



## CITY OF SAN DIEGO ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT MULTI-FAMILY RECYCLING

# Key Players in a Recycling Program

### An effective multi-family recycling program involves:

1. Owner / Property Manager/HOA
2. Residents
3. Maintenance Staff
4. Haulers



The manager is probably the best person to coordinate and implement the recycling program. However, a resident or a group of residents may help with the efforts. When residents are included and are enthusiastic about the recycling program they are more likely to participate and motivate other residents to also do so.

There are many creative and unique ways to involve the residents. The California Department of Conservation reports on a very successful residential program in the City of Napa. Two large apartment complexes have two kids out of a rotating group that are paid \$15 each week to collect recyclables from residents and take them to large recycling containers. An adult resident monitors the kids and controls the rotation. The program is a great success on the two complexes and very popular with the kids.



If residents collect the recyclables and take them to a buy back center, the money can be used to help the HOA or even with some residents' social events. For a list of buy back centers close to your complex please check the City of San Diego Environmental Services Department Recycling Guide (part of your initial package) or at our website at [www.sandiego.gov/environmental-services/recycling/pdf/recycguide.pdf](http://www.sandiego.gov/environmental-services/recycling/pdf/recycguide.pdf).

A Spanish version of the Guide is also available at the website.



Maintenance staff has also a fundamental role on the program's success. They are the best monitors for contamination, and can assist on determining the best location for the containers. They are also responsible for keeping the area clean and sometimes, moving the containers on collection days.



The role of the trash hauler or recycler is extremely important. Start with the current trash hauler, but don't stop there. Look for options on different programs, containers, types of collection and prices. Depending on the amount and quality of recyclables (no contamination), and on the complex's location in an already existing route, there are cases when certain recyclers will collect the recyclables for free. Look at the City of San Diego's list of franchised trash haulers and recyclers in your initial package. It pays off to check it out!!! The list of haulers and recyclers can also be accessed at our website:

### List of Recyclers

[www.sandiego.gov/environmentalservices/recycling/pdf/businessrecycling.pdf](http://www.sandiego.gov/environmentalservices/recycling/pdf/businessrecycling.pdf)

### List of Franchise Haulers

[www.sandiego.gov/environmental-services/miramar/haulers.shtml](http://www.sandiego.gov/environmental-services/miramar/haulers.shtml)

### ***Haulers benefit from providing your complex with recycling services by:***

1. Keeping your account if they are your current trash hauler
2. Revenues from recyclables
3. Learn from you how to improve services
4. Referrals on future customers



### ***You should expect from a hauler:***

1. Accurate information and assistance to help you set up and maintain the program, or a referral to another hauler or recycler that can do it
2. Proper collection containers for your specific needs
3. Education material for residents
4. Monthly feedback on the amount and quality of recyclable materials collected
5. In the case of large complexes, a reduction on trash bill



Some non-profit organizations such as churches, youth groups, community groups, etc., may collect the recyclables for free and use the revenue generated for charitable works in your community.

**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](http://www.sandiego.gov/environmental-services)**