

THE MILLION CANS RECYCLING CONTEST

First Term Update



The Million Cans Recycling Contest is off to a great start. Nearly 170,000 cans were recycled in the first two months of the program. That is more than 4,800 pounds of aluminum circulated back into productive use. And, according to the [Can Manufacturers Institute's Can Calculator](#), recycling 170,000 aluminum beverage cans saves enough energy to do 11,730 loads of laundry. Who wouldn't want to do 11,000 loads of laundry? Or maybe we should look at it another way. Recycling almost 5,000 pounds of aluminum prevents more than 16 million grams of greenhouse gas emissions. That is the same volume of emissions that would be produced by charging more than 2 million cell phones.

High fives to all the students, teachers and staff who have gathered the used beverage cans so far. You're doing great! Keep it going. La Vega Elementary in Waco, TX, deserves a round of applause for gathering the most used beverage cans so far with a current count of 43,225. In Waco, students Andreas Cavazos, Vanesa Hernandez and Ryan Hernandez have been particularly amazing contributors to the recycling contest!

Yankeetown Elementary School in Newburgh, IN, however, leads the competition by collecting 608 cans per student. Well done Yankeetown! What a great way to roll into the new year.

CURRENT STANDINGS AS OF DECEMBER 5, 2023.

School	Students	Cans	Cans/Student
Yankeetown Elementary School – Newburgh, IN	46	28,000.00	608.7
L.E. Willson Elementary - Muscle Shoals, AL	55	15,995.00	290.8
Our Mother of Perpetual Help - Olyphant, PA	23	6,265.00	272.4
Pleasant Hill Elementary - Olive Branch, MS	177	39,900.00	225.4
Rich Pond Elementary School - Bowling Green, KY	134	22,715.00	169.5
La Vega Elementary School - Waco, TX	300	43,225.00	144.1
Lewisburg Elementary School - Logan, KY	65	9,100.00	140.0
William M. Reeves Elementary School - Summerville SC	151	2,800.00	18.5

Note: One school has not yet been able to report due to logistical challenges that have recently been resolved.

MILLION CANS IN THE MEDIA

In addition to a long list of social media posts from many of our participating schools, media outlets have produced some excellent coverage of the contest. Check out the links below and contact us for help getting the word out in your community.



LOGO DESIGN CONTEST

We received some amazing entries in the logo design contest. Below are some of the students' entries that caught our attention. Keep your eye open for another special design contest coming in a couple months!



PROMOTIONAL FUNDING

Don't forget that promotional funding is available for participating schools.

Each school will be reimbursed up to \$250 to promote their recycling campaign through whichever channel that the school chooses. For example, the school may decide to promote the activity by:

1. Designing and placing posters and signs around the school or around the community.
2. Communicating to the PTA and parents.
3. Hosting special recycling events or recycling awareness spaces at normal school events (school carnivals, sporting events, music performances).

Additionally, a \$1000 promotional fund has been set aside to be split among the schools with the best promotional ideas. For a chance at the \$1,000, schools must submit a short summary of the idea and a budget to Scrap University Kids. The deadline for proposals has been extended to January 31, 2024. Send questions or proposals to jess@scrapuniversity.com. The contest organizers will select the best idea(s).

Look Who is Crushing The Million Cans Challenge!



"Last week ended our first month of aluminum can collection. We are so grateful for the many community members who stopped by with bags of cans...KEEP EM COMING TILL MAY!!!! We are thrilled to announce that our first month we submitted 457 pounds of cans which is approximately 15,995 cans. Students were having so much fun during recess crushing those cans all around campus."

- L.E. Willson Elementary School Alabama
December 5th, 2023

"My daughter, Lillian, took the time after the last Memphis Tigers football game to collect cans from the stadium. This week, she turned in 983 cans! She is absolutely LOVING collecting cans!"

- Lauren Mann-Hicks
Pleasant HILL Elementary School
December 8th, 2023



Crown Bowling Green, KY, educating Richpond elementary in the kickoff of the million can challenge. What a great opportunity for the community to come together in supporting this challenge.

Mitchell Parks, Crown Holdings, Inc
October, 2023

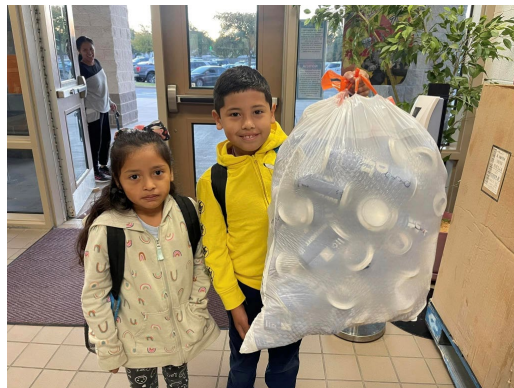
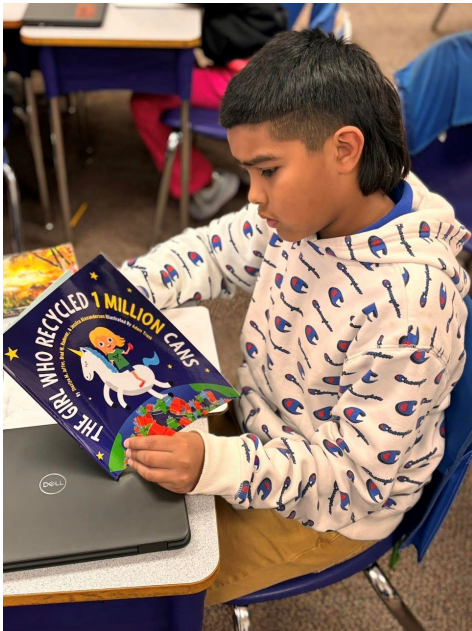


For more information about the Million Cans Contest or to share your school's recycling successes, contact Jessica Alexanderson at Scrap University Kids or Heath Cox at the Can Manufacturers Institute.

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Kids.ScrapUniversity.com/MillionCans



#MillionCans

Send us stories of your Million Cans Challenge activities and successes so that we can amplify your achievements. Remember to tag your aluminum beverage can recycling social media posts with #MillionCans

The Million Cans Recycling Contest would not be possible without the great support of our sponsors: **CMI Members:** Ardagh Metal Packaging, CANPACK, Constellium, Crown Holdings, Envases, Kaiser Aluminum, Novelis, Tri-Arrows Aluminum and our **Scrap Metal Partners:** S.A. Recycling, Alter Trading, Parrish Recycling Center, Cumberland Scrap Processors, Iskiwitz Metals & Nesbit Recycling, Sahn Metal Recycling, B&D Scrap Metal Inc, CMC Recycling