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Riverside County

**NEWS RELEASE**

Contact: Janet Moreland, Recycling Specialist  
Riverside County Department of Waste Resources  
(951) 486-3200

## Recycle and get free entry to the Riverside County Fair & National Date Festival on Wednesday

Families can enter the Riverside County Fair & National Date Festival for free on Wednesday (2/21) by recycling at the gate. The Riverside County Department of Waste Resources is offering #WasteWednesday, a special recycling collection day for fairgoers, to increase the awareness about the importance of properly recycling hazardous household products.

Residents can bring items including small, used electronic devices such as cell phones, telephones, tablets, radios, DVD players/recorders, receivers, computer peripherals like a mouse, keyboard, driver, reader, etc., and ink cartridges.

At least one item per admission is necessary. Materials will be collected on #WasteWednesday 2018 (Feb. 21) at the main gate and gate 6 of the Riverside County Fair & National Date Festival, located at 46350 Arabia St. in Indio. Business waste, automotive batteries, single-use alkaline batteries and lead acid batteries will not be accepted for this promotion. No other household hazardous wastes will be accepted.

This program is provided by the Department of Waste Resources and the Household Hazardous Waste Collection Program. It is important to keep hazardous materials out of the trash to protect county landfills. The department's mission is to protect the general public's health and welfare by efficiently managing Riverside County's solid-waste system. The current Household Hazardous Waste collection schedule is available online: <http://www.rcwaste.org/hhw>.

Returning to the festival this year will be an improved Recycle House in the Junior Exhibit building for kids to have active play to learn the appropriate way to handle household items that are no longer

needed/wanted. Children will determine if items need to be landfilled, recycled, composted, reused for donation, or taken to household hazardous waste collection program. The exhibit will be available all 10 days of the Riverside County Fair & National Date Festival.

The department is also providing Bigbelly solar-powered, compacting waste and recycling bins at 10 locations in the fairgrounds. The Bigbelly units hold five times as much as traditional waste bins and electronically notify the custodial staff when they are full. They are solar-powered, enclosed, smart stations. The enclosed design keeps waste in and pests out; knowing when to collect and keeping waste contained means that the fairgrounds benefit from cleaner spaces by reducing windblown and visible litter.

Riverside County Department of Waste resources is committed to sustainable waste reduction solutions and improving recycling in county facilities and public spaces.

For more information, contact Riverside County Department of Waste Resources at (951) 486-3200 or [www.rcwaste.org](http://www.rcwaste.org).