

Western

DISPOSAL SERVICES

A QUARTERLY UPDATE FOR OUR CUSTOMERS

FALL 2005

Win One Month Free Trash Service

35 lucky residential customers will receive one month of free trash service for finding their names in our newsletters during 2005!



In celebration of our 35 years in business, 1970-2005, this year we are awarding 35 customers with a free month's service. Sorry, names mentioned as part of the stories are not eligible.

Holiday Schedule

For up-to-date information about our holiday schedule, call our Holiday Hotline at 303-448-2280 or look it up at www.westerndisposal.com.

The following holidays are observed by Western Disposal:

- Thanksgiving Day 11/24/05
- Christmas Day 12/25/05*
- New Year's Day 1/01/06*
- Memorial Day 5/29/06
- Independence Day 7/04/06
- Labor Day 9/04/06

***Because the holiday falls on the weekend, your residential collection schedule will not be affected.**

E-Minders

Subscribe to Western Disposal's E-Minders Program. This program sends you e-mail reminders of upcoming holidays, programs and other useful information. You can join by calling us at 303-444-2037 or on our web site at www.westerndisposal.com.

Yard Waste Composting

What's Happening Nationwide?

Yard waste composting has increased significantly since 1990. The following introduction and the facts about yard waste are extracted from the "Yard Waste" article written by Chaz Miller in the April 2005 Waste Age magazine.

Yard waste includes grass, leaves, and tree and brush trimmings. By weight, grass is the biggest component of yard waste, averaging half of the total generated. Zachary and Michelle Rudolph. Leaves and brush each provide one quarter. By volume, leaves are the biggest component.

Yard waste is the largest single component of generated municipal solid waste (MSW) by weight but is a relatively small component of landfilled MSW by volume.

The amount of yard waste and its MSW disposal market share have declined dramatically in the past four decades while the composting rate has soared. Variable-rate programs have promoted backyard compost piles and grasscycling. Fred Good. State and local composting requirements have increased the number of commercial composting operations.

Yard Waste Facts on page 2

Volume-based, residential pricing programs and government bans of yard waste being collected as trash are particularly effective in regions of the United States where landfill space is limited and landfill fees are high. In areas such as ours, where landfill fees are some of the lowest in the nation, local government subsidizes programs to encourage residents to recycle their yard and wood waste. Ulla Lange. Locally, many communities provide drop-off facilities to help residents recycle their yard waste materials.

The city of Boulder and Boulder County sponsor the yard waste and wood waste drop-off program located at Western's Transfer Station. The City subsidizes 100% of the cost for a City resident and 50% of the cost for a business. The County subsidizes 50% of the cost for a County resident, but does not subsidize businesses.

What's Happening in Our Neck of the Woods?

The city of Boulder wants to do more. In April of this year, the City sponsored a yard waste and food waste pilot program, which will run through the end of November. The pilot program uses the 3-cart system that most residents currently subscribe to in Boulder and incorporates single-stream recycling. The difference is residents are mixing their recyclables together (paper materials and commingle containers in one cart), yard and food waste are combined in another cart and trash is in the 3rd cart. Everything is collected curbside.

We are testing different collection schedules; trash is collected every week (recyclables and yard/food waste every other week) for half the participants; and for the other half of the participants, yard/food waste is collected every other week (trash and recyclables every other week). The single-stream recyclables are delivered to the

Continued on page 2

Garbage Has Dirty Roots

Written by and reproduced with permission from Jim Willard. Published in the *Loveland Reporter-Herald* on July 20, 2005, and submitted to us by Peggy Hoffman, one of our Customer Service Representatives.

Today's subject is garbage.

The cynics among you are saying, "Jim, this isn't the first column you've done that was garbage." And I say, "Fie upon you," you should be recycling your newspaper and not throwing it away (unless you wrap something disgusting in it.)

Garbage has been around since the first pre-human chucked out a bone or something that had no more use from his cave or hut.

When there were far fewer of us, this wasn't as big of an issue and scavengers took care of much of it--never ask to smell a vulture's breath. In one way, garbage became a measure of our civilization's progress, but sanitation emerged as an issue.

One of the first to take garbage seriously was that man for all seasons, Ben Franklin. Ben was the first to initiate a municipal drive against garbage. Unfortunately, his solution was to hire collectors to pick up the stuff and dump it in the Delaware River, setting an ugly precedent.

It took another century before cities really launched into garbage collection, and then they burned it in large incinerators, setting another nasty precedent. Those communities that didn't burn the stuff deposited it in dumpsites where rats and other scavengers prevailed.

At last in 1895, Col. George Waring was named commissioner of street cleaning for New York City. The good Colonel dressed his workers in sanitary-looking white unis and gave them quasi-military job ranks. Then he had the temerity to suggest citizens sort their garbage to facilitate its ultimate destination. Again, that worked for a while but population and packaging began to outgrow that solution.

Finally, in the latter half of the 20th century, the problem of waste removal collided with the energy crisis and recycling came into vogue.

That brings us to the 21st century. Please read the article beginning on page 1 to see what is happening today with garbage and recycling, nationally as well as locally.

Yard Waste continued

Boulder County Recycle Center, and the yard/food waste is taken to Western's compost facility. The finished compost will be available for sale next spring at Western's Transfer Station retail center.

Surveys are being conducted to determine the success of the program. So far, the surveys have shown that the majority of participants prefer to have their trash collected weekly and the recyclables and yard/food waste collection rotated every other week. Participants also like the convenience of combining all recyclables in one container.

The percent of materials recycled is being measured weekly. And the great news is--the pilot program has shown that, by weight, over 70% of the waste stream from the customers participating in the pilot program is recycled or composted. T J and Rebecca Howard. In November of 2001 after the city of Boulder initiated its pay-as-you-throw program, the percent by weight of materials recycled increased from 17% to 34%. By adding yard and food waste, this already exceptional statistic can double!

What Does the Future Hold?

The city of Boulder plans to expand the pilot program from 400 participants this year to over 2200 residents next spring. One of Western's city of Boulder routes will be selected for the expanded pilot program. Barry and Sallie Burnett. Boulder residents have always supported waste diversion programs and the participation in this program is an example of this support. The pilot program has demonstrated that we can recycle more, we can compost more and we can send less waste to the landfill.

If the future of residential waste collection becomes single-stream recycling and food/yard waste collection for composting, it would be the next big step in moving Boulder to its waste diversion goal of 50%.

National Yard Waste MSW Facts

Generated:

- ▶ 27.98 million tons or 12.2% by weight*
- ▶ 196.5 lbs per person*
- ▶ 90% from homes, 10% from businesses

Composted:

- ▶ 15.8 million tons or 56.5%*
- ▶ 3,227 yard-waste composting facilities
- ▶ Ohio leads in yard waste composting facilities

Incinerated or Landfilled:

- ▶ 12.16 million tons or 7.5 % of discarded MSW*
- ▶ 2,876 Btus per lb. versus 4,500 Btus for 1 lb. of garbage
- ▶ Several states ban the burning of yard waste piles
23 states ban or restrict yard waste disposal

Source Reduction:

- ▶ Grasscycling ("leave-it-on-the-lawn" programs) and backyard composting
- ▶ Brush can be shredded into mulch
- ▶ Xeriscaping (landscaping with plants that need little water)

*annually

A Reminder: Garbage Friendly Bears



If you live west of Broadway or have a business or rental property in the same area, please make your discarded food items less accessible to bears and other wildlife.

Residential suggestions: 1) rinse out trash containers with ammonia, 2) don't put trash out before collection day, and 3) remove other attractants from yard.

Commercial suggestions: 1) make sure all waste fits in the container and that the lid is closed and 2) if you have food waste, consider a lock for the lid.

Making trash harder to get and less desirable to find will encourage wildlife to forage in their own environment. For information about locking containers, contact us at 303-444-2037.

New: 6-Yard Service Available

New size and improved accessibility! Western is happy to introduce a new construction and cleanup service. When a 2-cubic-yard dumpster is too small for your job or a 12-cubic-yard, or larger, roll-off won't fit on your jobsite, we now have a 6-cubic-yard container for your debris.

We just finished fabrication of a special trailer to deliver and haul the 6-yard containers for this new service. We have removed the lids and each container has a sliding side door to facilitate easy loading of materials. Our new trailer can get into spaces our container delivery and roll-off trucks were unable to access before.

This service is designed for cleanup of normal trash and construction debris, not excavation materials. Due to weight constraints, no dirt, brick, rock/gravel, concrete, sod, or other earthen debris is allowed in the 6-yard container.

For more information on our new 6-cubic-yard construction and cleanup service, please call our Customer Service Department at 303-444-2037.



Bigger - Better - More Convenient

If you have subscription service outside the city of Boulder, for an additional \$1.75 per month, you can upgrade your recycle bins to recycle carts. You have your choice of a 32-, 64-, or 96-gallon size for each of your materials: commingled containers and mixed paper. Quinn and Julie Macleod. Why use carts in place of bins?

- 1) They're bigger! With all the materials that can now be recycled, you may need bigger containers.
- 2) They've got wheels--making it easier for you to get your materials out for collection.
- 3) They have lids and can be stored outside without having to worry about the weather, wind or animals.

To upgrade or start your recycling service, call Customer Service at 303-444-2037 and press 2. Let us know what size cart you would like for each of your materials and we will take care of the rest.



Construction Zone

Visitors to our facility:

Please excuse any inconvenience caused by the construction work on Valmont Road between 55th and 61st streets. Once complete, this should improve access to our Transfer Station, recycle drop-off and administration facilities. In the meantime, you may prefer to come to Western via Arapahoe to 63rd Street (see map at right). Payman Dadashpour.



Free Christmas Tree Drop-off



After the holidays are over, don't throw your tree away--recycle it! Once again, Western is working with the city of Boulder through its Yard Waste Drop-off Program to keep Christmas trees out of the landfill. Western Disposal provides a free drop-off site for these trees from December 26 to January 31.

Remember--remove all nails, ornaments, plastic, tinsel, stands and lights before bringing in your tree! Also, flocked trees and wire-based wreaths are not recyclable.

Western is located at 5880 Butte Mill Road, just south of Valmont and west of the railroad tracks near Stazio Ballfields. Please follow the signs from our front gate to the old Colorado brickyard site, east of our main facility, to the drop-off area. If you miss the special drop-off that is open through January 31, the City's yard waste drop-off site is open year round (Mon - Sat) at our facility.

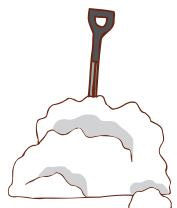
Commercial O r n e r



SNOW REMOVAL

During the winter, snow and ice make it difficult for our drivers to access and maneuver trash containers. Olga Kleis.

To ensure that your containers can be emptied, please remove any snow in front of your containers or enclosures, especially drifts or piles.



City of Boulder's "Time to Leaf It"

If composting your leaves at home is impractical, bring them to one of the three FREE leaf collection sites sponsored by the city of Boulder. With the help of Western Disposal, the leaves will be diverted from the landfill. The sites are open to city of Boulder residents from 9:00 am to 3:30 pm on the following 5 Saturdays: October 22 & 29 and November 5, 12 & 19.

North Boulder Park

9th between Dellwood & Balsam

Harlow Platts Park

Intersection of Gillespie & Heidelberg Drive

Western Disposal's Transfer Station*

5880 Butte Mill Road

Empty leaves into Western containers located at these sites. Dispose of plastic bags there or take home and reuse. Only leaves and pumpkins are collected. Take grass clippings and other yard waste to the city of Boulder's year round yard waste drop-off located at Western's Transfer Station. The Fall Leaf Program only runs on the dates and times listed above; please do not deposit bags of leaves at the sites outside program hours.

*Please follow signs from our front gate to the old Colorado brickyard site, east of our main facility, to the drop-off area. Leaves may also be dropped off from 7:00-9:00 am and 3:30-5:00 pm each Saturday at the regular yard waste drop-off at our Transfer Station. William Tieman.

Other cities also offering free leaf drop-off to residents are listed below. They will accept unbagged leaves only. Broomfield will accept pumpkins.

Longmont:	140 Martin St	8-4 Sun-Sat
Louisville:	1601 Empire Rd	7-3:30 Sun-Sat (waste water treatment plant)
Broomfield:	225 Commerce St	24 hrs/day, 7 days/week (October 17-November 30 only)



Western has now added an electronics recycling drop-off to its other Transfer Station programs. We offer pickup service for an additional fee. Residents or businesses with multiple items may find this most economical. If you would like to schedule a pickup, please call 303-444-2037 and ask for our Customer Service Department.

Item	Each	Item	Each
• Computer Monitor	\$9.00	• Large commercial computer equipment	\$0.30/lb
• Computer tower/CPUs	7.00	• TVs 19" and smaller	20.00
• Desktop computer printer	7.00	• TVs 20" and larger	40.00
• Laptop computer	7.00	• Video games	3.00 - 7.00
• Scanners and fax machines	7.00	(depends on size)	
• Keyboards, mice and cables	no charge	• Video and digital cameras (depends on size)	3.00 - 7.00
• Universal power supply (UPS)	7.00	• PDAs, Gameboys, Walkmans	2.00
• VCRs and DVD players	7.00		
• Desktop copier	7.00		
• Large commercial copier	\$0.30/lb		
• Cell phones	no charge		
• Land-line phones and car stereos	3.00		
• Home stereo components (receiver, boombox, etc; no speakers accepted)	7.00		

If you would like to bring your electronics to our Transfer Station, we are located at 5880 Butte Mill Road (58th and Valmont).
Hours: 7:00 am to 5:00 pm Mon-Sat (summer hours)
7:00 am to 5:00 pm Mon-Fri
7:00 am to 2:00 pm Sat
(winter hours: Nov. 26-Mar. 25)

Extra Trash Stickers



If you live in the city of Boulder, don't forget to purchase your extra trash stickers at \$2.15 each and save 35% over the on-route price of \$3.30 per 32-gallon container. Macario and Donna Feliciano.

Stickers can be acquired in a number of ways (minimum order of five, unless purchased in person):

1. In person: Western's Admin. Bldg. 5880 Butte Mill Road
2. By phone: 303-444-2037
3. By fax: 303-444-7509
4. By electronic mail: contact@westerndisposal.com
5. Via web site: www.westerndisposal.com
6. By mail: P.O. Box 9100 Boulder, CO 80301

Automatic Payment Be On Time, Every Time!

Western Disposal offers automatic payment as a simple and convenient way to have your charges automatically withdrawn from your bank account or credit card. We'll send you a statement of charges for you to review before the actual withdrawal date, so there's never any question about the amount you owe. It also saves you the trouble and cost of writing and mailing a check. To find out how to enroll in this free and simple payment plan, check out our website at www.westerndisposal.com or call our Customer Service Department at 303-444-2037.



Serving Boulder County

Since 1970

Ways to Reach Us...

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20% Post Consumer Waste