



CITY OF SAN DIEGO ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

MULTI-FAMILY RECYCLING

Dear Property Manager or Owner,

The City of San Diego Environmental Services Department (ESD) would like to help you recycle more. As you know, recycling is very important in our community for a number of reasons. First, local landfill capacity is quickly diminishing. At current capacity, the City-operated Miramar Landfill is expected to close in 2012. Secondly, the State of California mandates that we recycle 50% of our waste or face possible fines of \$10,000/day. We need your help to extend the life of the Miramar Landfill, reduce the risk of State fines and improve our local and global environment.

By recycling more you not only help the local environment but the global environment as well since recycling saves resources and energy, reduces pollution and creates more jobs. New products made from recycled materials:

- save precious and limited natural resources such as oil;
- take less energy to produce than products made from virgin materials; and
- produce far less water, air and land pollution.

In addition, recycling and the production of goods from recycled material generates jobs, which in turn helps local, national and global economies.

And guess what? Recycling can save you money as well. Here's how:

Studies show that approximately 67 percent of waste generated at multi-family complexes is material that can be recycled. If this material is recycled instead of thrown in the trash, the disposal tonnage is reduced, and so is the cost. The table below gives an example of how much savings recycling can represent in your waste disposal bill.

According to studies done by ESD, "household" recyclables make up $\frac{1}{4}$ of the volume of disposed material in multi-family complexes, and yard waste makes up another $\frac{1}{4}$ of the total volume. The average recycling services range from $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ of the cost of trash services in the same complex, and in some cases, can even be free of charge.

For example: A complex currently has 10 trash dumpsters serviced three times a week at a weekly cost of \$375 (approximately \$12.50 per trash dumpster pick-up). If two of the trash dumpsters are turned into "household" recycling dumpsters at \$9.30 per pick up (3/4 of trash pick-up cost), it will decrease the waste disposal bill to \$346 per week, representing an approximate annual savings of \$1,512.

Estimated costs for waste disposal and recycling in a multi-family complex with 10 trash dumpsters serviced 3 times a week

SERVICES	NUMBER OF 3-CUBIC YARD DUMPSTERS	FREQUENCY OF SERVICES/WEEK	TOTAL WEEKLY COST
Current Situation – Only Trash	10	3	\$375.00
Household recyclables	3	3	\$ 83.70
Trash	7	3	\$262.50

Approximate savings on refuse hauling services
Weekly \$375 - \$346 = \$29 Monthly = \$112 Yearly = \$1,512

ISN'T RECYCLING WORTHY OF YOUR EFFORTS?

Enclosed are materials to help you on your way to increasing recycling. Please find:

- a pamphlet showing different types of containers that can be used in your recycling program
- a pamphlet showing examples of successful multi-family recycling programs
- a list of the City of San Diego franchised trash haulers
- a list of some local recyclers
- a template of a sign to promote the recycling program in your complex

ESD recycling specialists are available to assist you in the implementation of your program. Please join the effort to reduce waste, preserve resources, decrease pollution in the City of San Diego, and at the same time, save the City's valuable Miramar Landfill.

Thank you for your help.

For more information please call
The City of San Diego Environmental Services Department at
(858) 694-7000
or visit our website at
www.sandiego.gov/environmental-services