



**Tri-Cities Disposal & Recycling**  
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# City of Gonzales 2021 Reuse, Recycle & Cleanup Day Report

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Submitted to: Mayor & City Council of the City of Gonzales through the Office of the City Manager

On November 13, 2021, the City of Gonzales held a one-day community cleanup event at Fairview Middle School. Due to COVID-19, there had not been a cleanup event since the fall of 2019. The flow of traffic by participants was steady. 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, social media, and community-wide mailers to residential utility customers.

The community continues to take advantage of the free landfill vouchers for the disposal of refrigerators and freezers at the Johnson Canyon Landfill. Volunteers benefit from being able to direct participants to the landfill to dispose of 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 facilitates source separation, recycling, and proper disposal of hazardous waste, trash, appliances, mattresses, scrap metal, rigid plastics, cardboard, and electronic waste.



We are excited to report that this event was a pilot for a new partnership formed with the California DOT (Caltrans) District 5 “Clean California” program. The “Dump Day” program provides up to \$2,000 to cover landfill disposal fees and staff time. They are interested in partnering with our events to further this program’s goals of preventing littering and illegal dumping throughout California. Joining us at our events throughout South Monterey County will allow

Caltrans District 5 to do outreach to further our common goals for these events. After participating in the Gonzales event, the Caltrans team and I came up with many ideas for their agency to participate in meaningful ways in the future.

The free “Take it or Leave it” area continues to be a big hit with the community. Many usable items were diverted from the trash dumpster for reuse at a new home. The event accepts clothing donations for the clothing closet at the Community Presbyterian Church and blankets and towels for South County Animal Rescue. Amanda Good with Save the Whales has established a new connection to divert good-quality children's toys, books, and stuffed animals to a second-hand children’s store in Salinas. Amanda carefully selects the best items left over and delivers them herself.

Residents were offered free and safe disposal of ABOP (Antifreeze, Batteries, Oil, and Paint) materials and sharps containers. Monterey County Environmental health coordinated an oil filter exchange program with the Gonzales AutoZone store. They also provided free oil collection containers. Thirty oil filter vouchers were given, and 27 were redeemed.



The Gonzales High School Cross Country and Track teams provided 72 volunteer hours for the event. This group is very well-organized and consistent in meeting their commitments with enthusiastic volunteers who exemplify the spirit of community service. Tri-Cities provided gloves, safety vests, lunch, and ice water. The group will receive a \$500 donation from Tri-Cities Disposal & Recycling.

Thank you to our partners Gonzales Unified School District and Trini Zavala, Monterey County Environmental Health, Save the Whales, Gonzales Community Presbyterian Church, Salinas Valley Recycles, and Caltrans District 5.

### 2021 Fall Event

**Diversion/Recycling: 10.62 tons    Trash: 8.04 tons    Total Collected: 18.66 tons**

**Diversion Rate: 57%**

Item	CUYD	2021 Tons	Average Tons Per Event Day 2013-2019
Trash	160	8.04	6.0
Metal	80	4.30	4.9
Mattresses	DEL	0.19 7 PCS	0.30 11 PCS
E-waste	20	1.85	1.29
Crdbd/Paper	40	0.03	0.43
Rigid Plastics	40	0.68	0.55
Haz. Mat. (ABOP)	VAN	1.00 (1,955 lbs.)	1.00 (1,968 lbs.)
Freon Appliances	DEL	1.11 13 PCS	1.13 9.5 PCS
Non-freon Appliances	DEL	0.30 tons 4 PCS	0.51 6.5 PCS
Clothing Donations & Reuse Area	13	1.16 tons (2,325 lbs.)	0.50 (1,000 lbs.)

Notes:

- VAN=Collection by Salinas Valley Recycles' ABOP panel van
- DEL=Resident delivered to landfill with free disposal voucher (or item is free to dispose/recycle)
- 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" reuse area items are roughly estimated.
- Weights for items counted as units are calculated based on weight per unit established by DHEC and CalRecycle tables.
- Freon appliances include: Refrigerators, Freezers, ACs, refrigerated water coolers

Respectfully submitted,



Maury Treleven