

## **Abstract**

The latest trends in the field of waste management and recycling show an annual increase in the proportion of municipal waste, especially the municipal solid waste folder, in total waste production in the Czech Republic and in the world. The constant pressure specified by latest amends in the waste and packaging legislation, regulation by the European Union directives on reducing the amount of waste deposited in landfills, pushing the waste management system to increase the rate of recycling of waste, especially of individual commodities such as paper, plastic, metal and cartons. Recycling has its advantages and disadvantages, the current challenge for expert public is to find ways of waste management in the future. Currently, expert public is interested not only with solution of recycling problems itself, but with possibilities of alternative forms of waste recovery. In 2010, thanks to the recycling of paper, plastics, glass and metals saved 23.3 million MJ of energy that may not be produced, which represents one percent of the total energy consumption of the Czech Republic. Recycling reduced the overall green gas emissions by less than one percent, corresponding to 0.96 million tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent (EKO-KOM).

**Key words** : recycling, paper, plastic, metals