



NEW MEXICO RECYCLING COALITION
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RECYCLING OPPORTUNITIES EXPAND FOR DEMING/LUNA COUNTY

Submitted by: New Mexico Recycling Coalition

The City of Deming will be celebrating the grand opening of their new regional recycling center located at 5470 Highway 549, on Thursday, May 31st at 1:30 PM. This site will accept the following traditional household and business recycling items: cardboard, office paper, newspapers, junk mail, catalogs and magazines, aluminum and tin cans, and plastic bottles #1 and #2. Following the grand opening, citizens will be able to leave their clean, sorted recycling at three more convenient recycling drop-off centers in Deming, located in the parking lots of Wal-Mart, Peppers Grocery Store and the corner of 8th and Spruce. Additional drop-off locations at the two Luna County Hatch and Sunshine Convenience Centers will be added in the Fall.

Thanks to a hub grant from the New Mexico Recycling Coalition, which received funding from the Department of Energy American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, Deming and Luna County residents now have more opportunities for recycling. Around the state, six new recycling processing centers (Hubs) will be operational by this summer and eight communities (Spokes) will have new recycling collection equipment. Some of these centers have already hosted grand opening celebrations. "Recycling not only preserves landfill space and the natural resources and energy it takes to produce new materials, but it also provides 5 jobs to every 1 landfill job," explains Jessi Just, Community Recycling Outreach Specialist for NMRC. "Recycling moves through our economy rather than being buried after one use." The launch of the recycling program will be complemented with an outreach campaign based on the Wild West Wanted posters. The wanted items, in this case, are the top six most common and valuable recyclables, "The Recycling Gang".

Local Recycling Information

Each new recycling center will be equipped with separated collection containers that are clearly labeled. Please read each sign carefully, as removing contamination later is nearly impossible and costly to the city. Here is a list of items that are accepted at the new drop-off locations.

- Cardboard (Flattened) and Brown Paper Bags
- Mixed Paper (Office paper, newsprint, junk mail, catalogs and magazines)
- Aluminum Cans
- Tin Cans (Canned pet and other foods, clear of food debris)
- Plastic #1 Bottles (Soda, juice, water bottles. Clear or colored-clear. Remove lid. Empty. Must have bottle neck.)
- Plastic #2 Bottles (Detergent, shampoo, cleaners. Opaque, any color. Remove lid. Empty. Must have bottle neck.)

Getting Started

For first-time recyclers, setting up your recycling collection at home is an important first step. Start by placing a bag or tub just for recyclable items next to your main kitchen garbage can. Set up an outdoor larger tub in your trash can area to

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empty this smaller container into. Next, create a dry, convenient location to collect your recyclable papers. You can use paper bags (which can then be recycled with the cardboard). Newspaper, office paper, junk mail, catalogs and magazines can be recycled together. You do not need to remove envelope windows, staples or glue. Phone books or other books cannot be recycled with the office papers, so please look for separate collection areas. Make sure your plastic and metal containers are empty and rinsed of any food residue. No need to remove labels. Lids can be on or off the bottles, but it is preferable to remove them. Cardboard must be flattened. This will save space in your storage area, too. Pizza boxes or any waxed-coating boxes should not be recycled but can be composted.

For more recycling information, contact Keep Luna County Beautiful at (575) 543-6643 or the City of Deming at (575) 546-8848.

Photo Caption:

Photo1: Lawrence Brookey and Commissioner Spivey hold the ribbon at the Deming/Luna Recycling Center Ground Breaking Ceremony, held August 9th, 2011.

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