



COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ

701 OCEAN STREET, SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060-4073

(831) 454-2000 WWW.SANTACRUZCOUNTY.US

CARLOS J. PALACIOS, COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

PRESS RELEASE

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Contact: Jason Hoppin

831-454-3401

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY NAMED OUTSTANDING RECYCLING PROGRAM

The County of Santa Cruz is pleased to announce that the National Recycling Coalition (NRC) named Santa Cruz County the Outstanding Community/Government Program at their 2018 Resource Recycling Conference in St. Louis.

The NRC's awards program recognizes outstanding individuals, programs and organizations around the country, both for achievements and for programs that serve as a national model and resource for other communities, individuals and programs. For-profit businesses, individuals, higher education, nonprofits and community / governmental programs are all recognized.

"This award is the culmination of 40 years of the County's commitment to recycling and to the environment," said Tim Goncharoff, a resource planner with the County of Santa Cruz. "This commitment comes from our residents, and the award is a recognition of their support for making Santa Cruz County a model for the rest of the country."

Santa Cruz County has been an environmental leader on several fronts, including recycling and waste reduction. The County was one of the first to ban single-use plastic bags and Styrofoam to-go packaging; implemented groundbreaking provider responsibility programs such as the drugs and sharps takeback program that became a statewide model; requires sustainable practices in food service businesses and composting of food waste; and has worked diligently to educate the public about recycling and waste reduction.

For more on Santa Cruz County's recycling and solid waste programs, go to <http://www.dpw.co.santa-cruz.ca.us/Home/RecyclingSolidWaste.aspx>.

For more on the National Recycling Coalition, go to <https://nrcrecycles.org/>.