



Beverage Container Recycling Program

County of San Bernardino
Department of Public Works
Solid Waste Management Division

March 2010

"... on April 22, 1970, Earth Day was held, one of the most remarkable happenings in the history of democracy. . . "
-American Heritage Magazine, October 1993

Earth Day Celebrates 40 years!

Earth Day was founded by Gaylord Nelson, a United States Senator from Wisconsin.

Responding to widespread environmental degradation the event called for an environmental teach-in, or Earth Day, to be held on April 22, 1970. Over 20 million people participated that year, and Earth Day is now observed on April 22 each year by more than 500 million people and several national governments in 175 countries.

"Earth Day worked because of the spontaneous response at the grassroots level. We had neither the time nor resources

to organize 20 million demonstrators and the thousands of schools and local communities that participated. That was the remarkable thing about Earth Day. It organized itself."
-Senator Gaylord Nelson.

Make Earth Day Every Day at your school, business and your residence by doing one or more of the following:

- ☺ reduce your usage of plastic bags-use reusable bags when shopping.
- ☺ conserve paper by using both sides of a page in your notebooks and printer; buy recycled paper and make sure there is a paper recycling bin next to your trash can.
- ☺ plant a tree a single tree will absorb one ton of carbon dioxide over its lifetime. Shade provided by trees can reduce your air conditioning bill by 10-15%. Consider growing fruit trees or plant

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"The American people have a right to air that they and their children can breathe without fear."

— *Lyndon Baines Johnson*

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Green Ideas

It's easy to liven up your table by nestling a few pressed leaves between two sheer tablecloths, as shown at the right. A few days before the party, snip several leaves from a garden or houseplant, and place them between the pages of a large book, protecting the book with sheets of tissue paper. After 48 hours, remove the leaves and randomly scatter them between the cloths, making sure to leave empty spaces for the place settings.



Boston ferns are shown here but other leaves such as palm, basil or ivy works just as well.

Create a spectacular display with coleus' colorful leaves. This easy-growing annual makes a great houseplant, too!



Coleus is used here, but any colorful leaf or flower can be used.

Source: *Better Homes and Gardens* (www.bhg.com)

Earth Day Celebrates 40 Years! *(Continued from page 1)*

a garden so that you can eat what you grow and avoid trips to the grocery store. Compost or vermicompost your table scraps to reduce landfill waste and help your garden thrive.

- ☺ turn off lights when you leave a room and keep the thermostat at 70 degrees or lower in cold weather months, 78 degrees or higher in the warm weather months. You can save about 3% on heating costs for every degree you reduce your thermostat setting. Turn down your water heater or purchase an Energy Star water heater. Water heating accounts for about 13% of home energy costs. Contact your local energy company for tips. Enable your computer monitor's energy saving features when in use. Turn off your computer equipment

at night and at other times when not in use.

- ☺ leave your car at home at least one day a week. If you can cut your vehicle miles traveled by just 5% through combining trips, walking, biking, or taking public transportation, you can save up to \$100 per year on gasoline costs. You can also reduce one pound of greenhouse gas emissions by eliminating just one mile of driving.
- ☺ help reduce your carbon footprint by reusing a water bottle to eliminate waste. If residents purchased a water filtration system for their tap water instead of buying bottled water, they would substantially reduce environmental costs. Manufacturing aluminum, plastic and glass containers from raw materials requires enormous

amounts of energy, resulting in massive carbon emissions. But making containers from recycled materials uses far less energy – 95% less in the case of aluminum cans.

- ☺ recycling California Refund Value (CRV) beverage containers is one of the easiest things people can do to live sustainably. Recycling conserves resources and saves energy. Think about this: A California family of four, on average, will consume more than 2,000 CRV beverage containers in one year, worth more than \$100 in CRV.

In the first six months of 2008, Californians recycled 7.6 billion bottles and cans. In terms of energy savings, that's like taking 263,000 cars off the road for a year!

Spotlight: Chaparral High School, Phelan



Chaparral High School ASB cleans up the Campus

Students, teachers, and administrators at Chaparral High School had been noticing a large amount of waste during the past several years especially when it came to aluminum cans. Many thought that the removal of the campus soda machines in 2008 would resolve this issue and improve the school's eco footprint at the same time. However, after observing that students bring their cans and many plastic bottles to school from their homes, the Associated Student Body (ASB) requested a recycling



container from the County of San Bernardino Solid Waste Management Division and received a recycling station with six 32-gallon collection bins.

Since receiving the recycling station, ASB students have worked with the general student body as well as the custodial staff to ensure that cans and bottles from classrooms, the cafeteria, and other office locations are collected and recycled in the station.

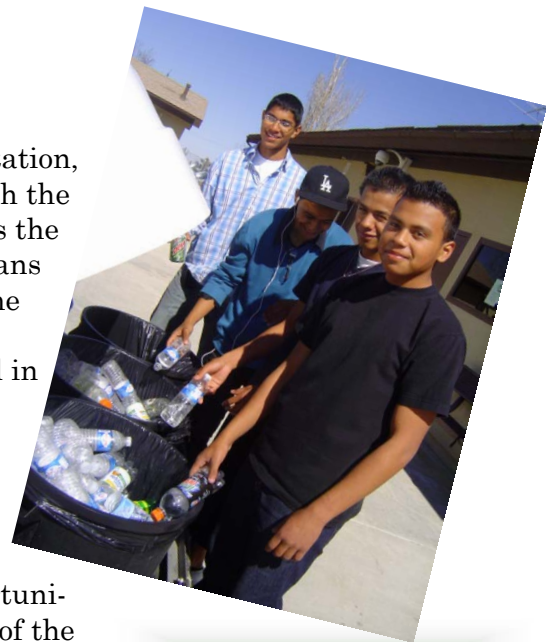
As a result, ASB is capturing about \$80 dollars per week. This money goes into the ASB fund and the money itself is recycled into meaningful opportunities for all students at the end of the year; parties and barbeques or



sports equipment for intramural sports on campus.

Research conducted by Chaparral ASB students found: "The 35 billion aluminum cans sent to landfills last year had a scrap value of more the \$600 million. (Some day we'll be mining our landfills for the resources we've buried)".) www.oberlin.edu/recycle/facts.html

Also, "recycling one aluminum, can saves enough energy to run a 100-watt bulb for 20 hours, a computer for three hours, or a TV for two hours". EPA, 2008



Chaparral High School ASB cleans up the Campus

Finally, "recycling aluminum saves 95% of the energy needed to produce new aluminum from raw materials. Energy saved from recycling one ton of aluminum is equal to the amount of electricity the average home uses over 10 years." *Keep America Beautiful, 2006.*

ASB Staff



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Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Buy
Recycle, Compost



The County of San Bernardino Solid Waste Management Division (SWMD) is responsible for the operation and management of the County of San Bernardino's solid waste disposal system which consists of six regional landfills, eight transfer stations and two community collection centers. The County contracts with Burrtec Waste Industries for disposal site operations and maintenance. Also, the Division 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

SWMD offers many services to schools, residents, organizations, local governments and businesses. Find out how we can offer assistance in waste reduction, recycling and reuse activities by visiting our website www.sbcounty.gov/dpw/solidwaste or call 1.800.722.8004.



Waste Reduction and Recycling and Composting Events

SWMD staff promotes business, residential and school waste reduction, recycling and reuse awareness as part of its Public Education Outreach Programs at fairs, schools, conferences, etc.

Stop by and visit us at the following venues:

Saturday, April 10

Earth Day Celebration

11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Cucamonga Valley Water Districts
Frontier Project
10435 Ashford Street
Rancho Cucamonga

Saturday, April 17

*Conservation & Earth Day
Celebration*

9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Town of Yucca Valley
57090 29 Palms Hwy, Yucca Valley

Saturday, April 24

Earth Day 2010: 40th Anniversary

Conserving Our Planet

10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Desert Discovery Center
831 Barstow Rd, Barstow

Saturday, May 1

Happy "MRF" Day

8:00 a.m.— Noon

Victor Valley MRF
(Material Recovery Facility)
17000 Abbey Ln, Victorville

Saturday, May 22

SBSD Mud Run 2010

9:00 a.m.

Sheriff's Training Academy

Celebrate Public Works Event

11 a.m. – 5 p.m.

San Bernardino County Museum
2024 Orange Tree Lane, Redlands

Saturday, May 8

Seventh Annual Wildfire

Awareness Day

10:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

Mountain Hardware Parking Lot
Highway 2, Wrightwood

Saturday, June 5

Composting Workshop

10:00 am – 11:00 am

ACE Garden Center
23914 Lake Drive, Crestline



Saturday, April 10 is County

Wide Community Cleanup and
Recycling Day

