



San Gabriel Valley
Council
of Governments



CPSC
California Product
Stewardship CouncilSM

AMERICA RECYCLES DAY HIGHLIGHTS LOCAL BATTERY RECYCLING PROJECT

Forty San Gabriel Valley businesses collect household batteries

Alhambra, Calif., (November 7, 2011) – On November 15 a pilot battery-recycling project will celebrate America Recycles Day. Aiming to drive battery recycling by increasing convenience, the pilot-project has received support from local businesses. Forty San Gabriel Valley area businesses serve as collection sites for consumers to properly recycle household batteries. The project has collected over a ton of batteries and cell phones from local consumers since April.

“America Recycles Day is nationally recognized and we hope to increase awareness of our battery program right here in San Gabriel Valley,” said Heidi Sanborn, Executive Director of the California Product Stewardship Council (CPSC), a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting extended producer responsibility (EPR). EPR shares the responsibility for end-of-life product management among all entities involved in the product chain, with the primary responsibility placed on the producers.

“While awareness is important to the project, action is fundamental,” said Sanborn. “This is a community effort and our take-back locations are looking forward to seeing customers do their part by bringing in old batteries in for recycling.”

Batteries accepted in this take-back project include standard AAA thru D size alkaline, and rechargeable batteries which come in five chemistries and can be found in many products including digital cameras, cordless phones, two-way radios, wireless keyboards, cordless power tools, and cell phones. All household batteries under 11 pounds, alkaline and rechargeable, can be recycled at take-back locations throughout San Gabriel Valley. California has prohibited trash disposal of batteries since 2006.

“I am eager to see a large number of batteries returned around America Recycles Day,” said Kathy Sasaki of Seniors Helping Seniors in San Dimas, the project’s fortieth and newest take-back location. “Although we should always prioritize doing the right thing for the environment, America Recycles Day will be a friendly reminder to all.”

The take-back program is organized by the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments (SGVCOG) and funded by a \$395,966 grant from the California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle). Collection boxes are provided to the take-back locations by [Call2Recycle](#)[®], which is a national battery stewardship organization funded by battery producers.

Residents may properly dispose of both alkaline and rechargeable batteries at HHW round-up events that happen throughout the year in the County of Los Angeles. [These events are jointly sponsored by the County of Los Angeles and the Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles](#) County and funded by garbage rates.

For more information about the SGVCOG pilot battery recycling project, contact Nick Conway, SGVCOG Executive Director: (626) 457-1800 or Heidi Sanborn, CPSC Executive Director: (916) 480-9010. For general information about Extended Producer Responsibility go to www.calpsc.org. For more information about CalRecycle go to www.calrecycle.ca.gov.
