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TAN ECO TEAM COLLECTS 150 POUNDS OF COINS

MILLERSVILLE, Md. – [Travel Advantage Network](#), one of the fastest-growing travel programs in the nation, celebrated one of its most successful fund-raisers when the company's Eco Team collected \$1,506 for the [Chesapeake Bay Foundation](#) during November. TAN Purchasing Specialist Dan Negrete spearheaded the effort by resurrecting an old idea: penny wars.

"The response was overwhelming," Negrete says. The two office buildings that comprise TAN's headquarters competed head-to-head to see which building could balance their pennies with their competitor's silver coin and dollar contributions. In the end, Negrete carted more than 150 pounds of coins to the bank for counting. "People really did step up for the penny wars," Negrete says.

"I think the penny wars created a lot of good old-fashioned fun," Eco Team chairwoman Dee Ann Arneson says.

"Dan found a creative way to support a terrific cause," says TAN President Brad Callahan. "He and the entire Eco Team continue to impress me with their ideas to enforce our company's green policies."

Formed in 2006, the Eco Team doesn't stick to ordinary recycling projects. Arneson says they once collected 100 pairs of sneakers to donate to [Nike, Inc.](#) for use in recycled playing surfaces like outdoor basketball courts. The team also distributed fluorescent bulbs and reusable grocery bags to its employees on Earth Day and regularly presents its Greenie Award to employees who promote and support the company's green efforts.

The team's daily efforts include lunch-room recycling bins, reminders to turn off lights and the use of paper pads recycled from old company request forms.

In the future, Arneson says TAN hopes to start a sponsor-a-highway project, enact green policies within the company's numerous properties and disseminate community green opportunities to employees.

The Eco Team's most recent fund-raising effort collected enough to purchase 60 trees for CBF. Negrete says he initially established a goal of \$1,000, but watched as contributions heartily passed it. "Wow. I never thought that would be obtainable. I thought \$1,000 was pushing it," he says.

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ABOUT TRAVEL ADVANTAGE NETWORK - Since 1992, TAN, a wholesale priced vacation accommodations program, has helped families and individuals create lifelong vacation memories. TAN is the proud recipient of the Better Business Bureau of Maryland's prestigious *Torch Award* for exemplifying high business standards and professional integrity and the Maryland Chamber of Commerce's *Philanthropy in Business Award* for outstanding and innovative commitment to local and national charities. TAN is a recipient of *Baltimore CEO Magazine's 2008 Future 50 Award*, recognizing the fastest growing companies in the greater Baltimore area. TAN was the only travel company to make this year's Future 50 list. To learn more, visit www.planwithtan.com.