

May 4th, 2021  
Dear LARPD Board,

The Livermore Area Youth Advisory Committee has noticed that many plastic, recyclable tennis ball containers are ending up in the trash at the Livermore Community Center tennis courts. The Committee is suggesting that there be two recycling bins added inside the courts, one on each side. While there is a recycling bin outside of the courts, there are none inside and players rarely carry the ball containers outside to dispose of them. Putting recycling bins inside the court will encourage proper disposal of the plastic containers and keep them out of the landfill. The Committee understands that an increased number of bins will result in increased maintenance costs for LARPD. However, the community tennis courts are used by many people every day, so the number of recycled plastic containers will add up to make a difference. Additionally, more easily accessible recycling bins encourages community members to recycle more. The Committee has also noticed that people sometimes have trouble finding recycling bins around the Community Center, specifically in the back around the track and aquatic facilities.

Recycling is beneficial because it reduces the amount of waste sent to landfills. Landfills emit toxic carbon dioxide and methane that is harmful to the environment and accelerates global warming. Recycling also provides sustainable materials for use in the manufacturing of many common goods such as carpets, plastic bottles, and cans. Using sustainable materials conserves the Earth's resources and saves energy that would be used if these raw materials had to be harvested. For example, just five recycled plastic bottles creates enough fiber to make a square foot of carpet or to fill one ski jacket. Additionally recycling about 36,000 plastic bottles will save energy equivalent to the amount used by a two person household for a year.

In Livermore specifically, recycling can be very beneficial to the environment. Without recycling there can be serious damage to our grapes. Without sufficient amounts of grapes to produce wine, the economy will suffer and the ecosystem will be disrupted. Another benefit to recycling in Livermore is the impact it will have on the air and water. Both animals and humans can have severe lung damage caused by breathing polluted air or other illnesses caused by drinking polluted water. Recycling is the easiest way to help the environment and if we all work together to recycle we can reverse the damage to Livermore's environment.



Thank you,  
Livermore Area Youth Advisory Committee