



The City of San Diego Multi-Family Recycler of the Month Award

Santa Fe Manor
3835 Swift Ave, 92104

Santa Fe Manor

Santa Fe Manor is a 50 unit apartment for individuals over the age of 62, managed by Phyllis Gay from Cethron Property Management. The complex is participating in the City of San Diego's multi-family recycling pilot program that distributed re-usable, in-unit recycling bags to multi-family residents.

The bags were purchased with grant money from the State Department of Conservation and were designed to assist residents with collection of recyclables at their home and transporting them to a central disposal area in the complex. The bags are made of 100% recycled plastic. They are flexible, have a large capacity and can fit in small spaces or can even be hung up. They are also easy to carry, leaving residents' hands free to carry other items such as trash bags, which is also disposed at the same location.

Property manager and residents have embraced the 3 R's motto – Reuse, Reduce, Recycle.

-All plastic newspaper and shopping bags are collected and donated to a Food Bank program nearby that benefits their own community.

-Batteries and fluorescents light bulbs are collected and shipped to a hazardous waste disposer in pre-paid boxes.

-All California Redemption Value (CRV) recyclables are collected separated and taken to a buy-back center by the property manager or a resident, generating an average of \$100 per month, which is used on social events for the residents.

-There is also a convenient location for residents to discard their electronics. The property manager then sees that they are properly disposed.

The implementation and education outreach for the recycling program included exchanging recycling containers for the non-CRV recyclables, written notices to residents, posting flyers on bulletin boards, and putting recycling containers by mail boxes. Phyllis also includes recycling blurbs on the monthly newsletters

Residents are participating at an impressive level resulting in a 50% decrease on trash services and an approximate savings of \$500 a year on their waste collection bills.



Santa Fe Manor's residents, Property Manager Phyllis Gay (with award), and her supervisor Eliza Ketchum receiving the February 2010 Recycler of the Month award