



**CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR  
2002 PROJECT SUMMARY**

<b>Name(s)</b> <b>Brigitte D. Buehler</b>	<b>Project Number</b>  22584
<b>Project Title</b> <b>Hawthorne's Bag-It and Tag-It vs. Westchester's Curbside Recycling System</b>	
<b>Objectives/Goals</b> My project was to see which recycling works best at reducing trash that ends up at a landfill in two different cities. <b>Abstract</b> <b>Methods/Materials</b> I picked 10 households in Hawthorne and Westchester. I explained a little about my project and gave them each a letter. The letter told them what they had to do. They had to measure the height of the trash and recycling with a measuring tape (cm) (that I gave them) before trash day and record it on the data sheet. I also gave them a questionnaire and main items page. The main items page is what they mainly threw away. I measured each curbside trash can to find the volume. <b>Results</b> My results were measured in cubic meters of trash of three types of trash: household recycling, yard waste recycling, and other trash (which goes to the landfill). Westchester residents recycled 0.26 cu. m. of household items and 0.13 cu. m. of yard waste weekly; they threw away 0.17 cu. m. of trash which went to the landfill. Hawthorne residents recycled 0.13 cu. m. of household items and 0.21 cu. m. of yard waste weekly; they threw away 0.24 cu. m. of trash which went to the landfill. My results showed that Westchester recycled more household items and threw away a lot less trash to the landfill. <b>Conclusions/Discussion</b> The household recycling was an extremely significant difference according to my two-sample t-test, showing people recycle more in Westchester. For yard waste, there was no significant difference at all. My conclusion is that Westchester's curbside recycling system works better than Hawthorne's "bag-it and tag-it" system at reducing trash that ends up at a landfill. People don't seem to recycle as much when they have to make an effort to find a bag and tag it.	
<b>Summary Statement</b> My project is to see which recycling system works best at reducing trash that ends up at a landfill, and Westchester's curbside recycling system worked better than Hawthorne's "Bag-It and Tag-It" system.	
<b>Help Received</b> My mom helped glue the papers on my board and my next door neighbor let me use her computer.	