

Dear Editor,

Heritage Hills and other area high schools need to consider improving their existing recycling programs. The programs at present are overlooking the need to recycle aluminum and plastic bottles at sporting events. When hundreds of bottles of soda and water are being consumed at each game, it should only make sense that recycling programs be updated.

We, the Heritage Hills Environmental class are beginning new recycling efforts in cooperation with Toyota Motors Manufacturing Inc. Our school alone generates over 20,000 plastic bottles a year. All of this contributes to the growing problem of how to dispose of all this material. Our class has created new green and white recycling bins in support of the "Green Movement". We would like to encourage all community members to help us recycle while at our events and at home.

At Heritage Hills events, we ask that everyone help our class and Binny, the recycling bin out by putting their bottles and cans in the green-and-white bins. We also would like to ask that people **remove all caps and empty all the liquid from all bottles**, before placing them in the bins. Please do not put trash in these bins.

We would like to thank everyone in advance for helping us clean up our campus. The plastic that we recycle is going to be reused instead of going to landfills, where it could take up to 400 years to decompose. We as Americans use over 80,000,000,000 aluminum soda cans every year. A 60-watt light bulb can run for over a day on the amount of energy saved by recycling 1 pound of steel. In one year in the United States, the recycling of steel saves enough energy to heat and light 18,000,000 homes. In reality, the energy saved each year through recycled aluminum beverage cans could light New York City for nearly 2 years. We would like to encourage the community to help the environment in their own homes. With everyone recycling, we could greatly reduce the amount of waste going into landfills.

It is a great honor to have the support of our community in our efforts. We are excited to introduce this program and we hope that everyone will support us.

Thanks,

The Heritage Hills Advanced Environmental Science Class  
Mrs. McCutchan, Teacher