Economics of Recycling in Rural Communities

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Feasibility of Financially Sustainable Curbside Recycling Service

Questions

- How many here currently have recycling collection or processing in their counties?
- How many have a curbside recycling pickup service offered in their counties?
- How many have a transfer station or recycling center in their counties?

Big Question

How do I get a recycling program moving forward in my community?

Answer:

1. Identify the Economic Impact of diversion and redemption values
2. Educate on the environmental effects to support a change in behavior

RECYCLING CAN

OPTIMIZE A BUDGET

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CREATE LOCAL JOBS

Rural Economics

- Due to fuel costs, distance to the closest landfill and tipping fees – Landfill waste costs far exceed the expenses of recycling

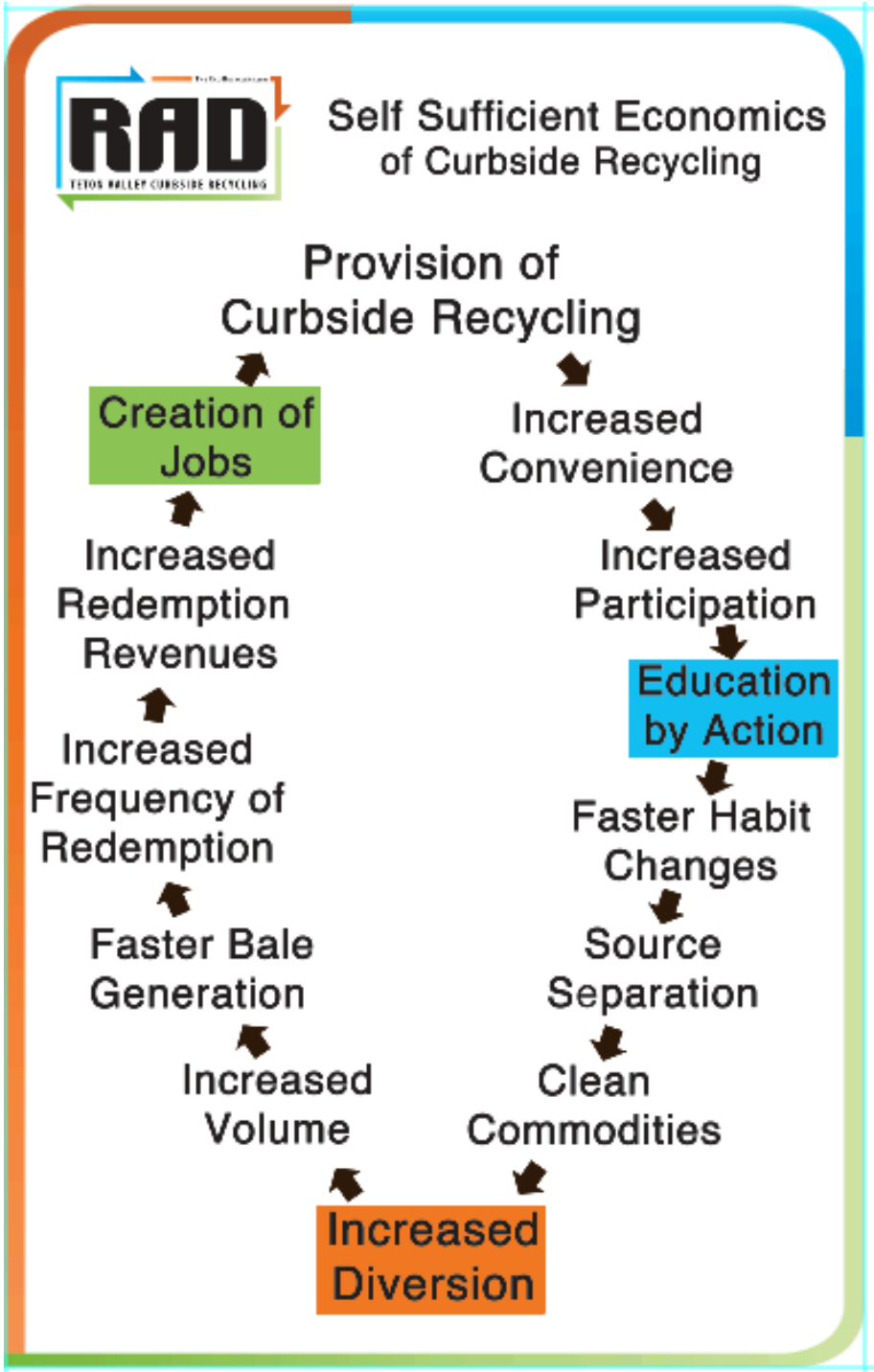
- The recycling industry employees approximately 5 people for every 1000 tons of material recycled

- Recycling can optimize a transfer station budget and create jobs in the local market

Objectives of Recycling

Increased Diversion

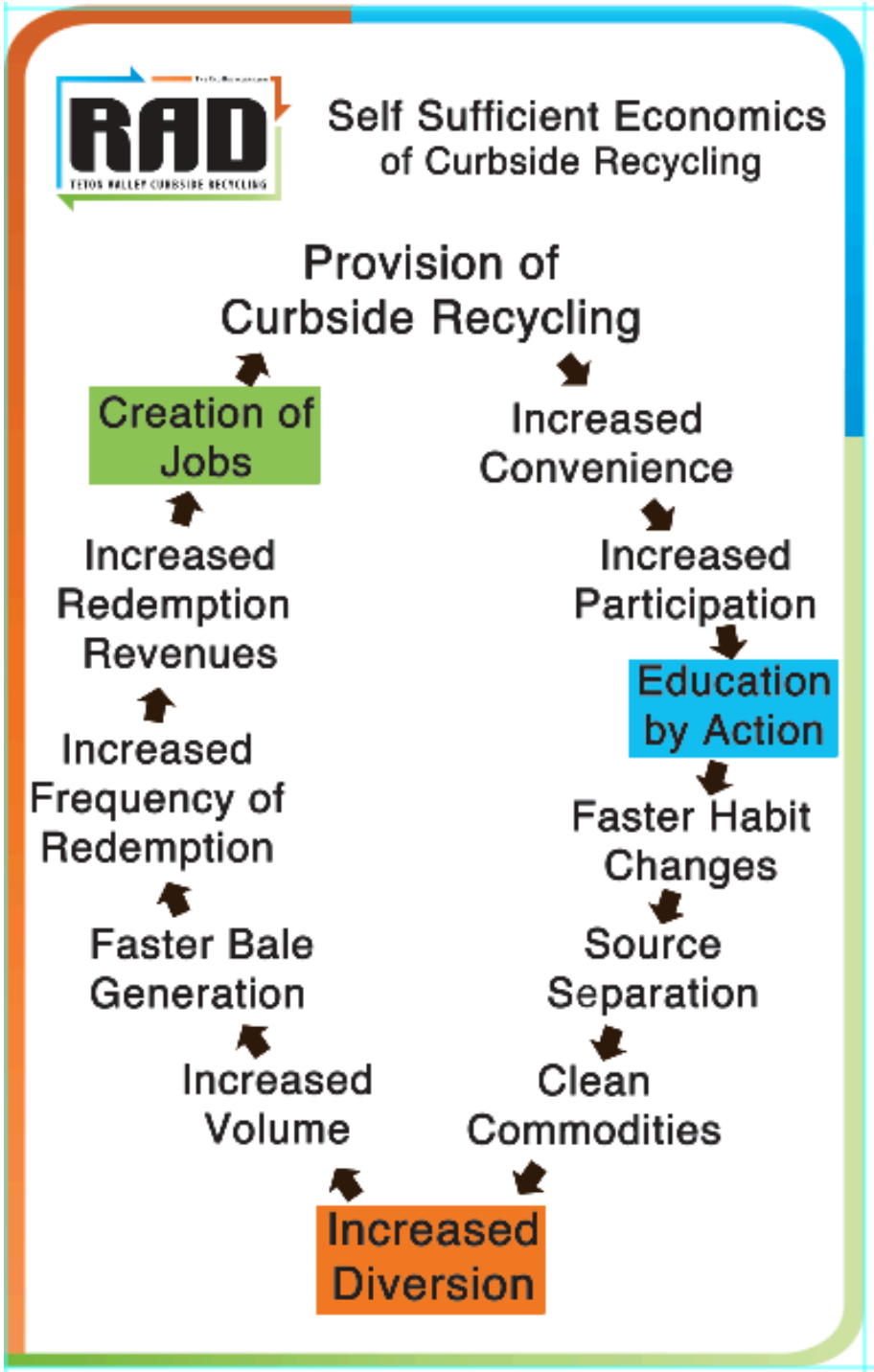
Optimized budget



Results of Recycling

Creation of Jobs

Provision of a Service for Residents



Entities Involved

Teton Valley Community Recycling

Purpose: Outreach and Education

TRANSFORMING WASTE TO RESOURCES

Teton Valley Community Recycling develops ethical waste reduction solutions that are financially and environmentally sound for our community.

www.tetonrecycling.org

TETON VALLEY COMMUNITY RECYCLING — is a nonprofit organization that works closely with Teton County to improve, expand and promote waste reduction in Teton Valley. We are currently working to increase recycling and waste diversion, reduce contamination in recyclables, and improve outreach.

Ongoing TVCR Programs include:

- *Recycling Center Tours*
- *Education programs in schools*
- *Community workshops*
- *Volunteer Program*
- *Waste Reduction Campaigns*
- *Winter Film Festival*
- *Monthly column in Teton Valley News*

For more information, visit *www.tetonrecycling.org.* Sign up for our monthly E-newsletter for regular updates and follow us on Facebook.

To recycle in Teton Valley, drop off recyclables at the Recycling Center in Driggs, www.tetoncountyidaho.gov, or sign up for curbside pickup through RAD Recycling, www.theradrecyclers.com.

Entities Involved

Teton County Idaho

Operations: Baling and Reselling to MRFs

Mode of RAD Ops

- How does RAD work with our County?
- How does a private hauler work with its customers?
- How often do we pickup?
- How do we determined volumes per pickup?

Ethical Recycling

Do you know where your recycling is going?

RAD advocates for selling to full disclosure commodity buyers only

RAD publishes via email & online where it takes its commodities and what they get turned into

People should recycle because it is the right thing to do, because it will create a better future for our children, and because if our children grow up recycling they will grow up to be better people.

Local Business Impacts

Impact on Local Business

Teton Valley Hospital - $208 savings & diverting 4.5 cubic yards of waste each month - Matthew Eagan, Support Services Supervisor

Dear Dave,

The Victor Gateway Station and the Sunny Side Café have always tried to be conscious of our environment and how we effect it. So when RAD approached us about beginning a cardboard recycling program we were very interested. We simply have to break down the boxes and put them in our shed and they get cleaned up every couple of weeks, it all works great. The one thing we had not expected was the big savings we would see in our trash services. We were able to completely get rid of one dumpster and reduce the pickups. For a total savings of $210.00 per month! It is so great to 1, support a new business, 2, help our environment, 3, save money. It's a win win!

Joni McCracken
(Manager Victor Gateway Gas Station)

Simple Economics

Reduce expenses by removing recyclable materials from the landfill stream,
Increase volumes of recycleables will increase redemption revenues,
Redemption revenues will afford more jobs in the local market

Why Curbside?

Curbside vs. Satellite Bin Collection

Source Separation = less contamination & less management at county level

Convenience of curbside = more participation = increased diversion = increased commodity volumes for $ redemption

Curbside has the potential to create jobs due to increased redemption money

Reward All

RAD Customer Reward Program

2 months free referral program

2 for1 Coupons monthly promoting local businesses benefitting both parties

Local business gift card awarded to “Best Sorter of the Month”

www.The RAD Recyclers.com

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