

Beverage Container Recycling Newsletter

June 2012

SPOTLIGHT: Friends of Big Morongo Canyon Preserve

The Big Morongo Canyon Preserve was designated an Area of Critical Environmental Concern by the Bureau of Land Management in 1980 and “nestled among the Little San Bernardino Mountains” (see [Map](#)). It is one of the 10 largest cottonwood and willow riparian (stream) habitats in California. The Morongo Fault runs through the canyon causing water draining from the surrounding mountains into the Big Morongo Creek and marshlands.

The Preserve is managed by the Bureau of Land Management, including 147 acres that are managed under a cooperative agreement with San Bernardino County, to protect rare and endangered wildlife, enhance sen-

sitive riparian zones, promote the growth and restoration of a wide variety of plants, and offer educational opportunities. There are numerous trails to walk and hike, including a wheelchair-accessible boardwalk through the marsh and riparian habitats.

The Preserve is open daily throughout the year--from 7:30 am to sunset--but the ideal months to visit are in the fall, winter, and spring seasons. Admission is free but donations are welcomed.

The Preserve joined the CRV Beverage Container Program in October 2002 and is one of the longest running programs. Proceeds from the collection of recyclables helps to support the many wonderful programs that they have to offer including bird walks, hiking, and educational outreach spanning many



topics such as desert ecology, land forms and water cycles.

Park Host & Administrator Betty Zeller states, “The recycling program helps to support the many programs at the preserve.”

The preserve has recycled over 2,000 pounds of CRV containers so far in 2012. Last year, the preserve recycled over 2,500 pounds! We are pleased to have the Friends of the Big Morongo Canyon Preserve on board and look forward to many more years of recycling success stories!

Inside this issue:

Spotlight	1
CRV Profiles	2
Closing	4



Special Points of Interest:

- California law allows you the option of being paid based on count instead of weight for up to 50 empty beverage containers of each material type.
- This means you can bring up to 50 aluminum, 50 glass, 50 plastic, and 50 bi-metal California Redemption Value (CRV) containers in a single visit and request to be paid by count.
- Recycling centers are required to comply with this rule, found in the California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Chapter 5, Section 2535 (b), and thus pay you the full CRV redemption of 5 cents or 10 cents on each container. Just be sure that you inform the site attendant of your load content and how you would like to receive payment **before** you hand over your load.
- www.calrecycle.ca.gov/BevContainer/



CRV PROFILES

“Because we don't think about future generations, they will never forget us.”

~Henrik Tikkanen

Mr. Tikkanen (1924-1984) was a Finnish author.

Glass: A Great Reusable Resource



Glass is made up of silica sand, soda ash, limestone, alumina-silicate and salt-cake. Mix them all together and place them into a very hot furnace and it is melted down into glass. Glass can be reused over

and over again which saves energy and resources. Recycled glass tends to melt at lower temperatures than new materials so it does not take as much heat up the furnace.

Some facts from the CalRecycle on glass state:

- The oldest known examples are from Egyptian beads dating from 12,000B.C.
- All Newly purchased glass food jars contain

at least 35% recycled glass.

- It takes more than a million years for glass to break down naturally. It takes a lot of pounding and crushing to break it down.
- It takes 8-12 weeks for a glass container to be recycled.
- The majority of glass recovered in the US is used to make new containers. Some is used in fiberglass and some for “glasphalt” for highway construction.

Aluminum: The Silver Colored Recycler

Aluminum is made from bauxite ore and all types can be recycled. It can be reused over and over again without losing any of its characteristic attributes.

- Discovered in the 1820's and is considered one of the most abundant metals used.
- It takes upwards of 500 years for aluminum to decompose in a landfill.
- Americans throw enough aluminum away every 3 months to rebuild all of the coun-

try's commercial air fleets.

- Throwing away one aluminum can wastes as much energy as pouring out half of that can's volume of gasoline.
- Nearly 120,000 cans are recycled every minute in the US.
- Recycling one aluminum can saves enough energy to light up a 100-watt light bulb for 4 hours or run a TV for 3 hours.

- Aluminum is recycled into new containers, pie plates, thumbtacks, and aluminum foil.
- An aluminum can returns to the shelf for sale in as little as 90 days.





PET Plastic: The all purpose container

Plastic water bottles are labeled with a 1 (see picture to the right). This type of plastic is called polyethylene terephthalate or PET and is mainly used for soft drinks, water, juice, peanut butter containers, household cleaners and various other bottles. PET 1 is lightweight, inexpensive, shatter resistant, resalable and recyclable.

- PET was patented by Nathaniel Wyeth in 1973 and the first bottle to be recycled was in 1977.

- In 1960 a one-gallon plastic milk container weighted 120 grams. Today it is just 65 grams.
- 10% of the average grocery bill pays for packaging (mostly paper and plastics).
- Recycling a ton of PET containers saves about 7.4 cubic yards of land-fill space.
- Every year, Americans make enough plastic film to shrink-wrap the state of Texas.

- Recycled PET can be used to make carpet, fabric, T-shirts, shoes, sweaters, coats, luggage, fiberfill for sleeping bags and even toys!



A BIG THANKS TO CALRECYCLE FOR THE CRV BEVERAGE CONTAINER FACTS PROVIDED IN THIS NEWSLETTER. YOU CAN VIEW MORE INFORMATION AT WWW.CALRECYCLE.CA.GOV



DEPARTMENT OF RESOURCES RECYCLING AND RECOVERY
(CALRECYCLE)

What is California Refund Value?

California Refund Value (CRV) is the amount paid by consumers at the checkout stand and paid back to consumers when they recycle eligible aluminum, plastic, glass and bi-metal beverage containers at certified recycling centers. The minimum refund value established for each type of eligible beverage container is 5 cents for each container under 24 ounces and 10 cents for each container 24 ounces or greater.



Hall of Records
222 W. Hospitality Ln. 2nd Fl
San Bernardino, CA 92415-0017

Phone: 909-386-8968
Fax: 909-386-8964
E-mail:
erika.ellis@dpw.sbcounty.gov

The County of San Bernardino, Department of Public Works, Solid Waste Management Division (SWMD), has developed this program to increase beverage container recycling, thereby helping the environment and keeping unnecessary waste out of landfills. Focusing on beverage container recycling, the program presents an opportunity for schools and community organizations to generate extra funds for their programs/activities.

The goals of the program are to increase beverage container recycling, provide students and citizens an opportunity to help the environment, and provide a program with revenue generating support. For more information, contact SWMD.

We're on the web!

Visit our website at

www.sbcounty.gov/dpw/solidwaste



As many of you know by now, the previous coordinator of the CRV Beverage Container Recycling Program, Ms. Chayo Valenzuela, has moved on to the next stage of her life.

Chayo started this program back in 2000 with the first grant from CalRecycle and grew the program to over 30 participating schools and community organizations in the program today.

We all want to wish her well and to have lots of fun in her new endeavors! Thanks for all your support and work on this program!!!

