

# Recycling Association of Guam



October 2010

Recycling Association of Guam promotes awareness of alternative resource management. Our mission is to reuse, reduce, recycle, and compost. We educate residents through public events and student outreach, magazines, news articles, composting instructions and environmental literacy.



We care about our island.

Keep Guam green.

Parents and employers are role models promoting the recycling habit. Recycling involves collecting, sorting and processing discarded goods and remanufacturing them into new products. Today, much of the aluminum, glass, paper and steel used in packaging is already recycled. Half the nation's aluminum cans are made from recycled aluminum, with one-quarter of the raw fibers used in the paper industry made from recycled paper products.

Glass containers, office paper, laundry detergent bottles, steel cans, paper packaging, cardboard boxes and aluminum cans are easily recyclable materials that get thrown away every day. Recyclables kept separate from household waste can be collected through recycling programs.

Collected materials are further sorted and processed for sale to manufacturers.

Money earned from the sale of recyclable materials can benefit the individual recycler or help communities and companies offset operating costs. Recycling allows communities to reduce waste disposal costs. Energy consumption is also reduced by recycling. (Source: Municipal Solid Waste in the United States: 2005 Facts and Figures, U.S. EPA, 2006).



## Recycle Regatta Award

Who is this young man? A recycle boat made from detergent bottles and plastic

containers was photographed at the Mariana's Yacht Club. Do you know this adventurer? If so, please contact Paul Tobiason at Recycling Association of Guam.

Photos courtesy of Cecilia Z. Ross



### Paul's Pointers

Magazines, newspapers and catalogs can stack up at home before you even realize it. You chose to receive some, but others simply arrive in the mail,

day after day. Recycling is an option, but preventing them from reaching you is a better strategy. Review your list of subscriptions and cancel those you don't have time to read. Contact catalog companies and ask

them to remove your name from their mailing lists. Send the Stop Junk Mail Card to the Direct Marketing Association's Mail Preference Service. This can reduce the amount of unwanted mail you receive.

Local villages and government can reduce waste, improve the environment, and save money -- all through recycling. Recycling reduces the volume of valuable materials thrown away and puts them the recycling loop. Think commodities, think economics, think recycling!



### Payless Eco Bags

Your actions and decisions impact the amount of waste generated on Guam. Even a simple act like discarding a disposable coffee cup, which seems like an insignificant amount of waste, can quickly add up if thousands of your fellow Islanders do the same. Changing your behavior and encouraging others to consider waste prevention can make a difference.

Payless Markets delivers green shopping bags; Recycling Association of Guam launches Environmental Education.

### Environmental Heros

Not recycling wastes and excess raw materials can be costing your business. New reuse and recycling methods make it possible to create the same products while reducing raw material requirements, lowering waste disposal fees and potentially creating materials that can be sold to other industries. Recycling makes dollars and sense!

Environmental Heroes award for Pyramid Recycling; Paul Tobiason, RAG president, presents award to Eric Hseuh at the Outrigger Hotel.

Photos courtesy of Recycling Association of Guam

### Green Expo

Parents and employers are role models for the recycling habit to change our "disposable" society. Educating Guam's people, young and old, about recycling and the consequences of just "throwing it away" creates life-long recycling habits, preserves natural resources, reduces energy consumption and reserves landfill space for non-recyclable materials. Education equals protection of Guam's resources, for the present and the future.

Payless Markets promotes Green Bags, Micronesia Mall.

# ECO UNIVERSITY



Ordot Dump, photo courtesy of Recycling Association of Guam



Agana Beach at sunset, photo courtesy of Cecilia Z. Ross

## Guam college students ask, “Where does our trash go?”

### Students inspect the Ordot dump.

In 2007 Guam Department of Public Works announced that the Ordot dump was full and could be closed the following year. After media coverage, trash on Guam became a public issue. The Pacific Daily News wrote an editorial claiming that GovGuam should get out of the trash business. The Recycling Association of Guam agrees; with the 2010 elections, and an incoming administration what has really changed? Has the flow into the dump decreased? Learn how can we reduce Guam’s trash load.

Phone numbers, recyclers and locations: [www.guamrecycling.org](http://www.guamrecycling.org)

|                                     |             |             |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Bali Steel (metallic waste only)    | Apra Harbor | 635-1123    |
| FSM Recycling                       | Harmon      | 649-2400    |
| Guam Metal Development              | Harmon      | 688-5171    |
| Isla Recycling (steel/ferrous only) | Dededo      | 637-9805/6  |
| Island Scrap Yard                   | Barrigada   | 637-1687    |
| Pyramid Recycling                   | Harmon      | 646-8130    |
| Formosa Recycling (steel only)      | Harmon      | 646-3731    |
| Triple Star Recycling               | Harmon      | 648-2910/11 |
| Xiong's Recycling                   | Harmon      | 649-4514/15 |

Paul Tobiason is president of RAG and newsletter publisher. Cecilia Z. Ross is a technical editor, and an advanced open-water diver, who advocates for conservation.