



Help Manhattan Beach save through recycling

Help yourself and the City of Manhattan Beach save dollars through recycling! Each time you place plastic bottles, paper, and other recyclable products in the blue recycling cart instead of the trash can, you are helping to keep costs down. What many people don't realize is that the cost for disposing trash in landfills goes up as landfill space diminishes. Throwing away less and recycling more helps keep landfill costs down and your refuse rates down.

The City of Manhattan Beach expanded its recycling program in 2003 to include free commercial recycling and free residential curbside recycling through its hauler, Waste Management. "The results of our new programs are impressive," says Steve Didier, Senior Analyst for the city's Public Works Department. "In 2003 we nearly tripled the tonnage diverted through our residential greenwaste recycling (grass clippings, tree trimmings, etc.), and residential

curbside recycling tonnage is up almost forty percent."

But Didier says more needs to be done to reach city's goal of reaching 50% diversion. "We'll be working closely with Waste Management this year to expand commercial recycling. Many businesses don't realize that free recycling means they can save money. If they reduce the number of trash containers they use and/or decrease the frequency of collection they'll save some serious cash. All they have to do is get a free recycling cart or bin and use it."

And who doesn't want to save money these days. Manhattan Beach residents and businesses can request free recycling carts or bins (a.k.a. dumpsters) by calling Waste Management at (310) 830-7100. For more information on Manhattan Beach solid waste and recycling programs, please contact the Public Works Department at (310) 802-5303 or visit the city's website at www.citymb.info.

Urban runoff

Walk along any beach in California and along with the shrift wood and sand crabs you'll find it. Plastic. From the water bloated bags posing as jelly fish to the sadly ironic 'clam shell' burger box. And virtually everywhere the ubiquitous styrofoam pellet.

Long recognized as an esthetic irritant, new research is confirming what many have long suspected: plastic litter and waste is posing increasingly deadly threat to wildlife and the marine environment.

An estimated 14 billion pounds of garbage makes its way into the marine environment each year. While international policies in the last decade have significantly curbed the direct dumping of trash into the oceans, little is being done to address the primary source: land-based storm water-runoff.

Every year Southern California rainstorms flush thousands of pounds of accumulated litter and trash into the regions outdated and overwhelmed storm drain system. Much of the resulting flotsam is pushed into the ocean via the Los Angeles and San Gabriel Rivers.

While all litter is problematic plastic poses the most dire and dangerous hazards to wildlife through ingestion and entanglement. According to the Marine Mammal Commission 2

marine species have been reported entangled in or having ingested marine debris including 86 percent of all sea turtle species, 44 percent of all sea bird species, and 43 percent of marine mammal species. Plastic constricts the animals' movements, or kills marine animals through starvation, exhaustion, or infection from deep wounds caused by tightening material.

New research, conducted by Algalita Marine Research Foundation's (AMRF) Captain Charles Moore, and the Southern California Coastal Water Research Program, found alarming amount of plastic, an average of 334,27 pieces per square mile.

"Day after day I would go on deck, and no matter when I was standing there, I would see obje

Recycle for Breast Cancer helps dispose of E-waste all year long

Now individuals as well as organizations of any size can easily recycle cell phones, inkjet cartridges and toner cartridges to help raise funds to support the fight against breast cancer with a free, online program.

RFBC announces a no-cost fundraising program to benefit The Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation San Francisco Bay Area Affiliate that everyone can participate in.

Every day millions of old cell phones and empty printer cartridges are thrown away and end up in our nation's landfills. The Recycle for Breast Cancer program collects these cartridges, prepares them for recycling while raising money to help support breast cancer research. For every cartridge and cell phone collected through this program a donation is made to The Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation San Francisco Bay Area Affiliate.

Program Manager, Larry Behrens, says "This program is an opportunity for anyone to support a great cause and help protect the environment at the same time. It has two great benefits - we are raising money to fight breast cancer while providing a much needed recycling service to the community. The best part of the program is that anyone can participate without incurring any cost!"

RFBC has developed an online collection program

that allows individuals as well as businesses to participate by donating cell phones and printer cartridges. Free prepaid shipping labels or boxes are provided.

The program has been very successful because what we are asking for most people consider being trash. In today's economic environment collecting financial contributions is very difficult.

Using www.recycleforbreastcancer.com you can

request shipping materials, collection bins and other marketing materials to make your collection efforts a success.

About the Komen San Francisco Bay Area Affiliate

The San Francisco Bay Area Affiliate of The Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation is a volunteer organization devoted to raising and allocating funds for breast cancer research, education and awareness, screening and treatment programs in the nine Bay Area counties. We accomplish this through the Race for the Cure®, Pink Tie Ball, individual donors, corporate contributions and Recycle for Breast Cancer.

About RFBC

Since 2002 RFBC has been collecting e-waste to help raise funds to support the fight against breast cancer. For more

information about the Recycle for Breast Cancer program go to www.recycleforbreastcancer.com.

