milk-Carton Usage

   b. _________________ × 2 = _________________

      Annual Juice-Carton Usage

   c. _________________ + _________________ = _________________

      Sheets Saved: Milk-Carton

      Sheets Saved: Juice Cartons

      Total Sheets of Paper Saved

2. **TREES SAVED ANNUALLY**

   _________________ × 0.0012 = _________________

   Your Total Sheets of Paper Saved Annually

3. **WATER SAVED ANNUALLY**

   _________________ × 0.035 = _________________

   Your Total Sheets of Paper Saved Annually

4. **TRASH DIVERTED FROM LANDFILL ANNUALLY, BY VOLUME**

   _________________ × 190 = _________________

   Annual Carton Usage (Milk & Juice Cartons)

   55-gallon trash bags diverted from landfill

5. **TRASH DIVERTED FROM LANDFILL ANNUALLY, BY WEIGHT**

   _________________ × 0.21 = _________________

   Annual Carton Usage (Milk & Juice Cartons)

   Pounds of waste diverted (excess liquid + cartons)

6. **ENERGY SAVED ANNUALLY**

   _________________ × 0.02 = _________________

   Your Total Sheets of Paper Saved Annually (1.c)

   Kilowatt-hours (kWh) of energy saved*

   *2,000 kWh can power about 20 flat-screen TVs sets for one year.

7. **CO₂ EMISSIONS AVOIDED**

   _________________ × 0.0000345 = _________________

   Your Total Sheets of Paper Saved Annually (1.c)

   Metric tons of CO₂ (mT CO₂) avoided*

   *1 mT CO₂ emissions saved equates to keeping about 3 average US vehicles off the road for one month.