

NEWS RELEASE



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10 Years of Recycling at Big Lake

Springerville, AZ.... Responding to a need to reduce litter around Big Lake and nearby campgrounds, the Springerville Ranger District initiated a program 10 years ago to pick up aluminum cans by enlisting the help of younger visitors, who have responded accordingly. Many children have spent part of their time in the mountains picking up multitudes of discarded beverage cans and depositing them at the Big Lake Visitor Center where they have been rewarded with various Smokey Bear items depending upon how many cans were collected.

This summer the children picked up 377 pounds of cans (about 4,900 cans) which were salvaged and redeemed for a modest fee. Those funds will be used to purchase more Smokey Bear items to be awarded to children next year at Big Lake. These Smokey's helpers have been an invaluable source in keeping the forest clean and their efforts are greatly appreciated!

Aluminum can recycling saves about 95% of the energy required to produce aluminum from ore. The average aluminum can is comprised of more than 51% recycled content.



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