

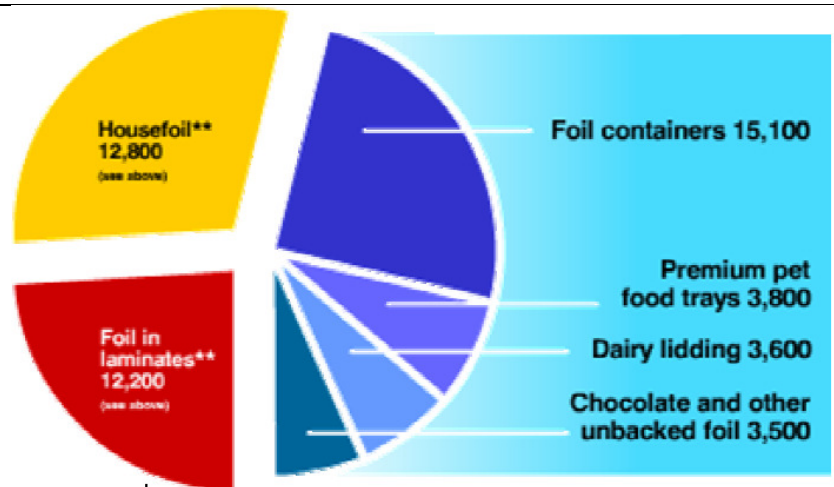
Aluminium Foil Recycling

Aluminium is one of the most abundant minerals in the Earth's crust, but the amount of energy required to turn it into foil is very large. Recycling aluminium foil saves around 95% of the energy used to make foil from raw materials, saves money and reduces the amount of material going to landfill.

Where recycling is not possible, energy recovery can be a very good option for aluminium. 1 kg of incinerated aluminium releases as much energy as 1 kg of coal or 0.8 litres of fuel oil.

Metallised plastic film should not be collected with aluminium foil. To check, scrunch it in your hand. If it springs back, it contains plastic.

Charities and community groups sometimes collect aluminium foil for recycling. The foil can be sold to cash for cans centres for around 30p per keg. Foil and cans must be kept separate as they are made from slightly different alloys and are therefore recycled separately. Aluminium foil should only be placed in can banks if it is mentioned on the side of the bank.



Fascinating Facts:

- The average annual consumption of recyclable alufoil is 1.1 kg per household.
- Aluminium can be recycled again and again and again...without any significant loss of quality.
- Most recycled aluminium foil is used to make cylinder heads and engine blocks for the car industry.

Links:

AluPro

www.alupro.org.uk

Aluminium Foil Recycling in the UK.

AluFoil

www.alufoil.org

The European Aluminium Foil Association.

Azom

[www.azom.com/details.asp?](http://www.azom.com/details.asp?ArticleID=1586)

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Article on energy recovery, recycling and source reduction of aluminium foil.

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