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BEN LOMOND TRANSFER STATION AND RECYCLING CENTER TO REMAIN OPEN, CRV REDEMPTION SERVICES TO END JULY 2025

November 6, 2024 – Santa Cruz, CA – The County of Santa Cruz Community Development & Infrastructure Department announced that the Ben Lomond Transfer Station and its Recycling Center will remain open, though California Redemption Value (CRV) redemption services at the site will end on July 1, 2025.

While the transfer station's recycling center will continue to accept CRV beverage containers for recycling, it will no longer offer cash refunds in exchanges for these containers, which includes 5 cents for containers less than 24 oz and 10 cents for containers more than 24 oz starting July 1, 2025. Residents are encouraged to continue supporting Grey Bears' mission to feed seniors in Santa Cruz County by redeeming their CRV beverage containers at the Ben Lomond Transfer Station until June 30, 2025. Proceeds from the redeemed CRV items help fund meal programs and other essential services for seniors, allowing the community to make meaningful impact of local food security.

The changes align with updates from the California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle), which aims to make CRV redemption more accessible by shifting services to local beverage retailers. Starting January 1, 2025, all beverage retailers will be required to:

- Join a dealer cooperative, offering collective CRV redemption services, or
- Provide in-store CRV redemption directly to customers.

Most retailers will refund up to 50 cans or bottles, offering customers a more convenient recycling option during routine shopping trips. Residents can still recycle their beverage containers in their blue bins.