



NEIGHBORHOOD INFORMATION

Neighborhood Environmental Project Case Study Form

Neighborhood/Community Name Maple Leaf Golf and Country Club

Project Coordinators: Maple Leaf Fire Club

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PROJECT INFORMATION: *Track 4 Resource Management -Metal Recycling Project*

Please provide an overview of the project. Why did you choose it? What were the conditions like before and after implementing the project?

Maple Leaf Golf and Country Club (MLG&CC) is a senior residential community with over 1100 homes. The golf course is a certified Audubon sanctuary and the community is enrolled in Green Neighborhoods. The community is a strong promoter of environmental sustainability.

The Maple Leaf Fire Club is comprised of 18 retired first responders. The club organizes and serves a spaghetti dinner fund raiser every year for over 1100 people and operates a weekly metal recycling program that collects aluminum cans, washers, dryers, stoves, refrigerators, and hot water heaters. The club dismantles the larger items and segregates the pieces into different metal groups. The Fire Club contributes thousands of dollars each year towards health and safety needs, social activities, and programs for community betterment.

Prior to the Fire Club metal recycling program large metal objects and corporate metal waste went to landfill. The funds recuperated from the metal recycling program have been valuable in purchasing items that would not have been possible using the corporate budget.

Please list your goals for this project:

- Collect all aluminum cans used by residents and corporation staff
- Collect and dismantle large metal items and appliances
- Arrange for the production and distribution of community maps
- Provide health and safety items for use by park residents
- Support first responder events
- Reduce metal waste
- Support events that promote or improve community well-being

What specific steps did you take to implement your project? What kind of ongoing maintenance will it require? (Please give sufficient detail so that someone interested in duplicating this project could do so.)

- Place can recycle containers in all corporate buildings
- Organize a weekly collection of all cans and discarded metal appliances
- Purchase a used truck
- Construct and equip a metal handling area

- Deliver recovered metal to purchaser
- Advertise project on Channel 195 and in Accents

This program requires some maintenance (truck and equipment) and ongoing purchases of tools and packaging items.

Describe the results you achieved. What were the environmental benefits? Please be as specific as possible about any tangible results (i.e., numbers of acres naturalized, new species observed, or number of fledglings).

The program significantly reduced the amount of metal waste going to landfill. The money received is used in club programs that provide colored community maps to all residents, 23 park benches, a memorial Veteran's park, Christmas lighting decorations, street lighting, park fountain/floral displays, stop sign improvements, defibrillators, handicap lift chair at Charlotte pool, tables, and chairs at community centers. The Club also provides wheel chairs, canes, ramps and other safety equipment to residents. The Fire Club provides and funds an annual luncheon for park employees.

How did people respond to the project? How did you communicate your actions and results?

There is full community support for this program as residents put out their aluminum cans on Wednesdays and contact club members for large item pick-up. The club communicates its actions on the local TV channel and on the Maple Leaf web site. The Corporation officers have often expressed their appreciation for the Club activities carried out in the community. Many Fire Club initiatives go unannounced but quickly become known through word-of-mouth.

**What, if anything, would you do differently if you were to do the project again?
What would you recommend to others implementing this project?**

Would not change the project in any significant way. Minor adjustments have been needed over time to meet Club objectives. We recommend the program to others. The Club is a great social group and receives immense personnel gratification by providing support to important community programs.

How much did it cost to implement this project?

The Club purchased a used truck and added a metal handling area with a shed. The costs were approximately \$4000. Other items have been covered using volunteer hours and personal donations.

What are your anticipated or actual financial savings?

An estimate of financial savings cannot be projected for materials that might have ended up as garbage. Money raised by the in Club is used to offset Corporate costs. On average the Club metal recycling program donates five thousand dollars a year towards projects such as those described above.