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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Keep Your Blue Bin Clean on America Recycles Day

There's no better time to do a quick check-up on your blue bin than America Recycles Day on November 15. Recycling markets have changed quite a bit lately, so what you may have put in your bin earlier this year might not be recyclable now. Some of our plastics, for example, used to be shipped to Asian markets, where they were processed and then sold to manufacturers overseas. New foreign policies, however, now make the export of recyclables to Asian countries very limited.

While recyclers in the United States gear up to build new facilities and increase domestic capacity, please only put the following items in your residential recycling bin:

- Glass bottles and jars
- Metal cans, pots, and pans
- Mixed paper, magazines, newspapers, and non-greasy cardboard
- Plastic bottles and large containers that held a liquid with a #1 or #2 recycling symbol
- Rigid plastic containers with a #5 symbol, sized one-gallon or larger

If you're unsure about a particular item not listed here, check Santa Barbara County's waste reduction website, www.LessIsMore.org. Many of us "wish-cycle," meaning we put items in the recycling bin if we're not sure what to do with them. Material that is non-recyclable creates more work for the processing facilities and contributes to the residual trash that must be trucked back to our landfill. Take a moment to check LessIsMore.org or call your waste hauler if you're not sure.

You can also sign up for the Less Is More ReView, a monthly email that shares one or two tips a month on recycling, so you can become a recycling expert. To sign up just fill out the contact form at the bottom of www.LessIsMore.org.

America Recycles Day is a nationally recognized event that strives to increase awareness about recycling. More information about this annual day can be found at www.americarecyclesday.org.