



Beverage Container Recycling Program

About the Program

The County of San Bernardino Solid Waste Management Division (SWMD) developed the Beverage Container Recycling Program for the unincorporated areas of San Bernardino County to increase California Refund Value (CRV) beverage container recycling and litter cleanup activities. The Beverage Container Recycling Program is one of several County initiatives to reduce waste and helps comply with mandated state waste reduction goals. Focusing on beverage container recycling, the program presents an

opportunity to educate our citizens about the importance and benefits of recycling. Schools, non-profit community organizations and businesses can generate extra funds for their programs/activities.

The goal of the recycling program is to reach and maintain an 80 percent recycling rate for all CRV beverage containers - aluminum, glass, plastic and bi-metal. Projects implemented by SWMD will assist in reaching and maintaining this goal.

To date, SWMD has suc-

cessfully established 29 beverage container recycling programs; which includes 14 schools (1 preschool/9 elementary/1 middle & 3 high).



"There is enough earth for everyone's need but not for everyone's greed."
- Mahatma Gandhi

Spotlight: Baldwin Lane Elementary School, Big Bear City



Baldwin Lane Elementary School's Booster Club joined the program September 16, 2004.

The booster club coordinates the recycling drive, in which all students and staff participate.

This years 2008-2009 booster volunteers/recycling coordinators are Victoria Nagata and Mary Todd.

With ambition and determination the students in just 4 weeks have raised over \$1000! The recycling money is used for

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Recycle where
you live,
learn and play!

Did you know...

Californians Recycle.

Californians bought 21.9 billion carbonated and non-carbonated drinks in aluminum, glass, plastic and bi-metal containers last year. More than 14.7 billion of those containers were recycled, saving natural resources, conserving energy and extending the life of our landfills. Imagine what we'll accomplish if we recycle the other 7.2 billion!

→ **decompose:** to break down into component parts or basic elements; or to rot.

★ An aluminum can sit in a landfill taking decades to decompose, or it

can be recycled and be back on the shelf in about 90 days.

★ The energy saved by recycling a glass bottle instead of making a new one would light a light bulb for four hours.

★ It only takes five recycled two-liter plastic soda bottles to make enough fiberfill for a ski jacket.

★ Americans throw away about 35 billion aluminum cans every year.

★ 1000 million years...put a glass bottle in the trash and that's how long it'll sit there doing nothing... recycled it and it can live forever.

★ It takes 700 years for a plastic bottle to decompose.

★ Recycled aluminum cans can be made into baseball bats.

★ America produces an average of over a half a ton of garbage per person every year---about 4.4 lbs a day.

★ Since 1987, Californians have given new life to more than 160 billion bottles and cans by recycling.

★ Americans use 4 million plastic bottles every hour! yet only 1 bottle out of 4 is recycled.

★ 8 to 12 weeks: That's how long it takes for a glass container to be recycled and returned to the store shelf.

★ Recycling 7.4 cubic yards a ton of PET (clear plastic) bottles saves that much space in the landfill.

Spotlight: Baldwin Lane Elementary School, Big Bear City

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end-of-the-year field trips, classroom equipment, playground equipment, etc.

“We want the students to get used to recycling bottles, cans, and many other items that would otherwise end up in

landfills, would cost precious natural resources to produce, and can raise money for our school and classrooms. The added bonus, with this recycling drive, is that the students also earn prizes.” - Mary Todd.

Big Bear Valley merchants donate prizes that the students win, such as gift certificates for kid's meals and pizza, t-shirts and electronic games.

Here are some quotes:

Isiah N. 1st grade “Recycling will help save the planet and also help my school.”

Alyssa B. 2nd grade “My sister and I have fun collecting bottles and cans. We know it helps our school and the Earth.”

Alan Z. 3rd grade “It's fun to recycle but it's hard to remember to bring it.”

Manual G. 5th grade “Recycling helps people make money.”

Emily P. 6th grade “I like to recycle because it raises money for our school and it helps our planet.”



San Bernardino County Employees Picnic Recycled T-Shirt Giveaway

The San Bernardino County Employees Picnic was held June 7, 2008 at Glen Helen Regional Park. This is the second year SWMD participated at this event. To remind the importance of bottles and cans recycling SWMD decided to giveaway recycled content t-shirts. In order to get a t-shirt a child who collected a total of 20 CRV beverage containers of aluminum cans and plastic bottles and turned them into the SWMD booth received a recycled content t-shirt!

In just 4 hours 68.55 pounds of CRV was diverted from the landfill! Proceeds from the redemption benefited the San Bernardino County Employees Picnic Fund.

So don't trash that cash...why? It's a waste of natural resources, a waste of energy and a waste of money thereby:

- ★ Reducing the need for virgin bauxite ore.
- ★ Saving enough energy to run a television for almost three hours.
- ★ Putting cash in the pocket of the person who took it to the recycling center.

Hear the children:

"Wow! This is made from the plastic bottles"

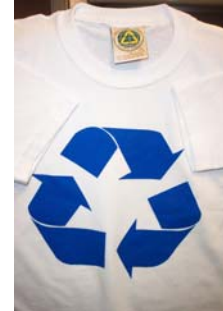
"I'll make sure to recycle everything now"

From Bottles

Picked up at curbside and community recycling centers across the country, plastic PET containers are sorted by type and color, cleaned, crushed and chopped into flake.

To Fiber

These tiny pieces are then liquified and extruded to create new fibers, which are drawn or stretched for strength, ready for crimping, cutting and baling.



To Fabric and Fiberfill

The fiber is either made into yarn then knit or woven into fabric, or is made into fiberfill for a variety of apparel or home furnishings products.

You Can Make A Difference!

When making a purchase look for the items made from recycled materials.

www.bottlesandcans.com

www.conservation.ca.gov

www.earth911.org



WANTED CASH REWARD

Look for these posters placed at Omni Transit Shelters throughout San Bernardino County in English and Spanish.



We Only Have One Planet Earth



Recycling is one of the easiest and best things we can do to clean up our planet. Each one of us can make a big difference by recycling and then buying recycled products for home, school and play. Buying products made from recycled materials helps to

“Close the Loop”

- ☺ Buying recycled saves energy and natural resources.
- ☺ Buying recycled makes less pollution.
- ☺ Buying recycled means you use it over again.
- ☺ Buying recycle makes recycling really works!

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Zero Waste You Make It Happen!



The County of San Bernardino Solid Waste Management Division (SWMD) is responsible for the operation and management of the County's solid waste disposal system which consists of six regional landfills, eight transfer stations and five community collection centers. The County contracts with Burrtec Waste Industries for disposal site operations and maintenance. SWMD administers the County's solid waste handling franchise program and the refuse collection permit program which authorizes and regulates trash collection by private haulers in the unincorporated area. In addition, SWMD is responsible for developing and implementing waste diversion programs that will allow the unincorporated area of the County to meet its AB939 diversion goals. Programs and activities performed by our Division in the past, that directly relate to promoting beverage container recycling include the: 1) development of printed material promoting and educating on the training and value of container recycling; 2) assisting schools and community groups to establish beverage container recycling drop-off centers; 3) conducting campaigns through a variety of media that promote beverage container recycling; and 4) working as the lead member of the Zero Waste Communities (17 cities/townships) for Regional Waste Reduction Recycling Programs.



The County And Its Waste System Operator Make Everyday Earth Day

Earth Day Tree
Give Away A Success.

The County of San Bernardino Solid Waste Management Division Staff and Burrtec Waste Industries Landfill Division Staff joined forces to make a difference on Earth Day April 22, by handing out 250 conifer bare root seedling to customers who pledge to take action to be green and plant this tree in order to provide a better environment for future generations.



- ★ Trees are essential for a stable climate as they remove heat-trapping carbon dioxide from the air.
- ★ Repowering or replacing construction equipment to reduce greenhouse gasses and global warming.
- ★ Recycling 1000's of tons through new Comprehensive Disposal Site Diversion Program.
- ★ Groundwater protection with landfill liner system.
- ★ Landfill gas used to make electricity.
- ★ Environmental Education.