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***Don't Trash Arizona* Makes Litter Education Fun for Kids Returning to School
Anti-Litter Campaign Website Provides Teaching Resources, Crafts and Games**

PHOENIX (October 8, 2013) — Learning about litter can be fun, while at the same time having a profound impact on our children now and in the future. With students back in school, the [Maricopa Association of Governments](http://www.azmag.gov) (MAG) wants to “talk trash” through its [Don't Trash Arizona](http://www.DontTrashArizona.com) program and a redesigned website that connects to students on their level.

Educators and parents can easily use the interactive website, www.DontTrashArizona.com, to teach young children the importance of keeping Arizona clean and safe through games, activities, crafts and other resources.

“Our hope is that *Don't Trash Arizona* and its messages will shape the behavior of young students growing up to be more aware of the environmental and public safety consequences of littering,” said MAG Chair Scott Smith, mayor of Mesa. “The tools and resources created on the website make it entertaining and easy for all ages to learn more about litter prevention.”

Don't Trash Arizona now makes learning fun with its [Litter Patrol](#) arcade, comprising four games. Each game is designed to empower players to clean up trash on state and Valley freeways that has resulted from deliberate or accidental littering. The games allow players to give citations to litterers, sweep litter off the roadways, design custom street sweepers and test their litter trivia knowledge. Each interactive game was developed with varying levels and challenges that educate players with valuable information from experts in litter prevention and education.

The website also provides teachers with [educational tools](#) for classroom use, including printable worksheets and a downloadable PowerPoint presentation. All worksheets, activities and presentation materials align with the Civics/Government Strand of the Social Studies Standard for Arizona's fourth graders

For those looking to find fun and unique craft ideas, the anti-litter campaign's website also features a wide range of [craft activities using recyclable materials](#) that challenge kids' imaginations. Using recyclable materials not only helps to reduce waste but also increases awareness that common household items have more than one use. From building a birdfeeder out of a soda bottle to making tin-can windsocks, the website's craft ideas and detailed how-to instructions provide anti-litter education through a hands-on approach.

Whether visitors come to *Don't Trash Arizona's* website for fun or education, they will find a variety of options to learn about and stay engaged in the efforts of keeping Arizona clean and safe.

About *Don't Trash Arizona*

Don't Trash Arizona is a joint effort between the Maricopa Association of Governments and the Arizona Department of Transportation to address the economic, safety, and health impacts of freeway litter along regional and state highways. The program is funded through Proposition 400, which was approved by voters in 2004. That funding encompasses litter pickup, sweeping, and landscape maintenance, as well as litter education and prevention. *Don't Trash Arizona* seeks to change attitudes, awareness, and most importantly, behavior, when it comes to roadway littering. Visit www.DontTrashArizona.com.