Tribal Solid Waste and Recycling Programs

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US EPA Region 9
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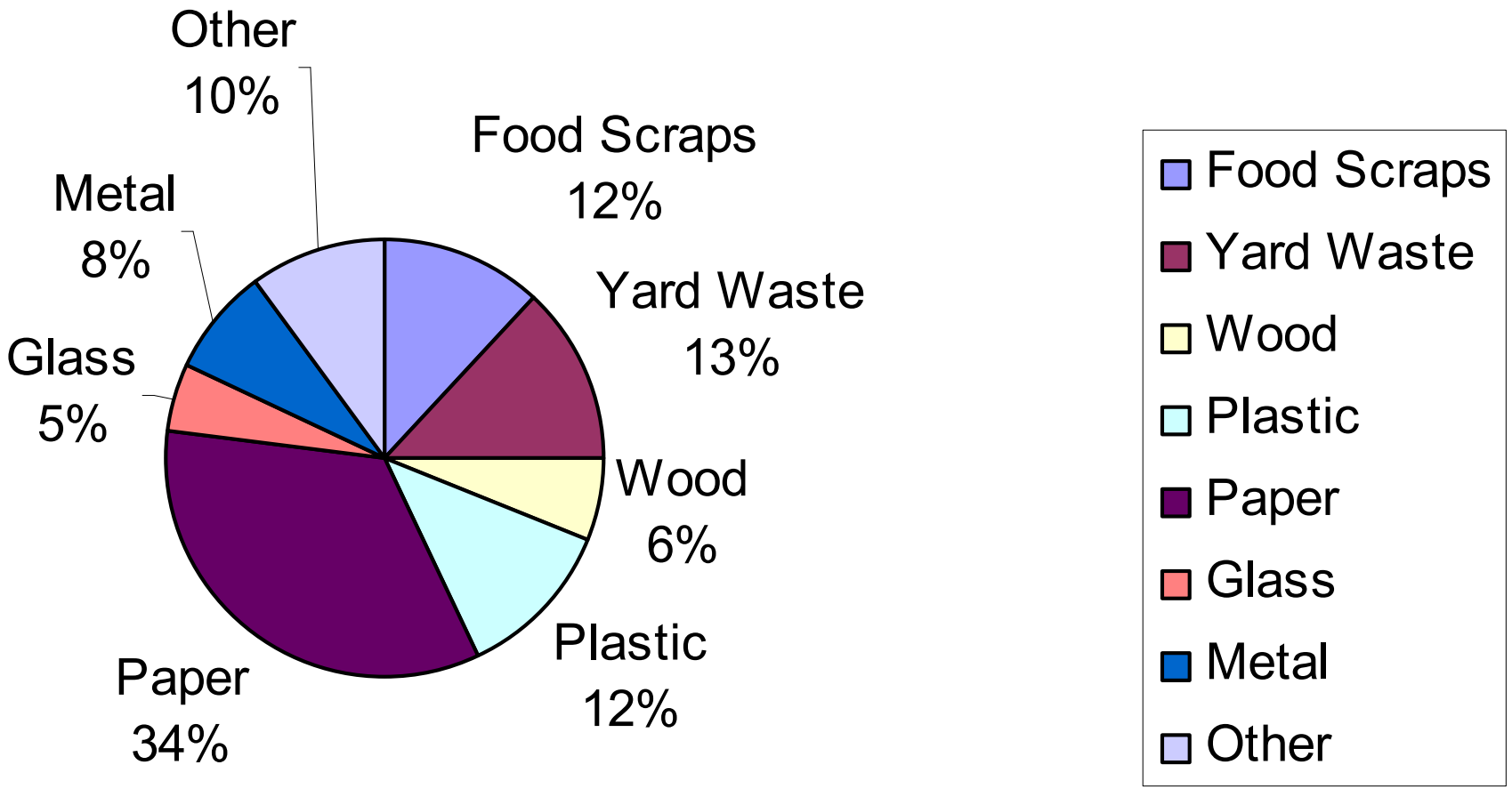
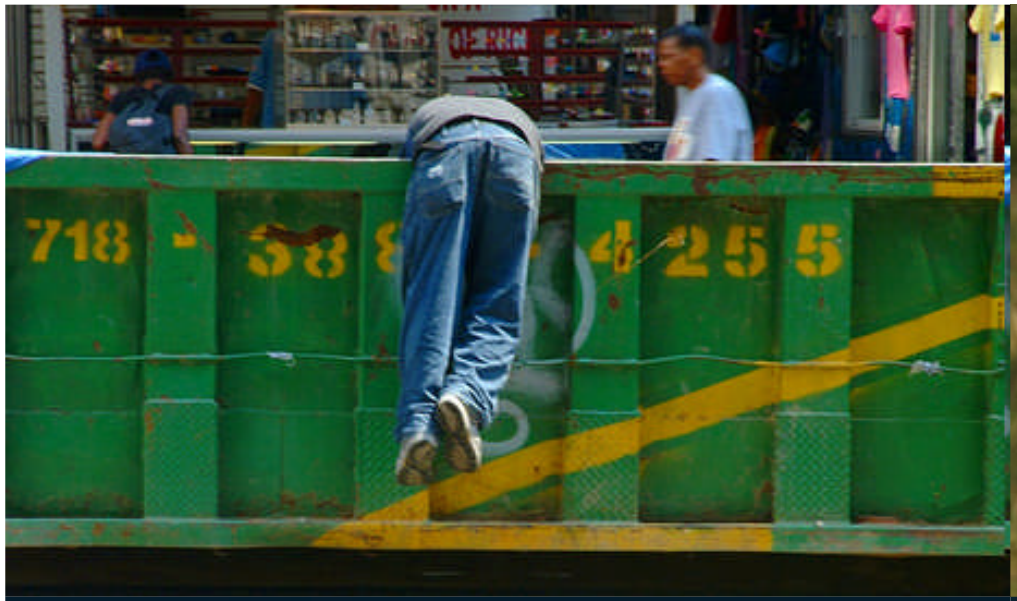
Why Recycle & Compost?

- HEALTH
  - Recycling Aluminum
    - 95% less air pollution
    - 97% less water pollution
    - One can = energy savings of half a can of gasoline
- JOBS
  - 1.1 million jobs in the United States
  - $236 + BILLION in annual revenues
- ENERGY CONSERVATION
  - Reduces greenhouse gas emissions
  - Landfills are the number one source of methane

What's Wasted?





Examine your waste stream

Components of a Successful Waste Management Program

1) - Tailored to your Community
2) - Innovative
3) - Enforceable
4) - Financially Sustainable
5) - Community Involvement

Component #1: Tailored to your Community

- Culturally appropriate and <u>specific</u>
- 1st step = Solid waste management plan
  - Identify wastes in your community
  - Identify how to manage them
  - Determine the needs

Component #1: Tailored to your Community

- Does your tribe have a solid waste management program and how does it address recycling?
- Where can the recycling go?
  - How far is it?
  - How is it transported?
  - How is it paid for?
  - How much does it cost?

What are the choices of recycling programs?

- Curbside Collection
  - Single stream
  - Sorted bins
  - Plastic bag based
- Community Drop offs
  - Transfer Stations
- Compost Collection

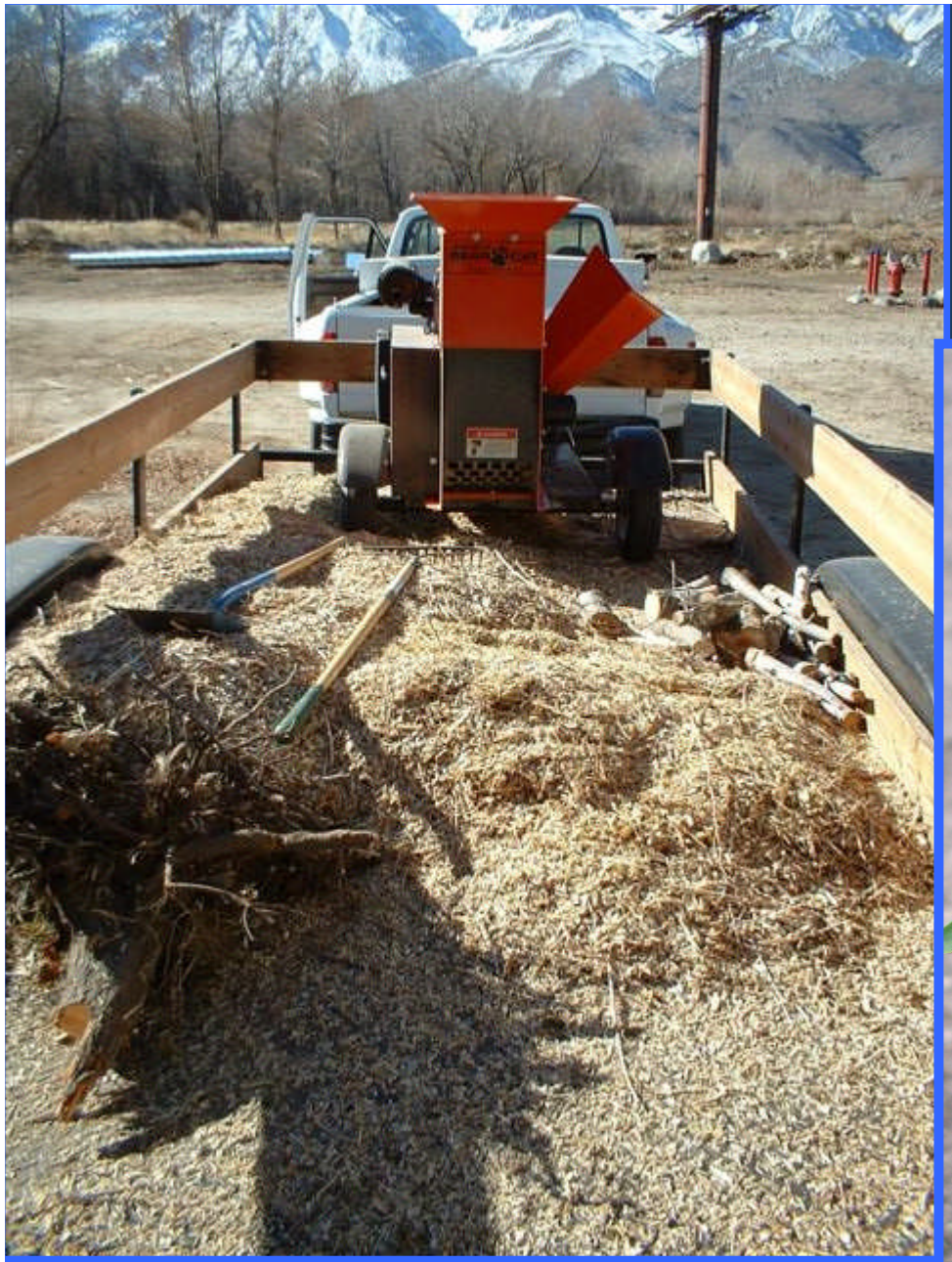
Component #2: Innovation

- Be creative!
- Think about what will get people:
  - ✓ …involved!
  - ✓ …excited!
  - ✓ …a promoter of the program!

Component #2: Innovation

- Fort Independence Reservation, California
  - Raffle/prizes for participants in the recycling program
  - Green waste goes to the community garden
  - PSAs (radio and TV)

Recyclables Heading to Market



Mulch for community garden

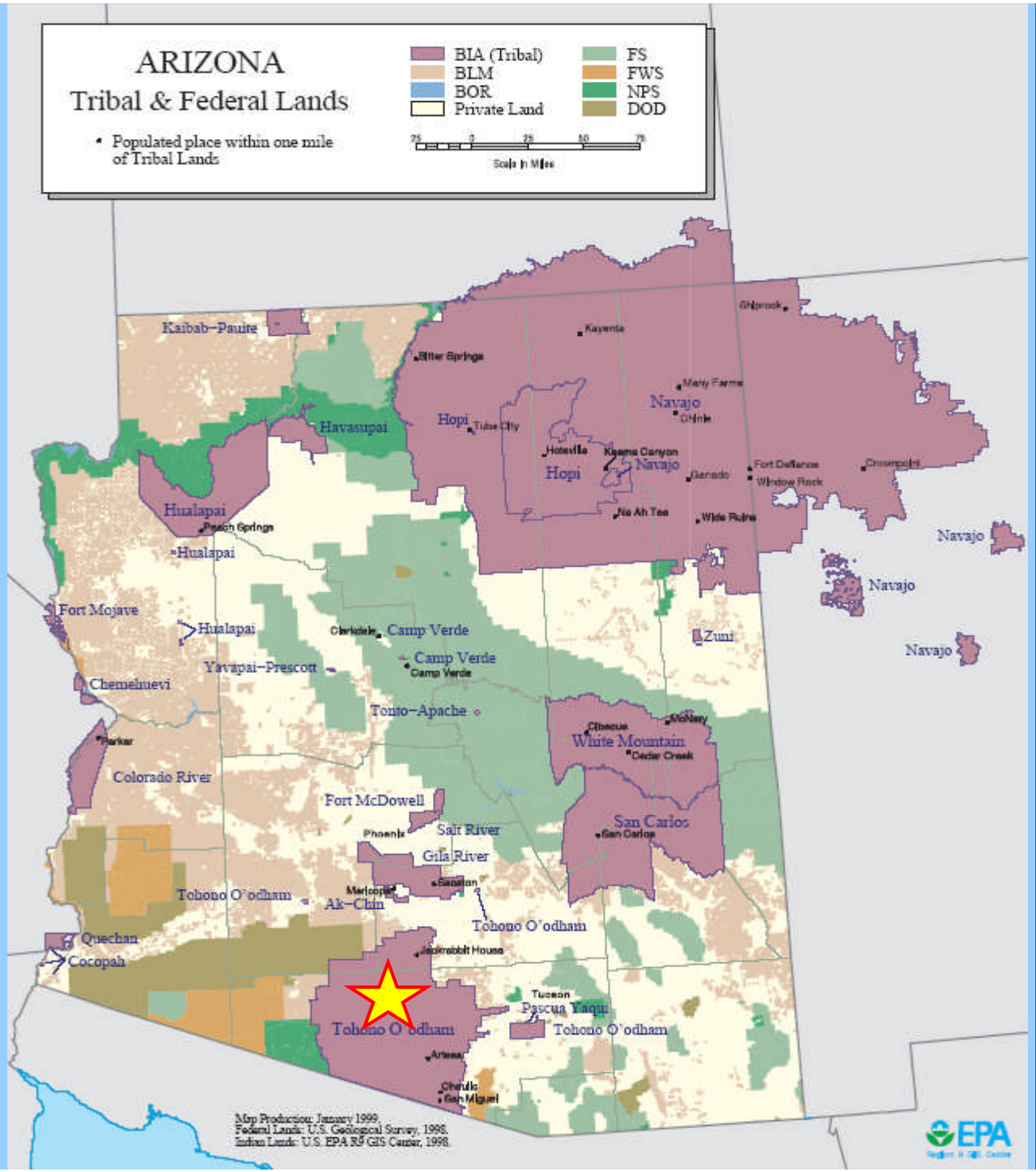
Peppers in the garden

Keys to Success

- Convenience
- Education
- Incentives
- Pay-as-you-throw
- Curbside collection
- Economically sound

Component #3: Enforceable

- Solid Waste codes/ ordinances
- Individuals identified to enforce
- Penalties – civil and criminal


ARIZONA
Tribal & Federal Lands
• Populated place within one mile of Tribal Lands
BIA (Tribal)
BLM
BOR
Private Land
FS
FWS
NPS
DOD
Scale in Miles
Kaibab-Paiute
Bitter Springs
Kayenta
Many Farms
Navajo
Chinle
Hopi
Tuba City
Havasupai
Hotevilla
Keams Canyon
Hopi
Navajo
Ganado
Fort Defiance
Window Rock
Crownpoint
Na Ah Tee
Wide Ruins
Hualapai
Peach Springs
Hualapai
Navajo
Navajo
Navajo
Fort Mojave
Hualapai
Cottonwood
Camp Verde
Zuni
Camp Verde
Camp Verde
Yavapai-Prescott
Chemehuevi
Tonto-Apache
Cibecue
McNary
White Mountain
Cedar Creek
Parker
Colorado River
Fort McDowell
Phoenix
Salt River
San Carlos
San Carlos
Gila River
Sacaton
Tohono O'odham
Maricopa
Ak-Chin
Tohono O'odham
Quechan
Cocopah
Jackrabbit House
Tucson
Pascua Yaqui
Tohono O'odham
Tohono O'odham
Arivaca
Chukulk
San Miguel
Map Production: January 1999.
Federal Lands: U.S. Geological Survey, 1998.
Indian Lands: U.S. EPA R9 GIS Center, 1998.
EPA

Component #3: Enforceable

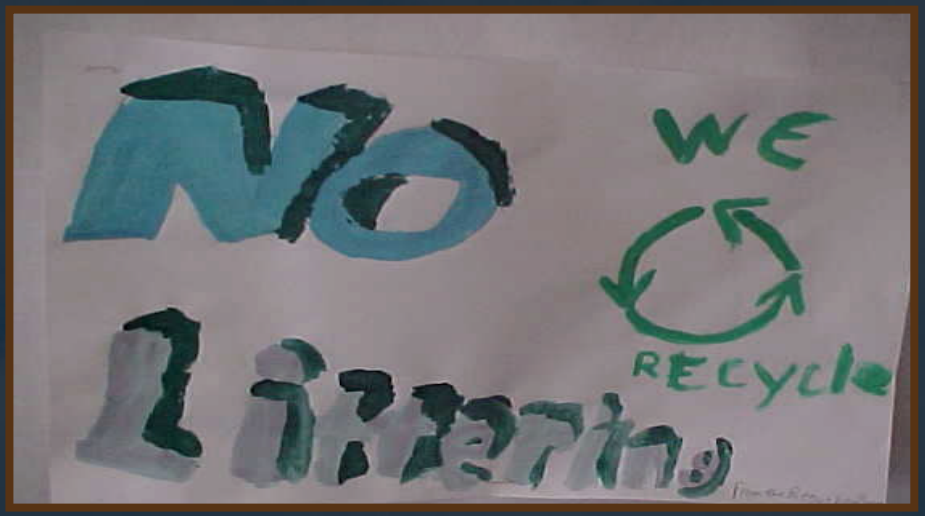
- The Tohono O'odham Nation
  - Solid waste code – used to inspect facilities
  - Created a Solid Waste Enforcement Office
  - Have credentialed inspectors
  - Partnerships with tribal law enforcement

Component #4: Financially Sustainable

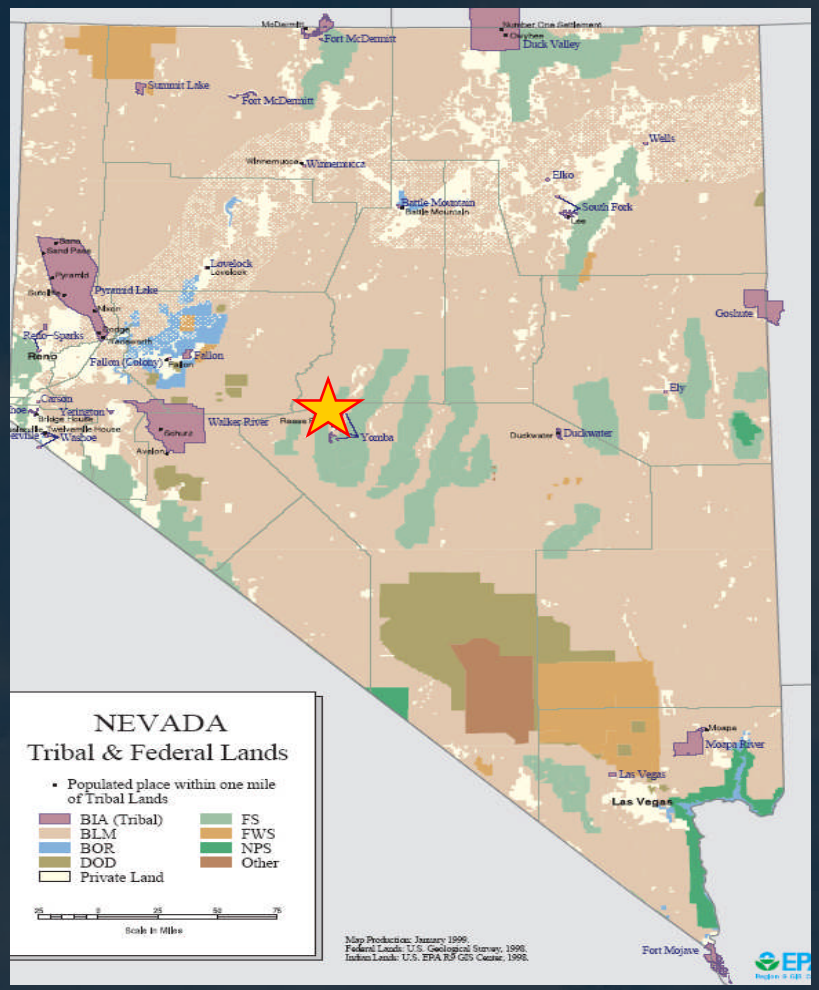
- **Start with a Business Plan** – look at all possibilities for funding:
  - ✓ User fees
  - ✓ Provide service to outside entities
  - ✓ Internal funds

Component #5: Community Involvement

- Community involvement = community support
  - Get kids involved
  - Community survey/ questionnaire
  - Community events
  - Council meetings



Component #5: Community Involvement



- Yomba Shoshone Tribe, Nevada
  - Community survey on waste management
  - School presentations/ activities
  - Booth at community festivals
  - Kids recycling group

Clear Signage is Important.

Auto Cleanup Project as a Result of Community Outreach

Summary

- Address current solid waste management program
- Perform a waste characterization
- Research recycling and composting options
- Research transportation
- Implement your Project
- Identify your keys to success

Contact Information

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