



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

Park Place on Harbor Dr. 700 West Harbor Dr., 92101



Park Place on Harbor Drive is a 30 story building with 178 units, divided between condos and town-homes, managed by Prescott Companies, a member of the San Diego County Apartment Association. 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 to collect recyclables at their home and transport 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 even be hung. They are also easy to carry, leaving residents' hands free to carry other items such as the trash bags, which is also disposed at the same location.



The building has small trash rooms on each floor with no extra space for a recycling container. In order to make recycling convenient to the residents, the property manager installed hooks on every trash room and marked the bags with its unit's number. Residents hang their full recycling bag in the trash room. Maintenance staff empties them on a special collection cart every day and hang the empty bags back so residents can pick them up and take them back to their units. This has eliminated the use of plastic bags and the recycling loads have been very clean.

The janitorial staff empties the floors' containers into the main recycling dumpsters located downstairs. In the trash rooms on each floor there are City produced signs reminding residents what can and cannot be recycled in the City of San Diego.

Residents are very pleased with the bags. They are particularly pleased with the information and photos printed on it, informing about the City Recycling Ordinance and showing what can and can't be recycled, clarifying questions they might have on what items should be recycled. But the recycling is not limited to the residents. There are also recycling containers inside staff offices at every desk, copier, fax and food serving area.



The residents and staff are participating at an impressive level and will continue to do so. Park Place on Harbor Drive has doubled their recycling services since receiving the recycling bags from the City's Environmental Services Department in April 09, saving \$460 per month on their waste collection bills, making them a model for multi-family recycling in the City of San Diego.

Property Manager Nicole Cardenas with the July 2009 Recycler of the Month Award