

Draft Annual Report Eldorado/285 Recycles 2023

Highlights —

In April, “**Blowing in the Wind**” brought together state and local officials for a community discussion about plastic pollution in NM. Full house at Vista Grande Public Library.

In September, the **Reuse effort** at Eldorado Convenience Center was awarded **Diversion Project of Year** by the New Mexico Recycling Coalition.

During legislative session, members contacted legislators, testified at hearings to encourage passage of plastic bag reduction act. Passed by three committees but not heard on floor.

Ongoing —

Earth Day at ECIA

Another successful Flea Market in June

Two annual Road cleanups

Casket of Plastic at Capitol during legislative session

Parading plastic at the ECIA July 4 parade

Parading plastic at the Day of the Dead Celebration on the Santa Fe Plaza

Zero Waste in the Community —

Working on ZW with ECIA to establish ZW practices.

Volunteered with Eldorado Arts and Crafts Org. to make studio tour reception zero waste.

Compost installs slowed, but Reunity Resources installed a subscription compost drop-off at LaTienda (with initial help from Eldorado/285 R members).

And —

Members worked on Santa Fe County Committee to draft single use plastic reduction ordinance.

VISTAS articles were submitted montly; most appeared in print.

The ReUse area at ECC has become a community event. Open only six hours weekly, there are more visitors, more pounds diverted from the landfill and, gratefully, more volunteers. Statistics were reported for just five months of the year. # of visits — 3717 and approximate lbs. of materials diverted— 16324.

Collections at La Tienda continued with egg cartons, the newest addition. Coming in at about 100 cartons per week, they quickly filled Bienvenido’s storage and then were deposited at the Food Depot.

Collection #s.

Shoes -168 pair

Lights & Cords - 185 lbs.

Dental materials - 102 lbs.

Razors - 7 lbs.

Pens - 37.3 lbs.

Corks — 212 lbs.

Metal bottle caps — 33 lbs.

Socktober -242 pair socks

The in-person holiday party returned! Celebrated at ECIA, it was a time to welcome the ReUse volunteers, several of whom have become active within E/285R as well.