



County of San Diego Commercial Recycling Case Study



Village Medical Center
577-591 E. Elder Street
Fallbrook, CA



Village Medical Center

The County of San Diego staff and San Diego Resource Management and Associates (SDRMA) worked with the property manager (PM), and hauler to initiate recycling at this medical center. The medical center consists of approximately 15 independent medical businesses including medical, dental, mental, and holistic health private practices. The dumpsters are located behind the buildings in the parking lot and are easily accessible from the street.

The first visit to the Medical Center consisted of interviewing each individual business about their recycling practice. The businesses were enthusiastic to recycle. The next step was to establish recycling service. Once recycling service was established, education and outreach was provided to the businesses. In-office bins were provided by the County as needed to make recycling seamless.



New recycling service

The medical center generates cardboard, office paper and mail, and food and beverage packaging from tenants bringing their lunch. There are some cleaning supply jugs and paperboard containers. Non-recyclable, non-hazardous medical waste is also generated, such as latex gloves, paper towels, and used sanitation material (disposable chair or bed covers, smocks, etc). Prior to implementation, all material was disposed in the trash. Illegal dumping of construction and household material also occurs.

Recycling implementation occurred from December 2013 through January 2014. Business managers were thankful and excited to receive free recycling bins from the County and save \$30 per month on their trash bill. Fewer trash pickups and more recycling allowed for this savings.



Clean recycling bin after implementation