



News Release

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The sun is shining on the City of Riverside – City purchases 25 new solar powered trash compactors and recycling containers

RIVERSIDE, Calif. – Thanks to an American Recovery & Reinvestment grant from the Department of Energy, the City will install approximately 25 of the combination trash /recycling units. The trash compactor units, completely powered by the sun, simply squeeze the trash inside the bin. This simple concept results in a reduction from five trash truck trips per week to just one per week. This will save the City about 1,665 gallons of fuel each year and about 575 labor hours that can be diverted to other clean up programs.

Siobhan Foster, Riverside's Public Works Director illustrates the unit's energy efficiency, "One unit uses just 5 watt hours of solar energy per day. Driving a garbage truck for just one mile uses the equivalent energy of operating one of these containers for 8 years!"

The containers compact up to 200 gallons of trash into just 40-60 pounds. And, when there is no sun, the units have a battery reserve designed to last two to three weeks without charging.

Each 540 pound trash container will be paired with bottle and can recycling unit offering a green solution to help improve air quality and encourage recycling. The containers are safe, secure and easy to use.

Two containers have already been installed in the Riverwalk area. For more information, please call "311".

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