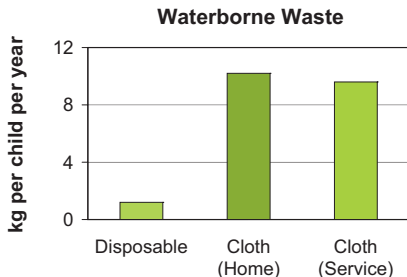
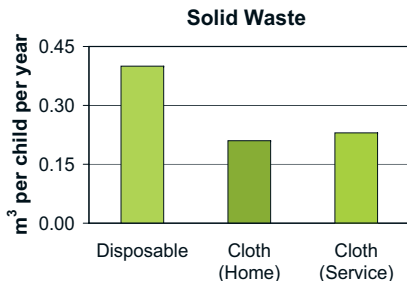


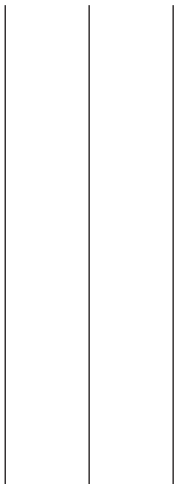
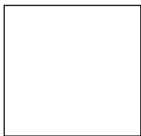
# Disposable or Cloth Diapers?

In a Franklin Associates life-cycle study, disposable diapers were compared to two kinds of cloth diapers, distinguished by laundering techniques: home versus commercially laundered. For one child, home laundered diapers use 9.6 GJ (gigajoules) of energy per year. Commercially washed diapers use 8.6 GJ. The net energy used by disposable diapers is 6.9 GJ per child per year. 86% of this comes from petroleum energy in the materials of the diaper. Overall, a disposable diaper uses 29% less energy than home laundered systems and 20% less energy than commercially washed diapers.

Disposable diapers occupy the most landfill space, twice as much as cloth diapers. Still, disposable diapers produce a tenth as much waterborne waste, and half as much airborne waste.

ILEA believes the best diaper depends on local conditions. If your community has a landfill shortage, choose commercially laundered diapers. Otherwise, favor disposables. Learn more at our website.





minimum 15% postconsumer product



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