



STINAPA INFORMATION

HOW DO WE SLOW THE GROWTH OF THE TRASH MOUNTAIN?
USEFUL RE-USAGE...

In the previous article you read that by preventing the creation of waste we can reduce the trash mountain. The second step is to re-use products and materials. By using waste products for a second time we can reduce the volume of trash resulting in less need for space to dump the waste. In the 'trash-policy' of the Netherlands Antilles we can read that when it comes to re-use, preference is given to the re-use of the whole product (glass bottles) instead of just the material (crushed glass). Unfortunately not all available modern recycling technology is viable on a small island like Bonaire. The community is just too small to pay for all these recycling facilities. We just have to make the best of the situation and investigate where and what we can recycle. When you buy a case of your favorite beer, do you ever stop to think that every bottle you buy ends up in the trash-can? We don't have a deposit system so they are not being refilled. In order to recycle waste products they have to be collected separately. On the landfill at Lagoen, old metal, like car wrecks, is being dumped separately. Recently they have started to also dump glass in a separate spot. Every week about 5880 kgs. of glass is collected, which amounts to 306 tons on a yearly basis. This glass gets crushed and is used in road construction. You might have noticed that almost all bars, hotels and restaurants now have yellow containers. They participate actively in the separate collection of glass. Citizens can deposit their waste glass at the Selibon garage next to Warehouse Bonaire. Selibon is working towards letting the local population to being able to drop off their glass at supermarkets and other strategic locations. They are also planning to separate other types of waste in the near future such as cans, plastic bottles and paper. Besides segregated waste collection there are methods to actively participate in re-use of waste, for instance:

- Repair (either by yourself or a specialist) of products instead of dumping them.
- Buy used (second-hand) articles.
- Re-use plastic bags, or even better: take a sturdy shopping bag to the store.
- When using paper, also use the backside, and preferably buy recycled paper.
- Think of other creative ways to re-use materials, like bringing them to schools, (empty toilet-rolls, and cardboard). In Africa people are masters of re-cycling. They make oil lamps or toy cars from old tin cans. Re-used products by no means have to be less valuable than new ones. You can give your stuff a whole new life. Just think of the repair of an old chair; a new coat of paint and some new fabric can completely rejuvenate it. Just give your creativity free reign. Who knows what beauty you will be able to create..... And it will make a difference in our trash mountain!!!

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NOS TA BIBA DI NATURALESA



Traha huntu na un desaroyo duradero pa Bonelru