



Celebrating Kids, Crafts and Critters at the 2008 Shenandoah County Fair
August 22nd – August 30th
Woodstock, Virginia

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Shenandoah County Fair Awarded Recycle Bin Grant

The Shenandoah County Fair and its Recycling Group received exciting news on Earth Day 2008 when they were told by Alec Cooley of the National Recycling Coalition (NRC) in Washington D.C., "Congratulations to the Shenandoah County Fair! You're a recipient. We received 1,100 applications from across the country, 75 of which were accepted."

Michael Collins and Conner Shirley, co-founders of the Stonewall Jackson High School Environmental Club, helped fair staff complete the bin grant application. With a focus on preventing waste and providing a venue for education, the students made a strong case for the 150 cardboard containers that will be used during the 2008 Fair season. "Since Boy Scout Troop 5 will cover the evening shift, Conner and I are organizing a group of high school students to participate in the daytime recycling schedule. Students interested may contact us by leaving a message at the fair office", Collins said.

"Through our partnership with the fair, we are offering environmentally-minded, responsible businesses, organizations, and individuals the opportunity to show their support for recycling and the environment by customizing the recycle bins through the bin sponsor program." stated Howard L. Colson, a CPA for Yount, Hyde & Barbour, P.C. and Assistant Scout Master of Boy Scout Troop 5, which is an integral partner in this community service project. Bin label sponsorships are available at the \$100 level and come complete with a window decal and recognition on ShenCoFair.com.

Fair manager Marcy McCann explained "Funds raised through sponsorships will be used to purchase permanent recycling bins for use at future fairs and other community events. They will also help cover the costs of items needed for the Recycling Station, where the youth will separate the materials during this nine day event. Our goal is to lessen the impact on the landfill and build a long lasting, self perpetuating educational recycling program for the fair and all other major events held on the fairgrounds."

The 75 grant recipients represent a cross section of community groups, local governments, colleges and non profit organizations across the country. Grant recipients select recycling bins from a preset list of options. The Bin Grant is sponsored by The Coca-Cola Company and is designed to promote and support community recycling in the U.S.

"The Bin Grant program is designed to help communities and organizations jump-start or expand their recycling programs and to further promote recycling of used bottles and cans," said Scott Vitters, director of sustainable packaging for the Coca-Cola Company. "Bottles and cans are valuable recyclables and can be reused to make new products as well as new bottles and cans. By making more recycling bins available, we hope to encourage people to make recycling a habit in their daily lives."

"The response to this grant program has been phenomenal. The extent and diversity of applications solidly demonstrates how citizens across the nation are addressing recycling on a community level," said Kate Krebs, executive director of the National Recycling Coalition. "It's a privilege for NRC to partner with Coca-Cola to provide recycling collection bins that will build, expand, and strengthen recycling programs at school, work and play."

The Bin Grant Program provides recycling bins directly to recipients and leverages the purchasing power and expertise of the NRC. Grants are offered twice a year, in the fall and spring, through an online application process. The Fall 2008 grant application period will begin on September 22 and extend through October 24. Further information about the grant program is available at <http://bingrant.org/>.

Info below not for publication:

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