



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

News Release

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Recycling Helps Improve City of San Diego Recreation Facilities in South San Diego County

SAN DIEGO, CA—The City of San Diego's Environmental Services Department (ESD) presented a \$1,956.77 check to representatives of city recreation councils on February 9, 2006. The Montgomery-Waller, Robert Egger Sr./South Bay Recreation Center, and the San Ysidro Senior Center were recognized for their efforts to help reduce trash generated by city residents.

ESD Deputy Director Kip Sturdevan presented the check to recreation council members John Borja, Wayne Dickey, Jose C. Flores, Marylyn Kitchens, John Menard, and Diego Padilla.

The donation, presented at the Montgomery-Waller Recreation Center, represents one year of revenue generated from the sale of recyclable materials collected at city Park and Recreation Department recycling drop-off locations in City Council District Eight, represented by Councilmember Ben Hueso.

In 2005, visitors to the Council District's three recycling centers deposited 142,721 pounds of recyclable plastic and glass beverage containers along with aluminum cans, newspapers, cardboard, office paper, catalogs, magazines and mixed paper.

"Recycling at city Park and Recreation drop-off locations gives back to the community and stretches the life of the Miramar Landfill," said Elmer L. Heap Jr., director of the city's Environmental Services Department. "The city's only landfill could fill to capacity in approximately six years, and it is imperative that we divert waste from entering the landfill to conserve landfill space."

Recycling drop-off locations in Council District Eight are among 44 drop-off sites within the city's park system currently participating in the ESD recycling program. The revenue from recyclables collected at each site goes back to that site.

Since 1992, the program has diverted approximately 15,000 tons of recyclables from disposal at the Miramar Landfill and earned \$820,872 in revenue from the sale of recyclables. The materials deposited at each center have helped purchase items at the recreation facilities such as jerseys and trophies for youth leagues, gymnastics mats, tennis court nets, table tennis equipment, benches for basketball courts, brochures, and funded special events such as spring egg hunts.

For information about the city's recycling programs, please call the Environmental Services Department at (858) 694-7000 or visit www.sandiego.gov/environmental-services/. Facts on the importance of recycling in San Diego may be found at www.RecycleOrElse.com. For general information about the city's parks and recreation centers, go to www.sandiego.gov/park-and-recreation/index.shtml.

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