

CTRA MEMBER FACTS

Cooperative Teamwork & Recycling Assistance has helped rural Texas recycle since 1994.



 <p>Recycled >133,000 tons of materials</p>	 <p>Gave recycling access to >517,000 Texans (including members that represent >120 public and >500 private entities)</p>	 <p>Generated >\$9.4 million in revenue for member communities</p>
 <p>Saved >400,000 cubic yards of landfill space & >\$168,000 in landfill fees</p>	 <p>Received >\$300,000 in grant funding (from CTRA grant writing services) to support member communities</p>	 <p>Saved >95,000 trees</p>

WHO IS CTRA?

The only organization of its kind operating in Texas, CTRA's mission is to promote and support the implementation of productive, cost-effective recycling programs in Texas - focusing on underserved rural communities. CTRA seeks and negotiates connections with end markets for recyclable commodities; 90% of revenue is passed on to members.

WHAT DOES CTRA DO?

- Provide technical assistance and recycling education.
- Establish programs that can create revenue streams and jobs for members.
- Coordinate marketing and transportation for recyclable commodities.
- Seek, negotiate and maintain vendor contracts with brokers and/or intermediate buyers, ensuring the best pricing and prompt payments.
- Offer grant writing services.
- Support sister organizations (Keep Texas Beautiful & State of Texas Alliance for Recycling).

To learn more, visit our web site at www.recyclingassistance.org.

Cooperative Teamwork & Recycling Assistance (CTRA)
Phone: 512.236.1134 ▪ Email: Info@RecyclingAssistance.org

Cooperative Teamwork & Recycling Assistance (CTRA) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

SPONSORING CTRA

Sponsoring CTRA at any level will support Texas rural communities by earning revenue, creating jobs and fulfilling their recycling goals.



CTRA Donor Benefits	Lonestar	Yellow Rose	Bluebonnet	Friend of CTRA
	\$10,000	\$5,000	\$1,000	<\$1,000
CTRA Official Presentations: Logo on all presentation materials (5-10/year)	X	X		
CTRA Website: Logo + URL with short description	X*	X	Logo Only	Name Listed Only
CTRA Quarterly Newsletter Email: Logo + URL	X*	Logo Only	Logo Only	
Social Media: Sponsor mention on CTRA social media entities	X	X	X	
Complimentary State of Texas Alliance for Recycling Membership (\$150 value)	X	X		
Trade Show Exhibits: Recognition at all CTRA exhibit opportunities for one year	X	X	X	

*Indicates premium placement

WHAT DO SPONSORSHIPS PAY FOR?

All donations are tax-deductible.

- Promoting recycling throughout the state of Texas, with special focus on underserved, rural areas.
- Providing technical and educational assistance to all CTRA members that represent public and private entities.
- Supporting environmental services that provide a better quality of life for rural Texans.
- Participating in the development of programs that increase recycling rates (i.e., Study on Economic Impacts of Recycling, workshops, state certification program, etc.).
- Sustaining the CTRA office and staff and enabling them to expand services and service area.
- Providing support for communities and businesses throughout the state, regardless of membership.
- Assisting sister organizations (Keep Texas Beautiful & State of Texas Alliance for Recycling).

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CASE STUDIES



Defying Odds & Winning Awards in the Texas Panhandle

TEXAS PANHANDLE

- Booker, TX | Lipscomb & Ochiltree Counties
 - Population: 1,000
 - Program Established: 2010
 - Total Tonnage Since 2010: 521 tons
 - Total Revenue: \$51,659
- Clarendon, TX | Donley County
 - Population: 2,205
 - Program Established: 2000
 - Total Tonnage Since 2000: 1,280 tons
 - Total Revenue: \$103,366

Situation: While Texas Panhandle living can sometimes feel isolated, the area is thriving with environmentally mindful citizens. The Panhandle Environmental Partnership along with the Panhandle Regional Planning Commission has established recycling programs in over 15 communities and are especially proud of the programs in Booker and Clarendon, Texas. These programs began with the intention of giving each one the equipment and support for the best chance to be successful, and as a result, they have made great strides in the Panhandle area.

Solution: In Booker, the program is extremely unique. It is managed almost entirely by the Booker Independent School District and staffed by high school seniors and one part-time paid employee (for the heavy lifting). The City of Booker originally tried recycling by obtaining a baler that sat idle for years with little support from the community. It wasn't until a senior environmental science class developed curriculum, created a business plan and appealed to the City for use of their equipment to start a recycling program at the school.



Clarendon residents have a designated recycle center that is open on weekdays during regular business, but they also have containers in town to make it easier and more accessible. The Clarendon facility is truly "green" by using a building that already housed equipment needed for the recycle center as well as used shipping containers to store recyclables until they are ready to go to market.

Benefit: The Booker program has garnered a ton of support from the community and has since led to composting and a community garden. In 2016, the Booker recycling program won the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality's Texas Environmental Excellence Award, the state's highest recognition. The City of Clarendon does not own its own landfill, so their trash has to travel 30 minutes away to be disposed, and tipping fees can be expensive. Without including the time, fuel and employee costs to ship the refuse, it's estimated that Clarendon has saved \$43,200 in trash costs since their recycle center opened.



CASE STUDIES



A Typical Municipal Program

RIO GRANDE RIVER VALLEY

- Brackettville, TX | Kinney County
- Population: 1,600
- Program Established: 2008
- Total Tonnage Since 2008: 422 tons
- Total Revenue: \$37,812



Situation: The City of Brackettville, Texas, is small but no less experiences typical consumer rates for the Rio Grande River Valley in South Texas. As incomes rise in the area, this increases consumerism, which equates to more waste that can be recycled.

Solution: In 2008, Brackettville implemented a recycling program through CTRA to recycle cardboard collected at a central location point, staffed by one City employee to process and bale the material. Once material is baled, it is sent direct to the mill where it will be processed into a “new” material. CTRA negotiated the mill pricing for Brackettville – a service provided to all CTRA members. Part of the Brackettville contract includes a guaranteed “baled floor price,” which is very rare in recycling contracts.

Benefit: Brackettville recycled 21 tons of cardboard material in the first year of their program. It was that year, however, that CTRA experienced the biggest market crash in its history of operation. While their net revenue was just short of \$600 that year, the city continued with the program and has since averaged 50 tons of cardboard and an average of \$5,200 revenue per year. The City has also introduced recycling in the Brackett Independent School District to encourage young residents to start recycling early.

A Fluctuating Population

RIO GRANDE RIVER VALLEY

- Ft. Clark Springs, TX | Kinney County
- Population: 1,200
- Program Established: 2009
- Total Tonnage Since 2009: 228 tons
- Total Revenue: \$5,056



Situation: Ft. Clark Springs’ unique recycling program was developed for its unique residents in this former Army fort turned private community. Since many residents are part-time snowbirds who want to avoid expanding their current landfill area at a high cost (twice the cost as the average Texan), they needed a recycling alternative that was more cost-effective.

Solution: Because neighboring Brackettville only recycles cardboard, Ft. Clark Springs set up a nearby recycling center for everything else: paper, #1 & #2 plastics, steel cans and aluminum cans. For two hours a week, two volunteers sort and unload materials being dropped off at the facility. At least 24 volunteer hours are spent at the facility per month.

Benefit: Despite any financial or operational shortcomings, this program is effective and proves to be a case study in achieving waste management balance in a unique community. While the population ebbs and flows seasonally, Ft. Clark Springs’ overall tonnage has increased each year. As of 2016, Ft. Clark Springs is now compacting their material to increase revenue and efficiency. They were also selected to participate in the Texas Rural Carton Recycling Project to establish carton recycling in their community, as well as in Brackettville and Brackett Independent School District.

CASE STUDIES



Reviving a Recycling Program

CENTRAL TEXAS

- Hamilton County
- Population: 8,500
- Program Established: 1999
- Total Tonnage Since 1999: 1,365 tons
- Total Revenue: \$85,539



Situation: In 1999, one of Hamilton County's commissioners established a recycling program located next door to the Sheriff's office to prevent theft and illegal dumping, as well as provide easy access for community service staff. Unfortunately, the County closed the facility in 2012 due to lack of funding and staff.

Solution: Local civic group Leadership Hamilton adopted the program and reopened the center. CTRA helped train the volunteers, discussed processing choices and explained how to make their program a success. Hamilton County's program recycles cardboard, paper, #1 & #2 plastics, steel cans and aluminum cans. Volunteers staff the facility for two days/month for a total of 35 volunteer hours. Volunteers spend an average of eight hours to process the material, and another eight hours is provided from community service workers.

Benefit: In 2014, Leadership Hamilton was recognized as the State of Texas Alliance for Recycling's Volunteers of the Year at the state capitol. The program has since begun processing numbers similar to when the County was running the facility. CTRA recently chose Hamilton County's program to be part of the Texas Rural Carton Recycling Project to pilot a program that could be replicated throughout the rural communities of Texas.

Grassroots Effort Leads to Success

CENTRAL TEXAS

- Utopia, TX | Uvalde County
- Population: 500 + State Park Visitors and Festival Goers
- Program Established: 2009
- Total Tonnage Since 2009: 436 tons
- Total Revenue: \$34,889



Situation: Utopia is a beautiful, but unincorporated, community in the Texas Hill Country, and as a result, there are no official recycling options. With its small year-round population, the city explodes with seasonal festival goers and nature enthusiasts who visit nearby Lost Maples State Natural Area and Garner State Park -- and who often add waste to Utopia's limited waste management options. Utopia's part-time citizens, often retirees from metro areas, believe recycling should be a part of their solid waste plan.

Solution: In 2009 with the help of CTRA, a group of volunteers established Utopia's recycling program, which receives support from Uvalde County (mostly in terms of pass-through grant options, including grants from the local COG to build the facility). This program recycles cardboard, paper, #1, #2 & #4 plastics, steel cans and aluminum cans, and it is truly a community effort. Local businesses, a church and private citizens have contributed to the facility's existence. The facility is open three days a week and manned with two volunteers for a total of 30 hours a week.

Benefit: In the first year, the Utopia facility turned a profit of \$1,847 with just 40 tons of materials. Since then, the program has been a key aspect to the Keep Utopia Beautiful organization, winning Keep Texas Beautiful's Governor's Community Achievement Award -- twice! Utopia now handles all recycling for Utopiafest, which attracts >3,000 people. They've also helped start recycling programs in local state parks. With help from their recyclable sales, Utopia was able to hire a part-time employee to cover the recycling demand.