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City of Gonzales/Tri-Cities Disposal & Recycling Fall Reuse, Recycle & Cleanup Weekend #2 Report

On October 12 & 13, 2019 the City of Gonzales held its annual summer two-day community cleanup event at Fairview Middle School. The flow of traffic by participants was steady on both days. We ended up having to shut down a half-hour early on Sunday because the trash bin was full. Fairview Middle School continues to be an ideal location to maintain a safe and visible community event.



The event was advertised through the KICK Kiosk broadcast and e-mail network, Facebook, community-wide mailers to residential utility customers, and door hangers placed at apartment complexes by the GHS Interact Club.

The community continues to take advantage of the free landfill vouchers for disposal of refrigerators and freezers at the Johnson Canyon Landfill. Volunteers benefit from being able to direct participants to the landfill for disposal of large and bulky items such as mattresses and appliances. Rather than unload into dumpsters, residents can easily push these items off into collection piles at the landfill.

The event continues to focus on preventing illegal dumping and helping residents “clear the clutter.” It encourages source separation, recycling, and proper disposal of refrigerators, freezers, mattresses, scrap metal, rigid plastics, cardboard, televisions, computers, electronic waste, and metal appliances.

The free “Take it or Leave it” area continues to be a big hit with the community. Many usable items are diverted from the trash dumpster for reuse at a new home. The event continues to accept clothing donations for the clothing closet hosted at the nearby Community Presbyterian Church. This year, we collected 3,600 lbs. of clothing (16 cubic yards)! Additional blankets and towels have been collected, washed, and set aside for the South County Animal Rescue in Soledad. These partnerships are key to the diversion of still-usable items.

On Saturday, residents were offered free and safe disposal of ABOP (Antifreeze, Batteries, Oil, and Paint) materials and sharps containers. Those who came on Sunday with these items were directed to the ABOP area at the Johnson Canyon Landfill or Sun Street Transfer Station.

Monterey County Environmental health coordinated an oil filter exchange program with Napa Auto Parts. They also provided free oil collection containers. 20 filters were received, and 18 vouchers were given.

The Gonzales High School Cross Country Team provided volunteers for both days of the event. Tri-Cities provided gloves, safety vests, lunch (both days), and ice water. This group is very well-organized and consistent in meeting their commitments with enthusiastic volunteers who exemplify the spirit of community service. I will continue to invite them to provide volunteers for this event in return for a \$500 donation from Tri-Cities Disposal & Recycling as long as they wish to do so.

A large “thanks” to the Gonzales Unified School District and Trini Zavala, MOT department supervisor for his assistance in coordinating the Fairview School



location for this event. We greatly appreciate the trust involved in this partnership between the Tri-Cities, the City of Gonzales, and the Gonzales Unified School District.

Collection Data: 2019 Fall Event

Recycling/Reuse: 24,000 lbs or 12.0 tons Trash: 21,300 lbs. or 10.7 tons

Total Weight Collected by Event=45,300 lbs. or 22.65 tons **Diversion Rate: 53%**

Item	2019 Fall	2019 Summer	2018 Fall	2018 Summer	Average Per Event 2013-2017
Trash	10.7 tons	16.5 tons	7.8 tons	12.1 tons	12.4 tons
Metal	4.69 tons	9.3 tons	3.5 tons	5.63 tons	4.7 tons
Mattresses	Did not count/sent to landfill	Did not count/sent to landfill	0.39 tons (14 units)	18 units	33 units
E-waste	2.14 tons	3.3 tons	1.8 tons	2.9 tons	2.8 tons
Crdbd/Paper				0.72 tons	1 ton
Rigid Plastics				1.03 tons	1.2 tons
Crdbd/Plastic Combined	1.18 tons	1.5 tons	1.1 tons		1.1 tons
ABOP wastes	0.69 tons (1,383 lbs.)	1.4 tons (2,863 lbs.)	0.63 tons (1,267 lbs.)	1.3 tons (2,633 lbs.)	0.90 tons (1,785 lbs.)
Refrigerator/Freezer	1.5 tons (3 frzr., 9 refrig., 3 water coolers)	2.9 tons (21 units+5 water coolers)	1.8 tons (16 units)	2.3 tons (17 units)	2.8 tons (21 units)
Appliances	Did not count/sent to landfill	Did not count/sent to landfill	1.02 tons (12 units)	(11 units)	(16 units)
Clothing Donations & Reuse Area	1.8 tons (3,600 lbs)	1.4 tons (2,700 lbs.)	0.45 tons (900 lbs.)	675 lbs.	Insufficient data

Clothing donations are estimated by approximate volume of carloads/truckloads transported to the Community Church clothing closet. Additional donations of textile goods were taken to the South County Animal Rescue. "Take it or Leave it" area items are now roughly estimated in diversion tonnage. Weights for items counted as units are calculated based on weight per unit established by DHEC and CalRecycle tables.

Respectfully submitted,



Maury Treleven

