

ENVIRONMENTAL CASE STUDY

Teamwork On and Off the Field

Located in West San Jose, this community Little League complex serves as a gathering place for young athletes, families and volunteers throughout the baseball season. As activity at the fields grew, so did the opportunity to improve waste diversion and meet California's Senate Bill (SB) 1383 organics recycling requirements.

Opportunity:

The facility was previously serviced with a 2-cubic yard dry waste dumpster collected weekly. After receiving notification that organics collection service was required to comply with SB 1383, the league worked with Republic Services Sustainability Advisor Lily Woon and site contact Katie to develop a program that would fit the unique needs of a recreational sports facility. With landscaping debris generated throughout the property, and food waste created by the on-site snack bar and unique events, the facility needed a convenient way to properly divert organic materials from landfill disposal.

Solution:

To support compliance and improve diversion, the league added a dedicated 1-yard wet waste dumpster for organic materials. The new service provided an outlet for landscaping trimmings, food scraps and other compostable materials generated across the property. To help visitors and volunteers correctly use the program, waste carts throughout the fields were clearly labeled with educational stickers showing proper items accepted for disposal. During the initial stages of implementation, volunteers were stationed near collection areas to assist families with proper sorting and answer questions about what belonged in each cart. This firsthand approach helped build awareness and encouraged participation from players, parents and spectators alike.

Takeaway:

Just as successful teams rely on everyone playing their part, effective waste diversion programs depend on community participation. By combining organics collection, clear signage and volunteer engagement, this West San Jose Little League created a practical and sustainable program that supports compliance, while helping keep the fields clean for future generations of players and fans.

Learn more at
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