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Manitou Springs' Climate Protection Campaign

WASTE RECOVERY A BIG SUCCESS AT COMMONWHEEL ARTS & CRAFTS FESTIVAL

Zero Waste is a design principle that places ultimate responsibility for product waste with the producer. Consumers must take responsibility for ensuring that used products are returned to recovery systems.

Over Labor Day weekend, 2009, local volunteers demonstrated that they fully support this advanced recycling concept. Thirty-four individuals ranging in age from 8 to 78 showed up to stand in the hot sun, rain & dust to sort trash at the 7 'Waste Stations' set up around Manitou Springs' Memorial Park for the 35th Commonwheel Coop's Arts & Crafts Festival. These devoted volunteers contributed 110 hours representing such diverse groups as: High School Sustainability Clubs, Peterson Air Force Active Duty Personnel, a Baptist Minister and church members and many passionate individuals from all over Manitou Springs and Colorado Springs who 'walk their talk'.



results

So with all of this effort, what did we accomplish?

540 pounds of food scraps, paper, sugarcane or corn-based food service items was composted

1,400 pounds of plastics, aluminum, glass & cardboard was recycled by Bestway Disposal

588 pounds of liquid (73.5 gallons) was recycled back to Waste Water

380 pounds of refuse went to the landfill - ONLY!

Total Pounds Collected - **2,908.**

87% of collection was diverted from the landfill.

Through our efforts **2,528 lbs was diverted to be reused by industry or gardeners.**

Running these numbers through the ICLEI software used to determine the Emissions Inventory for Manitou Springs we achieved the following Carbon Reductions:

Diverting 540 lbs of food waste saved the equivalent of 501 lbs of CO₂

Diverting 700 lbs of mixed recyclables saved the equivalent of 2,728 lbs of CO₂

Diverting 700 lbs of mixed paper saved the equivalent of 2,598 lbs of CO₂

Diverting 588 lbs of liquid waste yielded the equivalent of 664 lbs of CO₂ reduction.

The total CO₂ reduction from these efforts is 6,491 lbs or 3.25 tons.

This **first-ever Southern Colorado Zero Waste Project** was collaboration between the Commonwheel Coop Festival Organizers, BETTR Recycling, and the Manitou Springs Climate Protection Campaign. We also received the generous support of Bestway Disposal. Thank You Volunteers for caring and making this such a big success!