

The Club Torrey Pines Apartment Homes

12646 Torrey Bluff Dr.
San Diego, 92130

The Club Torrey Pines Apartment Homes is a 400-unit apartment complex managed by Douglas Allred Company. The complex has a very diverse population, with families from a variety of countries and distinct cultures, which enhanced the outreach challenges that property manager Deborah Sabo Western and her staff faced during the implementation and maintenance of the recycling program.



The complex had twelve enclosures, with one three cubic yard trash and one cubic yard recycling dumpsters paired inside. Although convenient located, in some enclosures the containers had the same color, poor access and there were no recycling signage with pictures of materials that should be recycled.

After receiving technical assistance from the City of San Diego's Environmental Specialists, the complex changed the colors of their recycling and trash dumpsters, added signage to its enclosures with pictures of what materials should be recycled, sent letters to residents notifying about the City Recycling Ordinance and with pictures of items that should be recycled. As a result, their enclosures were kept cleaner, with less litter on the ground, less dumpsters overflowing, and less recyclables inside the trash dumpsters.

These small changes generated impressive results, with greater residents' participation in the recycling program. The complex went from 36 to 48 cubic yards of recycling collection per week. Due to the high volume of move-ins and move-outs, the property has not been able to decrease the frequency of trash services. However, all residents are more aware of the recycling program and continue to increase their participation in the program.



Property manager Deborah Sabo Western and Maintenance Supervisor Mark Silva, receiving the May 2011 City of San Diego Recycler of Month Award on behalf of The Club Torrey Pines Apartment Homes.