

Reducing Plastic Waste

Just think of the power of 40,000 girls and 22,000 volunteers joining forces for this Take Action Project!

WHO: All Girl Scout Levels

WHERE: YOUR Community

WHEN: February 1, 2011 - April 30, 2011

WHY: To make the world a better place

AND: Get a free Journey book & \$50 mini-grant
(while supplies last)

BEGIN: Register as a troop, group or individual by submitting the following information to dmoore@girlscoutsla.org:

1. Leader's name, email & address
2. Troop number
3. Service unit number
4. Program grade level

FOLLOW THE STEPS OUTLINED BELOW.

Step one:

Identify a plastic waste issue in your neighborhood, community, city, or town

- How is plastic made and used?
- How much of your household waste is made of plastic?
- Does your community have easy access to a recycling program?
- How many items can you find that are made with recycled plastic?
- How do businesses discard their plastic waste?
- Does plastic waste harm ecosystems?

Step two:

Research how you can make a difference in your area of concern.

Plastics waste management & recycling

Website: <http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Plastics>

Environmental Protection Agency

Website: <http://www.epa.gov/epawaste/index.htm>

Plastics make it Possible

Website: <http://plasticmakeitpossible.com>

American Chemistry Council – Plastics

Website: <http://www.americanchemistry.com/plastics>

These are only suggestions! There are many more resources available to you through your local library or on the internet!

Step three:

Invite others to support and take action with you:

- Friends and classmates
- Family – whether close by or far away!
- Business owners and community groups
- Government representatives
- Neighbors and community members

Step four:

TAKE ACTION

- Keep track of all the people you engage, educate, or inspire to reduce plastic waste and make the world a better place!
(each Girl Scout should speak to *at least* 10 people)

Suggestions:

- Initiate a door to door campaign your troop can do in your neighborhood.
- Create a presentation about your plastic waste issue and to show people why it is important, and how they can help!

Step five:

Report to the council (dmoore@girlscoutsla.org) the results of your efforts. Please see the report form on the Take Action & Forever Green link on the website. The deadline is **April 30, 2011**.

FINAL RESULTS: Submit your project results to dmoore@girlscoutsla.org. Your report should include:

- Leader's name(s)
- Troop number
- Service unit number
- Program level
- Names of Girl Scouts participating
- What issue was addressed
- How many people were engaged,
- Hours spent
- How you might keep the project going.

Step six:

Celebrate your success!

