

A dark silhouette of a person in a starting crouch, positioned on the left side of the slide.

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Office of Solid Waste**

# What is Recycle on the Go?

- ◆ An EPA initiative to provide technical assistance and work with government agencies and large venues to introduce recycling programs in public places.

# Why Recycle on the Go?

- ◆ Curbside programs focus on at home generation
- ◆ Public should come to expect that recycling is as convenient and available as “disposal” is
- ◆ Provide consistent message to the public about the value of recyclable materials
- ◆ A national effort is needed to ensure that recyclables are collected where they are generated

# Recycle on the Go Objectives

- ◆ Encourage a recycling infrastructure for recycling in public places
- ◆ Increase the amount of material collected for recycling
- ◆ Promote a culture of recycling by making it convenient, available and cost effective

# Recycle On the Go Activities

- ◆ Work with government agencies, trade associations and large venues: NPS, FHWA, ICSC, CIC, SMA, NFL
- ◆ Support state, municipality activities to conduct public place recycling
- ◆ Develop website [www.epa.gov/recycleonthego](http://www.epa.gov/recycleonthego)
- ◆ Develop success studies, fact sheets and recycling guides for our targeted sectors

# Venues and Special Events

- ◆ Convention Centers
- ◆ Stadiums
- ◆ Transportation
- ◆ Parks
- ◆ Shopping Centers
- ◆ Special Events

# Convention Centers

- ◆ San Francisco's Moscone Center diverted 75% of its waste.
- ◆ Orange County Convention Center saved over \$80,000 through its recycling program
- ◆ The Roanoke Civic Center saved over 25% in trash removal due to its recycling program.

# Stadiums

- ◆ In 2004, AT&T Park (formerly SBC Park) recycled 1,760 tons (56% diversion rate) and saved \$100,000 on garbage disposal costs.
- ◆ Qualcomm stadium recycled 66 tons of material in 2006, and generated \$10,000 in recyclable materials



# Special Events

- ◆ Lowell Folk Festival had a diversion rate of 95% in 2003.
- ◆ The Delaware State Fair collected 7,470 pounds of materials for recycling.

# Local Government Opportunities

- ◆ Ordinances
- ◆ Technical Assistance
- ◆ Provide bins and other equipment
- ◆ Assist in obtaining volunteers
- ◆ Develop best practices guide
- ◆ Permits – recycling plan/report
- ◆ Media/Publicity Assistance

# Pittsburgh, PA

- ◆ Ordinance with guidelines for special events of over 200 individuals per day. Offer recycling assistance, such as providing recycling containers and small trailers.
- ◆ Helps collect materials, but event organizers are responsible for providing volunteers or staff for proper maintenance and supervision of the containers during the event. The city may use 9-cubic-yard trailers or rear-loading dumpsters.



# Boise, Idaho

- ◆ In 2001:
  - ◆ Provided technical assistance
  - ◆ Bins and liner bags
  - ◆ Hauler services
  - ◆ Volunteers
  
- ◆ In 2007:
  - ◆ Reduced assistance
  - ◆ Partnered with Boise State University Environmental Health Club to assist six largest events





# Event Planning Basics

- ✦ Assign a waste and recycling coordinator
- ✦ Evaluate waste stream
- ✦ Determine materials recyclable in local market
- ✦ Develop integrated waste management plan
- ✦ Work with haulers and materials processors to set up collection and transportation
- ✦ Determine collection stations, bins and signs
- ✦ Provide for a staging area to collect recyclables
- ✦ Recruit volunteers to help with recycling
- ✦ Invite vendors, haulers, volunteers and community members to planning meetings
- ✦ Publicize recycling before, during and after the event

# Work with Vendors

- ◆ Send letter to vendors asking them to reduce packaging and participate in recycling.
- ◆ Invite vendors to planning meetings, make sure they understand recycling program and are on board.
- ◆ Provide recycling bins, signage and educational materials (e.g., posters) to vendors.



# Actions Vendors Can Take

- ◆ Limit use of disposables (plasticware, napkins, etc.).
- ◆ Use "pump" condiment dispensers (refillable) instead of small packets.
- ◆ Keep napkins behind counter, provide only one per person and consider purchasing smaller napkins.
- ◆ Offer a reusable drink container and discounted refills.
- ◆ Do not dispense straws or lids.
- ◆ Use reusable containers to transport food to the festival site.
- ◆ Save food waste for animal consumption or composting.
- ◆ Donate leftovers to area shelters.
- ◆ Use non-toxic cleaners and buy cleaners in bulk, or use concentrates.
- ◆ Ask your suppliers to transport products without corrugated boxes, or in reusable boxes.
- ◆ Share little used items with neighboring vendors.

# Work with Hauler

- ◆ Will hauler provide recycling bins?
- ◆ How many dumpsters will be needed and how often will they be emptied?
- ◆ What is an acceptable contamination level for each recyclable material?
- ◆ How is the cost determined?
- ◆ Require reporting on amounts of each material and contamination rates

# Recycling Bins

- ◆ Place a trash can next to each recycling bin.
- ◆ Recycling bin lids should only allow the recyclables to enter.
- ◆ Clearly indicate what can be recycled on each side of the bin.
- ◆ Clearly label trash cans.
- ◆ Use signage above the bins so their location can be seen from a distance.
- ◆ Distribute the bins throughout the event, placing more in high-traffic and food service areas.
- ◆ Empty trash and recycling bins frequently.





# TRASH ONLY

*No Plastic, Glass, or Aluminum Beverage Containers.  
Please look for recycling nearby.*



Smithsonian Folklife Festival













RECYCLE  
HERE



ALUMINUM CANS

PLASTIC

VENDING







# We'd Love to Hear from You!

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