

Plastic Bottle Recycling

Case Study: Earth and Surf Festival, Onslow Co.

Recycling since: 2007 (Inception of festival)

Type of Event: Outdoor: on the beach

Recycles: cans, plastic bottles, composted paper

Average cost of service:

County provides the services, no cost involved

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Location: Onslow County

Description

The Earth and Surf Festival, held annually in Onslow County, N.C., has been recycling since its onset in 2007. During the festivities an average of 100-500 people attend the events throughout the day. The



event is held the first weekend in July and serves as an environmental awareness event that incorporates a surf contest, a beach volleyball tournament and a beach cleanup. Participating individuals are eligible to receive prizes.

Implementation:

At the event, the only food that is distributed is for the volunteers as there are no vendors. Cans and plastic bottles are handed out and pizza is served on compostable paper plates. A concerted effort is made to compost all food scraps, paper plates and all other materials at the event that are recyclable. The event uses approximately 10 blue plastic 32-gallon recycle bins which are located throughout the event grounds with at least two to five placed near beverage distribution centers. The recyclable material is commingled together which facilitates easy pick-up for the staff



at the event. At the commencement of the event the organizers take the bins to the materials recovery facility which cuts down on the cost of hiring a second party to provide this collection service. Additionally, posters, stickers and the RE3 tent are utilized at the event to reward individuals that are actively seen recycling their materials.

Results:

In 2008 an estimated 200-300 pounds of materials were recovered and recycled.