

Recycling on the Job Pits Office Zealots, Rebels

By Karlyn Barker
Washington Post Staff Writer

Bob Raymond, a lanky policy analyst with the Department of Health and Human Services, is a trash recycling zealot. He has fashioned his own desktop receptacle for sorting office paper. He bugs co-workers about their quick-to-toss habits. And he looks forward to the day when wastebaskets throughout the agency will contain nothing but "orange peels, envelopes and yellow Post-its."

But down the hall, past the dumpster and the colored crates that Raymond and others use to separate paper, newspapers and aluminum cans, office assistant Juanita Butler scoffs at such recycling fervor.

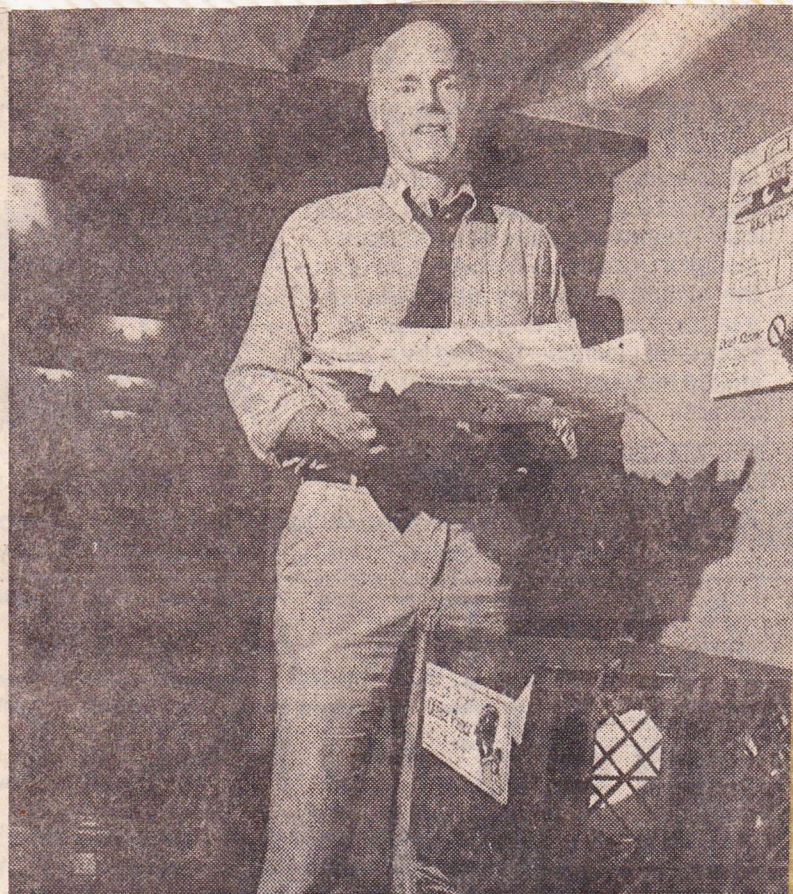
"It's too much trouble," said Butler, who keeps a lone all-purpose wastebasket at her desk and just laughs when co-workers drop by—

and they do—to peek at what she puts in it.

"I think there's some things more important than worrying about trash," she said firmly. "Like my promotion."

Maybe so. But come December, when the District government launches its new mandatory recycling program for all D.C.-based businesses and agencies, the Bob Raymonds of this city will have the upper hand.

A few companies and government agencies already practice recycling on a small scale. Others, anticipating a jolting adjustment in office behavior, have begun making their employees more environmentally conscious—before the District program, with its \$400 fines for corporate offenders, takes effect.



BY ELLSWORTH J. DAVIS—THE WASHINGTON POST

U.S. government worker Bob Raymond, doing his part in the recycling effort.



— our brother
Johnny, who
died at 2.