



Keep trash green, win a prize

From staff reports

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Alameda County residents are being offered a chance to win prizes for keeping recyclable and compostable materials out of the landfill.

During regular garbage collection days through June, the Ready Set Recycle Prize Crew will select random garbage bins and separate the contents into three categories: recyclables, compostables and garbage.

Households with the least amount of recyclables and compostables in their garbage relative to the whole bin will be declared the winners.

Multiple winners will be announced each week, and they will receive cash or prizes.

The best of all the winners -- the households with the least amount of recyclables and compostables in their garbage overall -- will receive prizes of as much as \$500.

County residents already divert 69 percent of their waste, but officials are hoping to raise that to 75 percent.

The prize crew will notify residents that they are eligible by leaving a tag on their garbage bin with information about how to participate in the contest or decline participation if desired.

A tag signals that the route has been randomly selected; only a percentage of bins on that route will be sorted and have the opportunity to win.



Alameda County residents also can participate in the contest and win prizes by taking the "I Recycle" Pledge at www.ReadySetRecycleContest.Org. The website also offers recycling tips, resources and a quiz to test residents' recycling IQ.

