



RECYCLING RESOURCES ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY GRANT

FINAL REPORT - DRAFT

Organization: Colorado State Fair

Project Title: Colorado State Fair Recycling Program

Project Coordinator: Michelle Hines

E-Mail Address: Michelle.hines@ag.state.co.us **Phone:** 719-404-2020

Completed by: Michelle Hines

E-Mail Address: Michelle.hines@ag.state.co.us **Phone:** 719-404-2020

II. WORK PLAN

Please use the format provided in the table below for your goals and objectives as listed in your Scope of Work. Indicate the date each deliverable was completed or briefly describe why the deliverable was not completed.

Deliverable	Completion Date	Comments (if deliverable was not completed, please explain why or what progress has been made)
Determine the size of the cardboard baler needed.	7/25/2011	
ID footprint and electrical needs of cardboard baler.	8/3/2011	
Solicit bids for baler, electrical, and other infrastructure work.	7/15/2011	
Purchase recycle stations.	7/15/2011	
Choose baler and contractors.	8/3/2011	
Identify high-traffic areas to place recycle stations.	8/25/2011	
Install baler.	8/16/2011	
Identify a cardboard hauler and set a regular pick-up schedule.	8/15/2011	
Train staff on baler operation.	8/24/2011	
Ensure all recycle stations are labeled.	8/25/2011	
Track monthly volumes and revenues.	ongoing	

III. PROJECT SUMMARY

1. Executive Summary

Provide a brief summary of the entire project including goals, challenges, successes, results, and environmental/economic benefits.

The Colorado State Fair's recycling program has continued to evolve over the last several years. In 2010 we expanded our efforts to include the public by purchasing and implementing 25 recycle stations for our visitors to use. We soon found that 25 stations were not enough and we also found that we were collecting quite a bit of cardboard. It was determined that we should seek grant funds to procure more recycle stations and a baler to facilitate the recycling of the cardboard.

Our goals with this project were to improve and increase our collection rate of single stream recyclables by increasing the number of recycle stations and to improve and increase the collection rate of corrugated cardboard for baling. Both of these things would decrease our trash hauls and the baled cardboard would generate revenue.

There were a few challenges with this project including public compliance, lack of volunteers and infrastructure issues with the baler placement. All of these challenges have been overcome to some degree. We found that public compliance during the major events on the grounds was very good. We were able to collect recyclables with our regular staff when volunteers were not available with little to no additional cost to the Fair. The infrastructure issues were remedied by the grant funds with the installation of electrical service and concrete pad for the baler.

With the additional collection stations, we were able to collect more recyclable materials and in fact increased our collection rates from the previous year (July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011). This success has diverted over 50 tons of materials from the landfills preventing pollution of land, air and water in our community. These efforts have also generated positive feedback from our peers in the community and have created an awareness of the benefits of recycling.

2. Project Description & Overview of Work Completed

State your project goals and describe the steps taken to meet those goals. Explain why the project was important for recycling in your community and for Colorado in general.

Goal 1: To improve and increase our collection rate of single stream recyclables by increasing the number of recycle stations. This goal was met by purchasing an additional 76 collection containers. Originally, we budgeted for 50 containers, but Rubbermaid gave us a discount so we were able to purchase more. The containers were labeled and deployed during the 2011 State Fair.

Goal 2: To improve and increase the collection rate of corrugated cardboard for baling. This goal was met by purchasing and installing a baler. Cardboard was collected by staff each day & taken to the baler. This worked well but we found that there was still a lot of cardboard going into roll-offs and single stream bins. To remedy this, we purchased 10 containers with specialized lids specifically for collecting cardboard. These will be deployed at the 2012 Fair.

This project was very important for our community because there are very few public venues in our area participating in collecting recyclables from their patrons. The State Fair continues to be a positive role model for other businesses in our area. We have received a lot of positive feedback from our community leaders and our Health Department. The State Fair is visited by over half a million people from all over Colorado and it is important that residents from all areas of our state are all able to see and participate in our efforts to preserve our environment.

3. **Summary of Findings & Results**

Based on the work completed, what were the results? Include both the technical data and the response from members of the community.

Our results were positive in that we increased our collection rates from last year. We collected over 26 tons of single stream recyclables which is slightly up from the 22 tons collected last year. It is important to note that we almost tripled our collection rate for the period during the fair (August/September); in 2010 we collected just over 6 tons for the fair period and in 2011 we collected nearly 17 tons. Also, the 2010 single stream figures include cardboard. In 2011 we logged cardboard & single stream separately. Our collection of single stream and cardboard increased by at least 8 tons in the 2011-2012 season. We anticipate with the new cardboard collection stations, we will be able to increase even further. Aluminum collection showed an increase of only 300 pounds; however, we are unsure of the total number of pounds that were stolen.

Most of the response from the community has been positive. Our visitors seem to be getting used to the collection stations and we are finding less contamination. We have received many compliments from visitors about the stations and have been featured in a couple of newspaper articles. We have also loaned our recycle stations to other venues in our community to help them promote recycling.

4. **Summary of Unanticipated Outcomes or Roadblocks**

Explain any unanticipated outcomes or roadblocks and how they impacted the project. How did you overcome any roadblocks?

There were two unanticipated things that happened. First, there was significant theft of the aluminum cans. An employee assigned to collect trash & recyclables was filling his truck every day with the bagged aluminum cans. I estimate that he took at least 100 pounds of cans before he was caught & terminated. I've discussed this with security. Security supervisors will advise all gate staff that employees are not allowed to leave the grounds with bags.

Second, we did not have adequate collection of the cardboard. We made every attempt to gather as much as possible, but without a separate cardboard collection station we failed to get it all down to the baler. A great deal of the cardboard did get captured in the single stream containers, but our goal was to bale and sell rather than send it in single stream. To remedy this, we have purchased 10 four-yard collection containers with specialized lids to collect the cardboard. These were purchased late in the grant period and will be deployed during the 2012 Fair.

5. **Communication of Project Findings**

How will you communicate the results of your project to your community and to Colorado in general?

Our final results will be shared with local media outlets; results & efforts will be featured in our official media package for the 2012 Fair and will be featured on our website.

6. **Future Impact of the Project**

How will this project impact future waste diversion in your area and in Colorado? Are there any downstream effects of this project? Is there potential for transferring technology or process knowledge to others?

We hope that this project will help other businesses, event planners and venues become more involved in recycling. Currently in our community there are very few places with collection stations and many of the community's major events do not recycle. We have offered to loan our collection stations to other venues for major events to get them started with the process. There is potential for sharing resources and knowledge if other venues and event coordinators want to participate.

7. **Financial Summary**

Using the Grant Budget Table, indicate how funds were spent during the project, including a breakdown of actual in-kind/matching funds. **Be sure the Grant Budget Table is complete.**

Colorado State Fair Grant Budget Table

Description	Grant Funds Spent	Matching/In Kind Amount (if any)	Total Amount
Personnel Salaries	\$3,989.47	\$25270.14	\$29259.61
Fringe Benefits	\$0.00	\$9933.52	\$9933.52
Tuition/Fees	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Travel Costs	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Materials/Supplies/Equipment(under \$5000)	\$1006.12	\$0.00	\$1006.12
Equipment Purchases (over \$5000)	\$38,604.00	\$0.00	\$38604.00
Contractors/Subcontractors	\$6,480.00	\$0.00	\$6480.00
Consultants	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Training/Education	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Marketing/Advertising	\$1,817.40	\$0.00	\$1817.40
Other Direct Costs	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Indirect Costs	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Project Cost:	\$51,896.99	\$35203.66	\$87,100.65

Total award amount: \$52,650.00

The table above reflects the current allocated funds based on invoices submitted. **You currently have \$9,159.23 remaining in your grant award budget.**

FINAL REIMBURSEMENT RECEIVED 7/29/12 – BUDGET TABLE COMPLETED

Special note if your project currently has outstanding reimbursements:

Once final reimbursements are submitted and approved, adjust the “Grant Funds Spent” column to reflect all funds spent during the grant cycle. Please add all matching/in kind funds spent during the project. Refer to your scope of work for the amount of matching/in-kind funds you committed for this project. This table must be included in your final report in the “Financial Summary” section.

8. Conclusion

Include any final thoughts on the project and on the RREO grant program.

Overall, I feel that this project has been very successful so far. This will be an ongoing endeavor and will continue to be refined and improved. We now have the tools to keep our program going and plan to further increase our collection rates. We extend our appreciation and gratitude to the RREO grant program and staff because without this opportunity we would not be as successful as we are today with our program.

9. Appendix

a. Grant Metrics Table

- i. **Be sure the Grant Metrics Table is complete.** See Excel spreadsheet.

b. Community Leader Contact Information

- i. Include the name, title, phone number & e-mail address of at least three community leaders who are familiar with your project. They may be contacted by the committee for input on the project.

c. Manuals, Brochures, Print Advertisements, Pictures, Educational Materials, etc.

- i. It is preferred that these items be attached to the report electronically. If this is not possible, you may send hard copies to the mailing address listed above.

Grant Metrics

Date project fully operational:

August-11

(Based on deliverables- month that impact of grant would have changed volumes/job creation/participants)

Diversion Rates:

(Choose one material per box. Only list those collected over the grant cycle. Must be listed as "tons". See tab labeled "Conversion Tables" if needed.)

Material Diverted #1 Aluminum / Steel cans	
Tons Diverted	
July-11	0.06
August-11	0.32
September-11	0.18
October-11	0.006
November-11	
December-11	0.002
January-12	0.025
February-12	
March-12	
April-12	
May-12	0.075
June-12	0.079
Total	0.747

Other div. material:

Material Diverted #2 Other (pls describe below)	
Tons Diverted	
July-11	0.6
August-11	10.7
September-11	6.2
October-11	2.2
November-11	1.668
December-11	0.76
January-12	0.6
February-12	
March-12	
April-12	
May-12	0.87
June-12	1.06
Total	24.658

Other div. material:

Material Diverted #3 Scrap metal	
Tons Diverted	
July-11	4.14
August-11	8.27
September-11	2.22
October-11	
November-11	
December-11	3.05
January-12	
February-12	
March-12	
April-12	2.8
May-12	
June-12	0.08
Total	20.56

Other div. material:

Material Diverted #4 Cardboard	
Tons Diverted	
July-11	
August-11	2.25
September-11	0.9
October-11	
November-11	
December-11	
January-12	
February-12	
March-12	0.45
April-12	
May-12	
June-12	0.45
Total	4.05

Other div. material:

Material Diverted #5 <input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	
Tons Diverted	
July-11	
August-11	
September-11	
October-11	
November-11	
December-11	
January-12	
February-12	
March-12	
April-12	
May-12	
June-12	
Total	0

Other div. material:

Material Diverted #6 <input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	
Tons Diverted	
July-11	
August-11	
September-11	
October-11	
November-11	
December-11	
January-12	
February-12	
March-12	
April-12	
May-12	
June-12	
Total	0

Other div. material:

Material Diverted #7 <input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	
Tons Diverted	
July-11	
August-11	
September-11	
October-11	
November-11	
December-11	
January-12	
February-12	
March-12	
April-12	
May-12	
June-12	
Total	0

Other div. material:

Material Diverted #8 <input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	
Tons Diverted	
July-11	
August-11	
September-11	
October-11	
November-11	
December-11	
January-12	
February-12	
March-12	
April-12	
May-12	
June-12	
Total	0

Other div. material:

End use of diverted materials:
(Describe where materials are going [e.g., MRF, new products, reuse])

Aluminum & scrap metal go to a local metal recycling facility (Dionisio Iron & Metal); Single Stream collections go to Waste Management's recycling facility, cardboard was sold to a local rancher who shreds it and uses it for horse stall bedding & composting.

Number of Permanent Jobs Created:
Include full-time & part time paid positions.
1 FTE = 40 Hours Per Week

0

Type of Permanent Job(s) Created:
(Provide titles of jobs created)

No permanent jobs created, however we do designate up to 6 of our temporary staff for recycling collection duties. Year round full time staff are responsible for overseeing and baling cardboard.

Average Salaries of Jobs Created:
(Average of all jobs created)

Average Monthly Customers for FY 2011:
(July 1, 2010 - June 30, 2011)

43933

Average Monthly Customers for FY 2012:
(Estimate or customer lists)

Avg. Monthly Amount	
July-11	10000
August-11	375000
September-11	125000
October-11	5000
November-11	100
December-11	5000
January-12	8000
February-12	100
March-12	10000
April-12	5000
May-12	10000
June-12	10000
Ave. / FY 12	46933.33333

APPENDIX B. Community Leader Contact Information

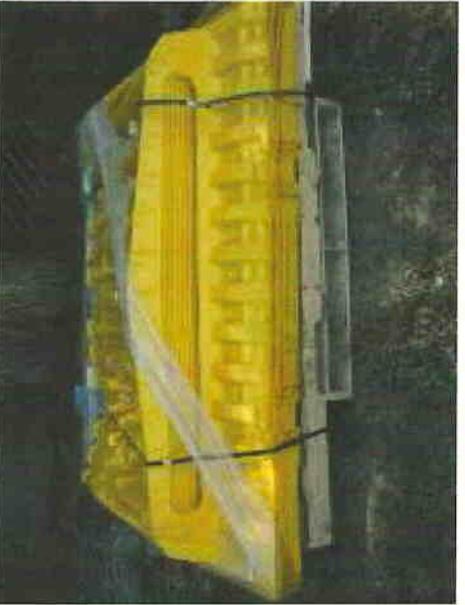
Susan Finzel-Aldred
Environmental Health Coordinator, Pueblo City-County Health Department
CAFR Board Member
719-583-4309
aldred@co.pueblo.co.us

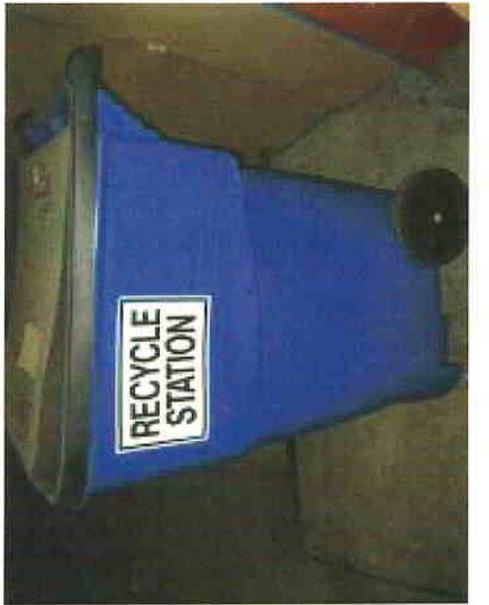
Marvin Reynolds
Director, CSU Extension Service
Chairman, PACOG Environmental Policy Advisory Committee
719-583-6566
Marvin.reynolds@colostate.edu

Louise Bosche
Inspector, City of Pueblo Storm Water Utility
719-553-2291
l.boshe@pueblo.us

APPENDIX C -

- 1) PHOTOS OF RECYCLE STATIONS, BALER, ETC
- 2) PUEBLO CHIEFTAIN ARTICLES





Bigger grant to boost Fair recycling

By NICK BONHAM | nickb@chieftain.com | Posted: Thursday, July 28, 2011 12:00 am

There should be no excuse to recycle at the upcoming Colorado State Fair.

Thanks to a \$52,650 grant from the state's Recycle Resource Economic Opportunity, there will be 101 recycle bins stationed on the Fairgrounds this year.

That announcement was made here Wednesday at the Fair's monthly meeting of its board of commissioners.

Michelle Chavez, director of operations, implemented the first public recycle program last year with a \$26,500 grant, which bought 25 bins.

As a result the expo recycled 1,176 pounds of aluminum and 329 cubic yards of plastic, Chavez said.

"We've quadrupled the number of recycling facilities at the Fair, and we're going to get a bailer so we can do more cardboard recycling," Chavez said.

In other Fair news, thanks to strong ticket sales, the entertainment series has made more at the box office at this time compared to last year.

As of Sunday, the Fair had made \$443,608 in ticket sales, a \$260,896 increase from last year's total on the same date.

That's mainly in part due to Selena Gomez, whose concert already has sold out and strong sales from Martina McBride, The Beach Boys and others.

General Manager Chris Wiseman warned the Fair board that while ticket sales are up now, the expo is a long way from tallying expenses.

"We've sold a lot of tickets. The potential is there for a good year, but I still have some other bands to deal with," Wiseman said.

The Fair runs Aug. 26 through Sept. 5.

Fair doubles its recycling this year

By JOHN NORTON | norton@chieftain.com | Posted: Tuesday, September 6, 2011 12:00 am

Michelle Chavez realized last year there was one problem with the Colorado State Fair's recycling bins and dealt with it.

"People said there were not enough of them, so she asked for a bigger grant and doubled the number for the 2011 expo," the Fair's director of operations said Monday.

Last year, the Fair used \$22,600 from a Supplemental Environmental Project grant — money collected from environmental citations against Rocky Mountain Steel Mills — to purchase 25 bins.

This year, the Fair qualified for a \$52,650 grant from the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment and bought 25 additional bins, as well as a cardboard baler so that vendors' boxes could be transported more economically to a recycling center in Colorado Springs.

Last year, the Fair collected 1,176 pounds of aluminum and 329 cubic yards of plastic and cardboard.

The Fair bins take plastic and aluminum, and have a section for generic trash.

A crew of temporary employees are assigned to monitor the bins and deposit their contents in roll-offs each day.

Chavez said that Fairgoers have cooperated with the program. She said the recycling crew was pleasantly surprised that "people are doing it right."

There are some mix-ups with trash in the aluminum or plastic sections, she said, and sometimes workers must retrieve food items from the bags.

"It's sad to see a full funnel cake in the trash can, but it's even worse when it's in my aluminum bin."

The Fair pays Waste Management to haul the plastic to a Colorado Springs recycler, while the aluminum is sold to Dionisio Metal and Iron in Pueblo.

Vendors are asked to break down boxes and leave them outside their stands in the morning for Fair crews to pick up and haul away for baling.

Chavez estimates that the bin program, cardboard baling and recycling of office paper keeps 30-40 percent of the Fair's trash out of landfills. Even the manure from the livestock is hauled to a topsoil firm at a cost half of what a trash company would charge. Food vendors' cooking oil is collected regularly by a local man who converts it to biodiesel fuel.

Besides recycling its own waste, Chavez said the Fair makes a point of buying recycled paper products for all the restrooms.