eco-cycle GUIDE 2018

YOUR LOCAL GUIDE TO ZERO WASTE SUSTAINABLE LIVING!

KILOWATT KID

ECO-ELF

GREEN STAR

CAPTAIN ZERO WASTE

WONDER WORMY

BECOME A ZERO WASTE HERO WITH THE ZERO WASTE LEAGUE
DEAR ECO-CYCLERS AND OUR ENTIRE BOULDER COUNTY COMMUNITY,

Here’s a fact for you: The way we produce, consume and dispose of our “stuff” and our food is responsible for 42% of U.S. climate pollution. That’s a huge part of the climate problem we can address through Zero Waste. Clearly it is our collective role and responsibility to push the Zero Waste solution as far and as fast as we possibly can.

This Eco-Cycle Guide is intended to be a tool to help us do that. Inside you’ll find everything you need to know to strive for Zero Waste whether you’re at home, at school, at work, or out on the town. Boulder County has a goal of achieving Zero Waste (or darn near) by 2025. We can get there. In this guide, you’ll learn about some of the progress we’re making, such as:

**NEW UPGRADES** made at the Boulder County Recycling Center that will allow us all to recycle more types of plastics (see page 8).

**NEW PARTNERSHIPS** being forged between Eco-Cycle and other social enterprises to take hard-to-recycle materials and turn them into jobs for folks who may have a harder time finding jobs (see page 15).

**NEW TOOLS** and resources to help us all get to Zero Waste (see page 20).

Reaching Zero Waste is going to take ALL of us. Every day. Taking action. What we do together at the local level makes a difference—here at home and as a model for the nation!

Let’s do this together!

Yours in sustainability,

Suzanne (“Zan”) Jones
Executive Director
Eco-Cycle

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HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

LIVING IN A ZERO WASTE COMMUNITY MEANS SAYING NO TO TossING OUR RESOURCES IN A TRASHCAN AS THE DEFAULT. WE NEED TO CHANGE OUR CULTURE AND BEHAVIOR. EACH PAGE OF THIS GUIDE SHARES A CRITICAL STEP TOWARD ZERO WASTE AND INCLUDES TIPS, TOOLS, AND IDEAS. TAKE EACH STEP AND BY THE END OF THE GUIDE YOU’LL BE HELPING TO CREATE A ZERO WASTE COMMUNITY!

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ECO-CYCLE’S MISSION IS TO IDENTIFY, EXPLORE, AND DEMONSTRATE THE EMERGING FRONTIERS OF SUSTAINABLE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE SOLUTIONS THROUGH THE CONCEPTS AND PRACTICES OF ZERO WASTE. WE BELIEVE IN INDIVIDUAL AND COMMUNITY ACTION TO TRANSFORM SOCIETY’S THROW-AWAY ETHIC INTO ENVIRONMENTALLY-RESPONSIBLE STEWARDSHIP.
If we are to overcome the greatest challenges ever faced by any human generation—climate change, resource depletion, plastics in the ocean, declining local economies and social injustices, to name a few—we must adopt Zero Waste as the New Normal, community by community, across the globe. “Zero Waste” means more than making recycling and composting commonplace. Zero Waste redesigns and replaces the entire production system that helped create these planetary challenges in the first place.

**OUR CURRENT PRODUCTION SYSTEM GOES ONE DIRECTION, FROM THE EARTH TO THE DUMP.**

We are perpetually “taking” from the planet—and from people and other species—without giving back.

We take natural resources such as trees, petroleum, and metal from the earth to make our stuff, we use it, then dump those resources in landfills or incinerators when we’re finished. Then we head back to the natural resources and continue to cut them down, drill or mine them like they’re in infinite supply. Pretending that we can continue with this system in perpetuity is unrealistic and shirks our responsibility to future generations.

**A ZERO WASTE SYSTEM IS CYCLICAL — PRESERVING, RECYCLING, AND RECLAIMING RESOURCES.**

Zero Waste is the easiest, most cost-effective way communities can immediately start to create the change we need.

With Zero Waste, products are designed to use fewer resources, to be non-toxic, and to be reused, recycled or composted. Discards are captured and used to make new products instead of using new natural resources. It’s a cyclical system, as in nature, and works sustainably within the limits of our one planet. It also has some beneficial side effects: richer soil, cleaner water and air, local economic growth and jobs creation, and healthier food.

**YOU HAVE A ROLE IN CREATING A ZERO WASTE COMMUNITY!**

In the absence of federal leadership on most issues related to the environment, the way forward with Zero Waste lies with local communities, states, and businesses. That’s where the momentum and hope is building. We need YOU if we’re to be successful locally. Here are the roles each of us can play:

**BUSINESSES** can step up to recycle, compost, and also review and redesign their production systems to reduce their waste in the first place.

**INDIVIDUALS** can recycle and compost correctly, use additional facilities and tools in our community to recycle more, and reduce, refuse, and reuse. And everyone can advocate for local Zero Waste policies.

**STUDENTS** can learn how to help their schools be successful Green Star Schools.

**LOCAL GOVERNMENTS** can create new rules to ensure we use our resources wisely.

**VOLUNTEERS** are needed to be Eco-Leaders, trained to help fellow community members learn how to recycle, compost and live sustainably.

Find out more about what you can do!

Contact us at 303-444-6634, www.ecocycle.org/ecoleaders, or email recycle@ecocycle.org.

*ZERO WASTE GUIDE*

*Zero Waste: The New Normal*

Let’s Get Started with Zero Waste!
As we go about our days, ordering take-out and making stops at coffee shops, it’s easy to pick up unnecessary waste: straws that weren’t needed, paper napkins and plastic utensils, bags for small purchases, packets of soy sauce, chopsticks, to-go coffee cups and the like. These may seem like innocent gestures of convenience, but each material has its own history of resource extraction, pollution creation, extensive water consumption, and carbon impact. REFUSING these single-use, wasteful products and REUSING real stuff instead is key to truly living a Zero Waste lifestyle.

Here’s our start-up guide for what to avoid and which alternatives are healthiest.
REUSE INSTEAD!

REUSABLE BAGS
Look for bags made with post-consumer recycled materials. Bags that fold into little pouches can be easily stored in purses, backpacks, bikes, and cars so you never have that “Darn it, I forgot my bag!!” moment.

REUSABLE WATER BOTTLE
Stainless steel is best. Plastics #2, #4, and #5 are the safest plastics.

ZERO WASTE LIFE HACK!
Leave mason jars in your car for spontaneous leftover opportunities — they can withstand the heat and the cold!

REUSABLE MUGS
Go with stainless steel or ceramic. Plastic mugs can leach harmful chemicals into your drink. So can aluminum, which can be lined with the hormone-disrupting chemical and plastic additive BPA.

REUSABLE FOOD CONTAINERS
Stackable “tiffin” lunch containers are a fun way to bring home leftovers from a restaurant, but basic plastic or glass containers work just as well!
RECYCLE

PAPER & CARDBOARD
- MAGAZINES
- NEWSPAPERS
- PAPER & PAPER PRODUCTS
- CEREAL BOXES
- FLATTEN CARDBOARD

CONTAINERS
- EMPTY & RINSE, DO NOT FLATTEN
- PLASTIC BOTTLES, TUBS, JUGS, JARS
- ATTACH PLASTIC SCREW-TOP CAPS

PLASTIC BOTTLES, TUBS, JUGS, JARS
- EMPTY & RINSE, DO NOT FLATTEN
- ATTACH PLASTIC SCREW-TOP CAPS

When in doubt, give us a shout! 303.444.6634 / recycle@ecocycle.org
Si tiene alguna duda, comuníquese con nosotros!
NEW
MORE PLASTICS CAN NOW BE RECYCLED!

PLASTIC ITEMS

- Berry containers and other plastic clamshell containers (no foam/polystyrene; remove liner)
- Take-out containers (no food)
- Plastic tub lids (tapa de recipientes plásticas)

ARTICULOS PLÁSTICOS

- Take-out containers (recipientes para llevar no alimentos)
- Plastic tub lids (tapas de recipientes plásticas)

RIGID PLASTICS

- Flower pots (macetas)
- Hard plastic four- and six-pack holders (porto bebidas de cuatro y seis unidades de plástico duro)
- Plastic lawn toys (juguete de plástico para el patio)
- Plastic crates (cajas plásticas)
- Buckets, handles OK (baldes, se pueden dejar las manijas)

PLÁSTICOS RIGIDOS

- Plastic lawn toys (juguetes de plástico para el patio)
- Plastic crates (cajas plásticas)
- Buckets, handles OK (baldes, se pueden dejar las manijas)

NOT RECYCLABLE

- Food (comida)
- Liquid (líquidos)
- Lotion / toothpaste tubes (tubos de crema / pasta dental)
- Plastic bags / film (bolsas / protectores plásticos)
- Soft six-pack rings (anillos de plástico suave de seis unidades)
- Frozen food boxes (cajas de comida congelada)
- Lotion / toothpaste tubes (tubos de crema / pasta dental)
- Plastic bags / film (bolsas / protectores plásticos)
- Soft six-pack rings (anillos de plástico suave de seis unidades)
- Frozen food boxes (cajas de comida congelada)
- Latex gloves (guantes de látex)
- Explosive / hazardous materials (materiales explosivos / peligrosos)

Si tiene alguna duda, comuníquese con nosotros!
Finally!! Berry containers and other plastic clamshells can now be recycled in your single stream recycling! And while you're at it, you can legally toss in those tub lids, orange prescription bottles, flower pots and clean plastic to-go food containers (no food please!!)

Why can we recycle these materials now when you used to tell us to keep them out?

Three words: Plastics Optical Sorter

Before the plastics optical sorter system...

Plastics used to be sorted by hand, a fairly lousy job where workers were tasked with identifying different types of plastic and sorting them into the correct bay to be sent to market. It was challenging to pick up smaller pieces (and thousands of them) from the conveyor belts and correctly sort them.

But the Boulder County Recycling Center, owned by Boulder County and operated by Eco-Cycle, got a MAJOR upgrade in October, 2017. The County installed a plastics optical sorter system. Here’s what it does: As thousands of recyclables are moved on conveyor belts, a series of lasers can automatically discern the type of plastic polymer of each material, and then uses an air jet to shoot that material off the conveyor belt, into an air tube, and finally into the correct bin. As a result, we can take more types of plastic material than ever before, and they will be more efficiently sorted to earn more revenues for recycling.

Important Recycling Tips

Don’t mix up recycling and composting.
Recycling goes to one facility (the Boulder County Recycling Center), and composting goes to another (a commercial compost facility outside the county). Food that ends up in the recycling is a HUGE contaminant, and recycling in the compost is a REALLY HUGE contaminant. Please carefully separate these two types of materials so they wind up at the correct facilities.

Do not put plastic bags in your single stream recycling.
They will bind up sorting equipment.

Do not put your recyclable materials in a plastic bag.
**ASK ECO-ELF!**

**DEAR ECO-ELF.**

**HOW CLEAN DO MY RECYCLABLES NEED TO BE? WHY DO YOU LIST FOOD AS ONE OF YOUR BIGGEST CONTAMINANTS IN THE RECYCLING BIN? IS IT THAT BIG A DEAL?**

THANKS,

DAVID

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**DEAR ECO-ELF.**

**WHY CAN’T YOU RECYCLE RECEIPTS? IS IT BECAUSE THEY’RE TOO SMALL? IF I CAN’T RECYLE THEM, CAN I COMPOST THEM?**

SINCERELY,

SJM

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Dear David,

Food in your recycling bin = a big deal. Your recyclables go to the Boulder County Recycling Center where people, as well as automatic sorting systems like the new plastics optical sorter, separate materials to send them to their respective markets. Those people will be up close and personal with your recyclables. Food residue on recyclables puts our workers’ health and safety at risk because of mold, pests like rodents and stinging insects, and unpleasant smells in the facility. Also, food and liquids will destroy the value of recyclable paper, and can affect the value of containers that have food residue inside. So how clean is clean? Before recycling, be sure to empty your containers by scraping out all food (into your compost bin), or pouring liquids out. Give each container a quick shot of water, shake it up to loosen any food remaining, and then recycle it.

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Dear SJM,

One would think that receipts, like the kind you get at the grocery store, could go in the recycling or composting, but they CANNOT. The problem is, in most cases, receipt paper is coated with BPA or BPS, which are known endocrine disrupters. For that reason, they need to stay out of recycling AND compost, and go to the landfill instead. Or even better, “Skip the Slip” and avoid having your receipt printed. Green America has a new Skip the Slip campaign aimed at getting companies to avoid printing receipts if the customer doesn’t want one, and at adopting new receipt technologies and practices. Learn more at GreenAmerica.org. If your company uses receipt tape, purchase tape that doesn’t have a BPA coating so that it could be recycled or composted.

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**1, 2, 3: RECYCLING ON THE GO!**

If you’re out and about in a place with a three-bin system (that would of course be recycling, compost, and landfill), please:

1. Scrape all food off your recyclable products into the compost bin, along with paper napkins and any certified compostable products.

2. Put clean recyclables in the recycling.

3. Put any remaining trash in the bin marked “landfill.”
**ARE CARTONS RECYCLABLE?**

Cartons are the #1 material most folks don’t realize CAN be recycled in their single-stream recycling bin. Cartons are also a great packaging choice since they use less energy.

**COOL CARTON FACTS:**

- **Recycling the paper fiber in cartons results in 74% less air pollution and 35% less water pollution than producing paper from virgin fibers.**
- **The company ReWall recycles cartons into ceiling tiles, wall panels and other materials using no glue, chemical, or water. Each truckload of ReWall building products represents about 300,000 recycled cartons.**
- **Cartons that contain a layer of aluminum are shelf stable, meaning the food or drink inside doesn’t need to be refrigerated, saving energy during the transport and storage of the product.**

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**Recyclable cartons include:**

- Non-dairy milk and soup broth cartons
- Single-serving juice boxes
- Milk, orange juice, and other beverage cartons

**These are NOT recyclable:**

- Ice cream containers

**MAKE SURE CARTONS ARE EMPTY**

**RINSE CARTONS BEFORE PUTTING IN BIN**

**DO **

**DON’T FLATTEN CARTONS**

Our automatic sorting equipment does an initial sorting to separate containers (3-D items) from paper (2-D items). While cartons are partially made from paper, they are considered a container and are marketed as such. Please keep your cartons 3-D so they will be identified as containers.

**NOT ONLY ARE CARTONS RECYCLABLE, THEY USE LESS ENERGY TO PRODUCE!**
RECYCLING BIN’S DIRTY DOZEN

Contamination in recycling bins is a huge problem. Do your part by recycling right!

Below are 13 (Baker’s Dozen) items to keep out of your recycling bin – and how to properly dispose of them.

**INCORRECTLY PREPPED MATERIALS**

- **FLATTENED CANS AND CONTAINERS**
  (difficult to separate from paper)

- **LIQUIDS LEFT IN BOTTLES OR CONTAINERS**
  (liquids attract rodents and stinging insects to the recycling plant; ruins paper)

**INSTEAD**: DON’T FLATTEN CONTAINERS, AND EMPTY LIQUIDS BEFORE RECYCLING CONTAINERS IN YOUR BIN

**FOOD**

- **INSTEAD**: COMPOST YOUR FOOD SCRAPS
  SEE FULL COMPOSTING GUIDELINES ON PAGE 12

**HARD-TO-RECYCLE MATERIALS**

- **scrap metal**
  damages sorting equipment

- **white block foam and bubble wrap**

- **shredded paper**
  (too small to sort)

- **plastic bags**
  bind up sorting equipment

**INSTEAD**: BRING THEM TO THE CHaRM TO BE RECYCLED!
FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE CENTER FOR HARD-TO-RECYCLE MATERIALS ON PAGE 16

**HAZARDOUS MATERIALS**

- **motor oil and solvents, syringes, needles, sharps, medical waste**

**INSTEAD**: TAKE TO THE HAZARDOUS MATERIALS MANAGEMENT FACILITY

**LANDFILL ITEMS**

- **non-recyclable plastics**
  (no stable markets exist for these items)

- **ceramics, drinking glasses**
  (not the same melting temperature as recyclable glass)

- **frozen food boxes or ice cream containers**
  (their plastic coatings render them non-recyclable)

**INSTEAD**: THESE ITEMS MUST BE LANDFILLED
SEE LANDFILL GUIDELINES ON PAGE 21

**AMMUNITION OR EXPLOSIVE MATERIALS**

**INSTEAD**: CONTACT SHERIFF’S OFFICE
COMPOST

COMPOSTABLE PAPER
- dark & bright-colored paper
- coffee grounds & filter
- napkins
- paper towels
- greasy or waxed cardboard

PAPEL COMPOSTABLE
- papel de colores oscuros y brillantes
- residuos del café
- servilletas
- papel toallas
- cartón con grasa o cera

FOODS & PLANTS
- plant trimmings

ALIMENTOS Y PLANTAS
- plantas cortadas

CERTIFIED COMPOSTABLE PRODUCTS
- paper only, no plastic coating

PRODUCTOS COMPOSATABLES CERTIFICADOS
- solo papel sin recubrimiento plástico

Trust this compostable product label:
- Estas etiquetas indican que el producto se puede compostar:

PLEASE NO
- No plastic-coated paper; Place these items in trash
- No papel con recubrimiento plástico; Por favor coloca estos artículos en la basura

When in doubt, give us a shout! 303.444.6634 / recycle@ecocycle.org

Si tiene alguna duda, comuníquese con nosotros!
IS IT COMPOSTABLE?

Here’s how to know which PRODUCTS are truly compostable in your curbside bin.

✅ YES, IF IT’S A PAPER PRODUCT NOT LINED WITH PLASTIC.

Many foodservice paper products are lined with petroleum-based plastics that contaminate our soils when composted.

These paper products are free of plastic and can be safely composted.

- bagasse
- paper only, no plastic coating
- greasy pizza boxes
- wax paper & wax paper cups (wax will scrape off with your fingernail)

These paper products are plastic-coated and go in the TRASH.

- plastic-lined butcher or deli paper

✅ YES, IF IT’S A CERTIFIED COMPOSTABLE “PLASTIC.”

If it looks like it contains plastic, it must be a certified “bio-plastic” to be safe for soils.

Products that appear to contain plastic must be certified compostable by BPI.

These labels also mean certified compostable:

- ASTM D6400
- ASTM D6868
- ingeo
- NatureWorks LLC
- PLA

These labels DO NOT mean compostable.

- MADE FROM PLANTS
- MADE FROM PLANT STARCH
- BIODEGRADABLE
- OXO-DEGRADABLE
- BIO
- ECO-FRIENDLY
- EARTH-FRIENDLY
- MADE WITH RECYCLED CONTENT
- GREEN

✅ Find and purchase compostable products with our time-saving tools at www.ecocycle.org/compost
Important tips to keep in mind when composting at the curb:

**It really matters if you mix up composting and recycling.**

Compost goes to one facility (a commercial compost facility outside our county), and recycling goes to another (the Boulder County Recycling Center). Recycling or garbage in the compost is a HUGE contaminant that is very difficult—and in some cases impossible—to remove. Please carefully separate these two types of materials so they wind up at the correct facilities.

**Keep plastics out!**

Do NOT put compost in plastic bags or put any type of plastic product in your compost. Plastic will break down into tiny pieces, sometimes even microscopic, but not fully degrade. Those tiny pieces can end up in the soil, water and eventually animals’ bodies, including humans.

**Don’t compost plastic-coated products.**

Be sure that any product you place in the bin truly IS compostable, and not coated with plastic. See guidelines on page 13 to be sure the products you purchase meet accepted standards for composting.

**Please do compost these: meat, bones, eggshells, dairy, paper towels and napkins. If it was alive in your lifetime, it can be composted.**

Dear Wormy,

Doesn’t food just biodegrade in the landfill? Why bother composting?

Your friend,

Jane

Dear Jane,

If you really are my friend, please give your food waste to ME, not the landfill. Here’s why: Landfills are designed to prevent water, oxygen and sunlight from entering, so while biodegradable things like food and paper do break down, they do so VERY slowly and without oxygen. In the absence of oxygen, methane is produced, which is a potent greenhouse gas that has 84 times more heat-trapping power than CO2. So putting food in the landfill actually contributes to climate change!

Give ME your food waste (and paper towels, and yard scraps), and I’ll turn it into healthy soil that actually pulls carbon down out of the atmosphere and counteracts climate change. THAT’s why they call me WONDER WORMY!!!

Your friend, WW

The City of Longmont has an “opt in” curbside compost program. Sign up today! Call 303-641-8416 or visit www.LongmontColorado.gov/solidwaste. Compostables are also accepted at the 140 Martin Street Waste Diversion Center during staffed hours.

Ask Wonder Wormy!

Dearest Wormy,

Doesn’t food just biodegrade in the landfill? Why bother composting?

Your friend,

Jane

Dear Jane,

If you really are my friend, please give your food waste to ME, not the landfill. Here’s why: Landfills are designed to prevent water, oxygen and sunlight from entering, so while biodegradable things like food and paper do break down, they do so VERY slowly and without oxygen. In the absence of oxygen, methane is produced, which is a potent greenhouse gas that has 84 times more heat-trapping power than CO2. So putting food in the landfill actually contributes to climate change!

Give ME your food waste (and paper towels, and yard scraps), and I’ll turn it into healthy soil that actually pulls carbon down out of the atmosphere and counteracts climate change. THAT’s why they call me WONDER WORMY!!!

Your friend, WW
**THE CHARm**

**CREATING A RIPPLE EFFECT OF COMMUNITY GOOD**

You’ve recycled your cans, bottles, glass and paper, but what about your electronic items, busted appliances, big block foam (aka Styrofoam), cooking oil, plastic bags or that old mattress? Those are items for the Eco-Cycle/City of Boulder CHaRM (Center for Hard-to-Recycle Materials). This model Zero Waste facility, the first of its kind in the nation, accepts 24 categories (and counting!) of hard-to-recycle materials (see the full guidelines on page 16).

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**THE KEY TO CREATING A SUCCESSFUL CHARM?**

**SYNERGISTIC LOCAL PARTNERSHIPS.**

Most of the materials we collect become the feedstock for fellow non-profit social enterprise organizations to fulfill their missions. Here’s a snapshot of just three of the materials we accept and what it empowers a local partner to do.

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**BLUE STAR RECYCLERS:**

**RECYCLING ELECTRONICS, EMPOWERING PEOPLE**

Our partnership with Blue Star Recyclers helps address two challenges: less than 20% of electronic waste is recycled and more than 80% of people with disabilities are unemployed. Blue Star Recyclers employs adults with disAbilities such as autism. Its workers have a particular ability for electronics recycling, including an aptitude and attitude for careful, detailed, repetitive work. Their work is the best in the industry. Blue Star Recyclers is now on site at the CHaRM. By working together, we are responsibly recycling more electronics in Boulder County and creating six good jobs for adults along the autistic spectrum.

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**SPRING BACK COLORADO**

**TRANSFORMING LIVES BY RECYCLING MATTRESSES**

Our mattress recycling partner is Spring Back Colorado. They recycle mattresses and also provide redemptive employment and a chance to rebuild lives for people facing barriers to employment. Between 20-40 million mattresses end up in landfills each year in the U.S. Through Spring Back, mattresses and box springs are broken down into individual components, of which 90% are recycled or repurposed.

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**BOOK REUSE & RECYCLING:**

**PROMOTING LITERACY EFFORTS THROUGH THE CHILDREN’S USED BOOK PARTNERSHIP.**

Eco-Cycle donates books to children in need who now get to enjoy the magic of reading and story. Eco-Cycle partners with more than 40 local charities that serve Boulder County families and promote literacy efforts, such as Attention Homes, Boulder County Head Start Program, Casa de la Esperanza, People’s Clinic, Emergency Family Assistance Association in Boulder, and SCOPE International, which provides books to children in Africa. Books are also donated to Boulder County preschools and 47 local schools that participate in Eco-Cycle’s Green Star Schools program.
These materials are accepted at the CHaRM only. (Fees apply)
Please do not put them in your curbside recycling bin.

We can pick these materials up from your business too!

303.444.6634 · businessrecycling@ecocycle.org
www.ecocycle.org/charm
ELECTRONICS

Prices subject to change. Check website for current rates.

Audio Equipment
- Home Stereo Parts
- Car Stereos
- No speakers with wood or particle board

Computers & Equipment
- Monitors
- Towers/CPU’s
- Printers/scanners
- Laptops
- Tablets
- Uninterruptable Power Supply (UPS)
- Large misc. computer equipment (more than 40 lbs)
- Keyboards, mice, cables

Printer Cartridges
- Ink jet and laser jet printer cartridges

Copiers & Fax Machines
- Fax Machines
- Desktop Copiers
- Large Copiers (over 40 lbs)

Phones
- Mobile Phones
- Office Phones
- Home Phones

Small Electronic Items
- Tablets, iPads, iPods
- Digital Cameras
- Video Game Systems

TVs, VCRs & DVD Players
- TVS 19” or smaller
- TVs 20” to 34”
- Consoles, TVs larger than 34”
- VCRs/DVD Players
- Satellite Boxes

SMALL PLASTIC APPLIANCES

Prices subject to change. Check our website for current rates.

- Must have cords or batteries
- Includes handheld/small (rice cooker size), medium (vacuum size), and extra large (20 lbs. +) plastic appliances
- No vacuum bags, glass (coffee pots, blender carafes, etc.), or food/liquid residue
- Have metal appliances? See Scrap Metal listing

HARD-TO-RECYCLE PLASTICS

Plastic Bags, Plastic Bubble Wrap, Thin, Bendable Foam Packing Sheets
- Includes plastic shopping bags, newspaper bags & ziplock bags
- Must be clean, dry and empty
- No moisture, receipts, food waste in bags, biodegradable plastic, tape, or packing peanuts

Big Durable #2 Plastics
- Large plastics marked with a #2 such as plastic play structures, plastic lawn furniture, plastic watering cans, clean #2 plastic buckets (no residue), clean plastic barrels, crates, rigid backyard kiddie pools and plastic trash containers with a #2
- Please remove non-plastic parts (metal handles on buckets OK)
- No flower pots without a #2, inflatable pools or other inflatable plastics, water beds, chew toys, CD jewel cases, small toys such as action figures, etc.

#6 White Block Foam

- No facility fee for residential quantities
- Packaging and rigid foam insulation only
- Businesses: $6/cubic yard
- Packing peanuts, polystyrene (Styrofoam®) cups/to-go boxes, moisture or tape

MISCELLANEOUS

Bicycles & Bike Parts
- Any condition
- Includes integral parts such as seats, pedals, etc., and metal accessories such as baskets and pannier racks
- No other accessories or sporting goods

Bicycle Tires & Inner Tubes
- Tires: $0.50 each

Books & Manuals

- No facility fee
- Computer & office manuals
- Hard-bound books and paperbacks

Concrete

- Accepted in small quantities: less than small pickup truck bed size: $0.07/lb
- No metal or rocks; must be clean and free of aggregate

Cooking Oil

- No motor oil or any oil used for purposes other than cooking

Fire Extinguishers

- City of Boulder residents with ID: no charge for this item
- Non-Boulder residents: $7

Mattresses & Box Springs

- Standard spring or futon mattress, any size: $17.50
- Box spring, any size: $17.50
- Memory foam mattress, any size: $24

- Mechanical bed: $36.50
- 100% foam mattress toppers: $20
- Bed bug-infested mattress or box spring: $45*
- Bed bug-infested items MUST be sealed in plastic and taped closed prior to delivery
- No mattresses or box springs with mold

Plate Glass Windows

- Includes windows, patio doors, shower doors, picture frame glass, glass tabletops, glass block, tempered glass, insulated glass
- Cracked and broken panes are OK
- Window without jamb: $3.00/unit
- Window with jamb: $8.00/unit
- Door without jamb: $12.00/unit
- Door with jamb: $20.00/unit
- NO glassware (drinking glass, dishes, etc.), mirrors, Pyrex (food containers, microwave dishes, measuring cups), canning jars, or bottles and jars

Porcelain Toilets, Sinks & Urinals

- Toilet, all non-porcelain materials removed: $6.75/unit
- Porcelain: $6.75/unit
- Sink or urinal: $3.50/unit; with plumbing attached: $6.50/unit
- NO mattresses or box springs with mold
- Crack and broken panes are OK
- Window without jamb: $3.00/unit
- Window with jamb: $8.00/unit
- Door without jamb: $12.00/unit
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Paper Shredding Service

- Paper materials only
- $10 per file box (banker box) full of paper

Scrap Metal

*No facility fee

Items that are at least 50% metal, including appliances
- Items without Freon®: NO CHARGE
- Items WITH Freon® (air conditioners, refrigerators, freezers, dehumidifiers): $15
- NO propane tanks or canisters of any kind
- Remove fuel caps and lids
- Drain all liquids
- Have a tank or cylinder? Visit our website for details.

Other Materials Accepted at the Charm

Single-Stream Recycling

*No facility fee
See guidelines on page 6

Compostables
See guidelines on page 12 and visit www.ecocycle.org/charm for fees

Eco-Cycle CHaRM • 6400 Arapahoe Rd. Boulder • Open Mon – Sat: 9am – 5pm • ecocycle.org/charm • 303.444.6634
**RECYCLE ROW IN BOULDER**

Facilities to help you practice Zero Waste

1. **ReSource**
   - Accepts and sells new and used building materials in good shape.
   - 6400 Arapahoe Rd. (co-located with Eco-Cycle CHaRM)
   - Mon–Sat 9–5; Closed Sundays
   - www.conservationcenter.org/resource
   - 303.419.5418

2. **Eco-Cycle/City of Boulder CHaRM: Center for Hard-to-Recycle Materials**
   - Accepts hard-to-recycle materials and scrap metal for recycling. See p. 8–9 for details.
   - 6400 Arapahoe Rd. (co-located with ReSource)
   - Mon–Sat 9–5; Closed Sundays
   - www.ecocycle.org/charm
   - 303.444.6634

3. **Boulder County Recycling Center & Boulder Drop-off Center**
   - See page 6 for materials accepted. Shredded paper also accepted separately.
   - 1901 63rd St., west of (behind) Boulder County Recycling Center.
   - Wed–Sat, 8:30–4
   - www.bouldercounty.org
   - 720.564.2220

4. **Boulder County Hazardous Materials Management Facility**
   - Drop-off and reuse for hazardous materials such as paint and solvents.
   - 1901 63rd St., west of (behind) Boulder County Recycling Center.
   - Wed–Sat, 8:30–4
   - www.bouldercounty.org
   - 720.564.2220

5. **Western Organics Transfer Site**
   - www.westerndisposal.com
   - 303.444.2037

6. **Boulder County/City of Boulder Yard & Wood Waste Drop-off Center at Western Disposal**
   - City of Boulder residents can drop off yard waste at no charge.
   - 5880 Butte Mill Rd.
   - Mon–Fri, 7–5, Sat 7–2
   - www.westerndisposal.com
   - 303.444.2037

**LONGMONT WASTE DIVERSION CENTER**

140 Martin St.
303.651.8416 | www.longmontcolorado.gov | Preguntas? Llame a 303.243.5820

Hours vary. Visit website for details. Please check in at the window and bring a current utility bill indicating the Waste Management Fee.

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**The City of Boulder is going for Zero Waste!**
Visit zerowasteboulder.com for more info.

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**Single-stream recycling—accepted 24/7.** See pages 6-7 for guidelines.

**ACCEPTED DURING STAFFED HOURS ONLY:**
Automotive and Rechargeable Batteries: Includes motorcycle and boat batteries.
NO alkaline batteries.

Compostables Drop-Off: See page 12 for guidelines.

Cooking Oil: Must be in see-through plastic containers (gallon milk jugs or the original plastic containers or box cooking oil comes in).

Motor Oil & Antifreeze: Must be in separate see-through one-gallon containers (gallon milk jugs work best). Must also be securely capped and cannot be contaminated with other fluids. Other chemicals (paint, solvents, etc.) are not accepted at this site.

Plastic Bags: Includes plastic shopping and newspaper bags. Must be clean, dry and empty. NO moisture, receipts, or food waste inside bags, biodegradable plastic, tape, packing peanuts or foam wrap.

Scrap Metal: All types of scrap metal. NO fencing, pressurized containers, electronics, appliances containing Freon®.

Shredded Paper: See bin marked “shredded paper.” NO bagged material.

#6 White Block Foam: #6 White block foam packaging and rigid foam insulation only. NO packing peanuts, Styro-foam® cups or “to-go” boxes, moisture or tape.

Yard Waste: Tree limbs, branches, bushes and un-bagged leaves. Non-residents and contractors will be charged a fee.
NO trash, plastic bags, lumber, sod, dirt, rock or split rail fence material will be accepted.

Free self-service mulch is also available at the Longmont Waste Diversion Center.

Call for more information about the City of Longmont’s:
- Paper shredding events
- Hard-to-recycle collection events for CHaRM items
- Large bulky items collection
- Household Hazardous Chemical drop-off days and yard waste collection events
## Local Zero Waste Resources

See websites for full details including hours of operation, locations and fees.

### Reduce, Reuse & Repair

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Resource</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>U-Fix-It Clinics, Sponsored by Eco-Cycle</strong></td>
<td>Free hands-on repair clinics for electronics, toys, appliances. <a href="http://www.ecocycle.org/ufixit">www.ecocycle.org/ufixit</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Boulder County Hazardous Materials Management Facility (HMMF)</strong></td>
<td>Free gently-used home products. <a href="http://www.bouldercounty.org">www.bouldercounty.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Eco-Cycle/City of Boulder CHaRM: Center for Hard-to-Recycle Materials</strong></td>
<td>Donate textiles, books. <a href="http://www.ecocycle.org">www.ecocycle.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ReSource &amp; Tool Library</strong></td>
<td>Reclaimed building materials. <a href="http://www.conservationcenter.org/resource">www.conservationcenter.org/resource</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Art Parts Creative Reuse Center</strong></td>
<td>Gently-used art supplies. <a href="http://www.artpartsboulder.org">www.artpartsboulder.org</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Business Resources

<table>
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<tr>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>PACE: Partners for a Clean Environment</strong></td>
<td>Extensive free energy and water conservation tools and services. <a href="http://www.pacepartners.com">www.pacepartners.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>For residential energy and water conservation services</strong></td>
<td><a href="http://www.energysmartyes.com">www.energysmartyes.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Center for Resource Conservation</strong></td>
<td>Consultations, tools and services for water and energy conservation; includes resources for residents. <a href="http://www.conservationcenter.org">www.conservationcenter.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Eco-Cycle CHaRM on the Road Service</strong></td>
<td>Commercial hauling for hard-to-recycle items (see pages 16-17 for a list). <a href="http://www.ecocycle.org">www.ecocycle.org</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Other Resources

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Eco-Cycle A-Z Recycling Guide</strong></td>
<td>Learn how and where to recycle 200+ items in Boulder County and the Denver metro area. <a href="http://www.ecocycle.org">www.ecocycle.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CU-Boulder Environmental Center</strong></td>
<td>Wide range of sustainability services and ways to get involved. <a href="http://www.colorado.edu/center">www.colorado.edu/center</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### City of Boulder Residents:

#### See a Business That Needs Help Getting Going with the Universal Zero Waste Ordinance?

### A Few of Our Partners in Sustainability & Zero Waste (Listed Above)

- Eco-Cycle CHaRM on the Road
- CU-Boulder Environmental Center
- Center for Resource Conservation
- Energy Smart
- ReSource
- University of Colorado
- Pace
- City of Boulder

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PAGE 20
LANDFILL

PLASTIC-COATED PAPER
PRODUCTOS DE PAPEL CON RECUBRIMIENTO PLÁSTICO

NON-RECYCLABLE PLASTICS
PLÁSTICOS QUE NO SON RECICLABLES

WRAPPERS & FROZEN FOOD PACKAGING
ENVOLTURAS Y EMPAQUES DE COMIDA CONGELADA

PLEASE ALSO TRASH: FEMININE PRODUCTS, DIAPERS, ANIMAL WASTE & OTHER BIOHAZARDS
POR FAVOR COLOQUE TAMBIEN EN LA BASURA: PRODUCTOS DE HIGIENE FEMENINA, PAÑALES, EXCREMENTO ANIMAL Y OTRAS SUSTANCIAS CON RIESGO BIOLÓGICO

When in doubt, give us a shout! 303.444.6634 / recycle@ecocycle.org
Si tiene alguna duda, comuníquese con nosotros!
WHY ZERO WASTE?

In the realm of environmental work, we are so frequently fighting AGAINST something—pollution, the destruction of habitat, the decline of a species, etc. Often it is controversial and there is an entity to fight against. But redesigning our society and communities for Zero Waste gives us a chance to engage FOR something—a solution that not only prevents problems, but works toward a better system that truly benefits ALL in many ways.

Below is just a sampling of what we get when we work FOR Zero Waste.

**WE CREATE MORE JOBS:**
- Recycling and reuse activities in the United States account for 757,000 jobs, $36.6 billion in wages and $6.7 billion in tax revenues every year.
- By recycling 75% of our discards by 2030, the U.S. could create 1.1 million new jobs.
- Zero Waste activities—recycling, composting, reuse, etc.—create an average of ten times more jobs than landfills.

**WE BUILD LOCAL ECONOMIES:**
Increased recycling means more money returned to the economy. In Colorado, we throw away $265 million worth of recyclable materials—aluminum, metals, cardboard, paper and plastics—every year. These materials are valuable commodities, which could be sold for profit instead of buried in the ground. Additionally, programs like the CHaRM help support local businesses and jobs. See more on page 15.

**WE CONSERVE ENERGY:**
Every year recycling and composting in the U.S. save enough energy to power over 25 million U.S. homes for a year.

**WE CONSERVE NATURAL RESOURCES:**
- For every can of garbage you produce, there are 87 cans worth of waste that come from industries that make your products and packaging, including timber, agricultural, mining and petroleum.
- Recycling one ton of aluminum reduces 2.7 tons of solid waste related to mining, extraction and virgin material manufacturing.

**WE CREATE A MORE BALANCED CLIMATE:**
- Zero Waste is one of the fastest, most cost-effective strategies for reducing climate pollution. Zero Waste practices can be implemented almost immediately, allowing us to address 42% of U.S. climate pollution.
- In 2014, the U.S. reduced more than 181 million metric tons of carbon pollution by recycling and composting, the equivalent of taking over 38 million passenger cars off the road for a year.
- Widespread use of compost on grazed lands and other landscapes is proving to be a powerful tool to draw down excess carbon in the atmosphere and store it in soils.

**WE KEEP OUR OCEANS CLEAN:**
- One-third of plastic pollution in the ocean is beverage bottles that could have been recycled. This waste could be prevented in the first place by not buying bottled beverages.
- Globally, only 14% of plastics are recycled. By radically improving recycling, we could recycle 50% of plastics, and an additional 20% of plastics could be reused. The remaining 30% needs to be fundamentally redesigned to be recyclable.

Zero Waste is about more than just keeping stuff out of landfills.

Here's why zero waste is so important!
Eco-Cycle is a non-profit, mission-based social enterprise that uses revenues to build zero waste communities.

Eco-Cycle fills a community need for Zero Waste services and programs using mission-based business activities, including hauling recyclable and compostable materials from businesses and innovating and operating Zero Waste facilities such as the Boulder County Recycling Center (BCRC) and the Center for Hard-to-Recycle Materials (CHaRM). We then use revenues from these activities to fund our Zero Waste operations, education, outreach and advocacy work in the community.

Our mission-driven approach has led to many “firsts” for Boulder County.

Using the social enterprise approach, Eco-Cycle pioneers and invests in creative new ways to serve the community. As Boulder County’s non-profit recycling processor, marketer and educator, Eco-Cycle has chosen to use revenues to help Boulder County become a Zero Waste leader.

This has enabled us to lead the way with many “firsts.” Just a few examples include:

- **First in the state** to accept materials such as paperboard, milk/juice containers, many plastics, block foam, yoga mats, big durable plastics, etc.
- **First comprehensive zero waste schools program in the U.S.**
  
  Eco-Cycle’s Green Star Schools program

- **First to create the “Block Leader Program,”** now called the “Eco-Leader Program,” a network of trained volunteers who change the recycling and composting behavior of the community through peer-to-peer education.
- **First to host electronic recycling collections in the state.**
- **First facility of its kind in the nation,** the Center for Hard-to-Recycle Materials accepts more types of materials than any other.
- **First comprehensive “A-Z recycling guide”**
  
  listing more than 200 materials and where they can be recycled, whether through Eco-Cycle or other programs; this guide is now emulated throughout the nation.

- **First to build and operate the first facility of its kind in the nation,** the Center for Hard-to-Recycle Materials accepts more types of materials than any other.
- **First comprehensive “A-Z recycling guide”**
  
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- **First to accept materials such as paperboard, milk/juice containers, many plastics, block foam, yoga mats, big durable plastics, etc.**
- **One of the only communities in the nation to continuously accept glass.**
- **First to host electronic recycling collections in the state.**
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HELP US SPREAD THIS INFORMATION!

BECOME A VOLUNTEER ECO-LEADER, THE GREATEST ZERO WASTE HERO OF ALL!

IF YOU CANT STAND TO SEE RESOURCES GO TO WASTE, WE NEED YOU. WE’LL TRAIN YOU, GIVE YOU RESOURCES AND TOOLS TO HELP YOU SPREAD THE ZERO WASTE WORD. THEN YOU JUST GO BE YOU...IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD, SCHOOL, BUSINESS, BOOK CLUB, ETC. AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE RIGHT WHERE YOU ARE.

LEARN MORE AT WWW.ECOCYCLE.ORG OR EMAIL ECOLEADER@ECOCYCLE.ORG.