

BEVERAGE CONTAINER RECYCLING PROGRAM

As we enjoy the holidays, we also consume lots of resources and generate tons of waste. Paper and paperboard are the largest component of municipal solid waste - 34% of the U.S. waste stream. Ever wonder how much trash is generated over the holiday season...

According to the EPA (www.epa.gov) the amount of household garbage in the United States generally increases by 25 percent between Thanksgiving and New Year's Day, from 4 million tons to 5 million tons.

But most importantly, keep in mind that the holidays are not about the gifts, the errands, the trimmings; they're about celebrating with your family and friends and appreciating the blessings in your life. We happen to think Mother Earth is one of those blessings, so let's put some of these reduction tips to work to help keep it that way!



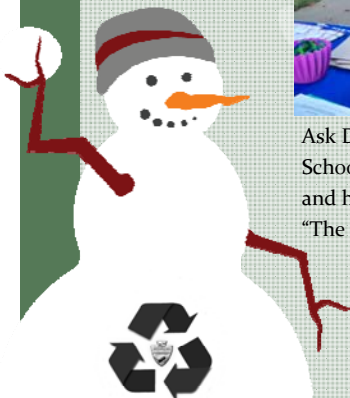
Ask Dawson, age 10 who attends Mentone Elementary School the difference between a dump and a landfill and he'll tell you...

"The Dump is Garbage! The Landfill is Better!"

*6th Annual Mentone Family Fun Resource Fair
October 8, 2009*

Consider some of these waste reduction tips...

- Use reusable cloth bags when shopping.
- Make gift tags by reusing your holiday cards.
- Lower your electricity bill by using energy-efficient indoor/outdoor LED lights.
- Bake organic treats/goodies and package them in a recycled-paper box.
- Purchase products in bulk quantities, like 2-liter bottles of soft drinks instead of single cans, this reduces packaging.
- Ask when purchasing electronics if there is a take-back program for old equipment.
- Donate usable electronics that are no longer needed.
- And don't forget to recycle your bottles and can and your Holiday Tree!



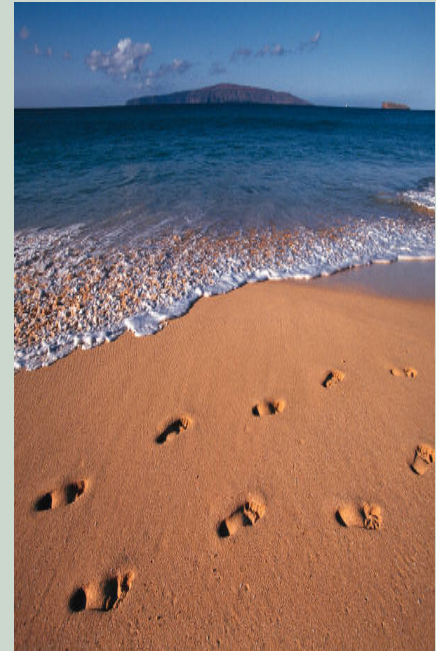
How Big Is Your Footprint

Even though we don't always realize it, each and every one of us has a big impact on the earth! I know it's hard to believe that one person can make such a huge difference, but it's true! During our lifetime, the decisions we make can either help the world become better or worse. We all leave a footprint on the planet and the smaller the footprint, the better! Test yourself below and find out the size of your footprint. Put an "X" in the correct column, then add them up by point value.

Point Value	1	2	3
Questions	Always	Sometimes	Never
Do you recycle your beverage container bottles and cans?			
Do you recycle your magazines and newspapers?			
Do you recycle your empty steel cans and glass jars?			
Do you ride your bicycle to school and activities?			
Do you use energy efficient light bulbs?			
Do you take your lunch in a reusable bag or container?			
Do you turn off the water while brushing your teeth?			
Do you compost or vermicompost?			
Do you buy recycled products?			
Do you donate your used clothes and toys?			
Total Each Column			
Add Total Points For Grand Score			

If your score is:

- 10-16 You are an environmentalist! Great Job!
- 17-23 You are an environmentalist in training. Try harder!
- 24-30 You are wasting too many natural resources...you need to change your behavior fast!



Did you know...?

The three main sources of greenhouse gas emissions from homes are *electricity use, heating and waste.*

To find out more visit:

www.ca.gov

www.epa.gov

www.CoolCalifornia.org

www.footprint.org

www.standforless.com

Riverview Middle School, Helendale



The Riverview Environmental Science CADD Club implemented the Beverage Container Recycling Program in March. Proceeds from the recycling support environmental projects.

The CADD Club “Condors Against Damaging the Desert”, works on environmental issues, environmental science projects and educates the younger students on recycling.

They will be traveling to Catalina Island in April to Environmental Science Camp. Besides the CRV profits, they are also raising money through beef jerky sales. They must attend and work at community events such as the Helendale Clean Up Days, Helendale Safety Fair and the Harvest Festival.

At the Harvest Festival Event, CADD students had a recycling bin and a trash can. CADD taught the children how to read the bottom of plastic bottles for recycling codes and what is recyclable and waste. The children had to sort the items into the correct bins and were rewarded. Items donated by the SWMD. CADD members also collected recyclable items in bins at the event.

On-going projects include: Nike Re Use-A-Shoe Program, ink-jet/cell phone recycling, plastic and aluminum recycling programs, an organic garden in the green house on campus and designing a program to educate the elementary children about recycling. The program will be a play about waste and not waste characters.

CADD goals are to encourage recycling and environmental awareness in their school and community.

“I found a turtle shell. IT was interesting to see how much stuff we found.”
Hailey Campbell

“I thought it was good that a lot of people showed up to clean up the desert.”
Kelly Thomas



Mackenzie Bolduc · Erica Yeomens
Emily Brown
Helendale Days, September 5, 2009



*Helendale Clean Up Day
October 24, 2009*

final thought...
Make your New Year's resolution to live more sustainably in 2010!

For additional waste reduction information, workshop schedules, disposal sites and hours -

Contact us by...

Telephone: 1.800.722.8004

Email: solidwaste@swm.sbcounty.gov

Or visit us at...

www.sbcounty.gov/dpw/solidwaste

***Reduce / Reuse / Recycle / Compost / Buy Recycled
Rethink!***

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Waste is a symptom of an inefficient process—Waste is material and supplies that are paid for, and subsequently rendered useless. Before those materials and supplies are rendered useless, they are housed in expensive office or warehouse space. After they are rendered useless, money is paid to haul them away. Sound crazy?

Reducing waste reduces needless consumption. Reducing needless consumption preserves renewable and non renewable resources. Reducing waste conserves energy and reduces the air, soil, and water contamination that is often caused by the production of those materials and supplies that become waste, and from the fossil fuel powered transportation that delivers those materials and supplies and hauls away those materials and supplies after they become waste. Reducing waste also reduces the use of landfills. (Source: www.ciwmb.ca.gov/BizWaste)

