

Beverage Container Recycling Program

Winter Issue

December 2007

— This issue has helpful tips for your everyday life — follow even a few and you'll be giving Mother Earth a great gift!

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"Progress from now on has to mean something different."

—Robert Redford

What is the Program



North Shore Elementary, Big Bear City

portunity for schools and non-profit community organizations to generate extra funds for their programs and activities and educate our citizens of the importance and benefits of recycling. SWMD provides receptacles, signs and promotional/educational support materials to help launch the program.

The primary goal of the recycling program is to achieve an 80 percent recycling rate for all aluminum, glass, plastic and bimetal beverage containers sold in California, thereby reduc-

The County of San Bernardino Solid Waste Management Division (SWMD) developed this program for the unincorporated areas of San Bernardino County to increase California Refund Value (CRV) beverage container recycling and litter abatement 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 op-



Serrano High School, Phelan

ing the beverage container component of litter in the state.

To date, SWMD has successfully established 27 beverage container recycling programs; which includes 13 schools.



California Refund Value (CRV)

Consumers pay CRV (California Refund Value) when they purchase beverages from a retailer, which is refunded when they redeem the containers at a recycling center. Effective January 1, 2007, CRV paid to consumers when they recycle containers at recycling centers increased to 5¢ for each beverage container less than 24 ounces and 10¢ for each container 24 ounces or greater.

Recycle.
It's good
for the bottle.

It's good for the
can.

Fact: Californians bought more than 20 billion carbonated and non-

carbonated drinks in aluminum, glass, plastic and bi-metal containers last year. More than 12 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 8 billion!

More information can be found at California Department of Conservation Division of Recycling at www.consrv.ca.gov and www.bottlesandcans.com or to find a recycling center near you call 1.800.RECYCLE .

Visit SWMD at www.sbcounty.gov/wsd.

If you have questions on recycling materials other than (CRV) beverage containers, visit the California Integrated Waste Management Board at www.ciwmb.ca.gov.

Did you know: Five PET bottles (plastic soda bottles) yield enough fiber for one extra large T-shirt, one square foot of carpet or enough fiber fill to fill one ski jacket.



**NEW
RECYCLING
REFUNDS
ARE 5¢ & 10¢**
bottlesandcans.com

Spotlight: Rim of the World High School, Lake Arrowhead Special Day Class & WorkAbility

To earn money for class projects, the Special Day Class of Charlene Swanson, in conjunction with WorkAbility teamed up to recycle on campus.

For this year \$1,289.01 has been raised. On Fridays the students collect cans and plastics from the large recycle bins that were provided by SWMD. They then go to another class room that has a sink and they sort the cans

from the plastic and re-bag them. The sink is used to discard any fluid left in the bottles and cans. The WorkAbility Specialist takes the cans and bottles to the recycling center located on the mountain and redeems them for cash. They then split the earnings. **The Special Day**

Class (SDC) used their earnings for birthday parties and field trips. Last year they went to Olvera St. on the Metro link. Other field trips included: Aquarium of The Pacific, Big Bear Zoo, and Discovery Park in Big Bear, and S.B. County Museum. Students also learn some

social skills in their class room and put on a luncheon for the staff at Rim High. They made yummy chicken enchiladas for Cinco de Mayo and decorated their



“Everyone wins”
-Karen Webb



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Spotlight: Rim of the World High School, Lake Arrowhead Special Day Class & WorkAbility

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room with festive flowers. **WorkAbility** serves the special education students at Rim High by helping to provide work skills to Sp. Ed. students. WorkAbility uses their money to participate in a scholarship to a special education student. Also, if a student is unable to buy a cap and gown or



Children's Forest, Running Springs

tassel WorkAbility can help in that way. Sometimes a student needs to get to work and WorkAbility purchases a bus ticket for them. Food Handlers Class is also covered if a student needs assistance with the cost. The students learn some valuable work skills, i.e. working as a team, staying on task, learning to pick up the pace, keeping the area clean, and being polite and learning social skills. Everyone wins - Karen Webb.

The SDC class went on a field trip to Children's Forest. Comments: **Akyl** "I liked the hike the best", **Jeremy** "I liked the picnic", **Misty** "I liked looking for animals", **Hannah** "I liked seeing the birds". The students recently visited West Valley Material Recovery Facility. Comments: "What are they going to do with all the toys"



West Valley Material Recovery Facility, Fontana

Make it a Special "Green" Holiday

The days following the holidays are major "hauling" days for our trash collectors. Paper products already create over 30% of California's solid waste stream. During the holiday seasons, the average household generates between 3-10 bags of excess waste. However, there are many ways to reduce holiday waste without reducing the holiday spirit.



By following these helpful hints, you'll be giving Mother Earth a great gift!

REDUCE instead of using disposable paper products such as towels, napkins, plates and cups for your holiday festivities, use cloth towels and napkins, washable plates, glasses, and silverware. Purchase products in bulk quantities, like 2 liter bottles of soft drinks instead of single cans, this reduces excessive packaging.

REUSE purchase an artificial tree that can be stored and reuse every year. Decorate with garlands of popcorn and cranberries, which can be fed to birds. When you shop bring along a reusable tote bag instead of collecting paper/plastic shopping bags from each merchant. Instead of using Christmas wrap try the Sunday comics.

RECYCLE your Christmas cards by giving them to local pre-schools for children's crafts or cut them for next year's gift tags. If you receive new appliances, toys, clothes and/or games, donate your old ones to a church or foster home. And remember to recycle those extra cardboard boxes and beverage containers!

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For more waste reduction
information, workshop locations
and dates, disposal sites and
hours, call 1.800.722.8004

We're on the Web!
www.sbcounty.gov/wsd



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.

Our mission is to minimize waste disposal by encouraging waste prevention, reuse and recycling while ensuring environmentally sound solid waste handling services.

More Ways To Reduce Waste (at little or no cost)

The SWMD offers many services to assist residents, community groups and businesses in reducing waste.

- ◆ Beverage Container Recycling Program
- ◆ Disposal Site Diversion Program
- ◆ Business Waste Reduction Assessments
- ◆ Business Waste Reduction Education
- ◆ Business Recycling Guide
- ◆ Composting Workshops and Bins
- ◆ Curbside Recycling
- ◆ Commercial Recycling
- ◆ Construction /Demolition Waste Recycling Guide & Directory
- ◆ SBCountyMAX listing assistance
- ◆ Business and School Recycling Rewards
- ◆ Special Presentations (Schools, Associations, and other Public Forums)

Make it a Special "Green" Holiday

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Why not make it a "green" New Year too!

Make a resolution to reduce, reuse and recycle as much as you can in 2008! Start by finding out where your local recycling center is and which materials you can take there to recycle.

Let's all do our part and make Zero Waste happen!