

IT'S NOT EASY BEING GREEN

Some time ago, I was asked to join the Social Action Committee as their Green person. In addition to meeting with the group, I was also asked to write something every month about the environment and what we can do about it. This is the first of four articles.

I've always recycled my paper, plastic, cans, bottles and yard waste. Since moving to Las Cruces, however, I have had to modify the scope of my recycling since the city and the dump will only take certain items. So here is what I do now:

1. Take all newspapers and corrugated cardboard to the city dump sites like the one on El Paseo in the K-Mart parking lot or the one in the Target parking lot next to Albertsons off of Telshor and Lohman. Corrugated cardboard does not include cereal boxes.
2. Wash out all # 1 and # 2 plastic containers and take them to the dump at the west end of Amador. The city has large, well marked bins there for plastics, paper, cardboard and tin.
3. Wash out all tin and aluminum cans and take them to the dump at the west end of Amador.
4. Gather up my yard waste and take it to the dump at the west end of Amador. The city grinds up all yard waste and uses it for mulch.

I know the city of Las Cruces is not very progressive in its collection and treatment of recyclable materials. I still cringe every time I have to throw a bottle or glass jar in the trash. But if you follow the steps I have outlined above, then you're contributing to improve the environment.

We'll talk more next month

Charlie Scholz