



Charleston County News Release

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See picture from a previous race of what NOT to throw in the recycling bin:

<http://www.charlestoncounty.org/newsimages/recyclingbin.htm>

Participants Asked to Recycle at Cooper River Bridge Run

Volunteers needed to help make a difference at the starting and finishing lines on Saturday, March 27

The [Charleston County Environmental Management Department](#) is asking all [Cooper River Bridge Run](#) participants to recycle their water bottles and other drink bottles and cans on the day of the race. The department will provide recycling support at the Cooper River Bridge Run's finish line and at the starting line festivities on Saturday, March 27.

Approximately 120 volunteers will be involved in the recycling and clean-up effort. To volunteer, contact Theresa Martin with the Charleston County Environmental Management Department by phone at (843) 720-7111 or by e-mail at tmartin@charlestoncounty.org.

Race organizers and the Charleston County Environmental Management Department are asking bridge run participants to be particularly mindful about not throwing any trash or recyclables on the ground before, during and after the race.

"We want to encourage everyone to recycle on race day and we are excited to have recycling available again during this event," said Martin, who coordinates the recycling component at the race for the Charleston County Environmental Management Department. "We also want to remind everyone to not throw fruit peels and other trash in the recycling bins."

Approximately 40 recycling bins, which will be provided by Charleston County Environmental Management Department and the [city of Charleston](#), will be placed in Marion Square so participants can recycle their plastic and glass bottles and aluminum cans. In addition, approximately 20 recycling bins will be placed along the starting line at two separate locations.

Volunteers will be at the starting line assisting runners with their recyclables. They will also help by picking any recyclables up off the ground. The starting line volunteer efforts will be led by the East Cooper Regional Medical Center's Green Team, the Charleston Miracle League and the Whole Foods Green Mission Team, with special thanks to the [town of Mount Pleasant](#).

At the finish line, recycling volunteers will be stationed at recycling bins and trash cans located together throughout the square. They will direct people to throw their items in the correct container. Volunteers will also walk around Marion Square to pick up recyclables off the ground.

Four large recycling drop site containers for plastic and glass bottles and aluminum cans, and containers for corrugated cardboard, will also be located in Marion Square.

Four large containers for corrugated cardboard and a large recycling drop site container will be available during the Cooper River Bridge Run Expo at the Gaillard Auditorium. A display about recycling will be set up inside the Gaillard for the runners to see as they pick up their race packets.

Recyclables collected at past Cooper River Bridge Run events:

- **2009:** 5,750 pounds of cardboard and 12,880 pounds of plastic bottles (*The large increase in bottles may be due to this being the attributed to the fact that 2009 was the first year they were collected at the starting line.*)
- **2008:** 6,240 pounds of cardboard and 2,160 pounds of plastic bottles
- **2007:** 6,590 pounds of cardboard and 2,065 pounds of plastic bottles
- **2006:** 6,995 pounds of cardboard and 2,060 pounds of plastic bottles
- **2005:** 4,560 pounds of cardboard and 2,420 pounds of plastic bottles
- **2004:** 4,820 pounds of cardboard and 4,860 pounds of plastic bottles
- **2003:** 5,300 pounds of cardboard and 4,620 pounds of plastic bottles

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The recycling effort is made possible by the following:

- Charleston County Environmental Management Department
- City of Charleston
- Alzheimer's Association
- Charleston Miracle League
- Special thanks to the Charleston County's Neighborhood Recycling Program sign volunteers; Lowcountry Community Emergency Response Team (CERT); the College of Charleston; and the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC).

Visit the Charleston County Web site at www.charlestoncounty.org for news, services and up-to-date information relating to Charleston County Government.