



A QUARTERLY UPDATE FOR OUR CUSTOMERS

SPRING 2001

Recycle More or Pay More **City of Boulder Passes New "Pay-As-You-Throw" Ordinance**

The new ordinance starts November 1st and will affect City of Boulder residents.

The ordinance offers incentives to recycle—throwing materials away will be much more expensive.

The City of Boulder will no longer provide residential recycling pickups, requiring instead that haulers, like Western Disposal, provide this service to their own customers.

The new materials picked up will probably include paperboard, magazines, catalogs, phone books, aerosol cans, cardboard and paper drink cartons.

The Boulder City Council recently passed a new ordinance regulating how trash haulers must charge for residential collection services. Beginning November 1, 2001, all trash haulers must provide recyclables collection services to their own residential customers. In the past the City has paid Western Disposal to collect the recyclables from all residents in the City; in the future each hauler will have to collect recyclables from their own customers and charge for these services, thus increasing the amount charged to their customers.

In addition to requiring each hauler to collect recyclables, the ordinance implements a pricing structure called "Pay-As-You-Throw", which rewards customers for diverting materials from landfills by making it progressively more expensive to throw away more and more material as trash. Pay-As-You-Throw is a system that has been around for many years and is used extensively in other parts of the country to encourage waste reduction. In Colorado, the city of Ft. Collins has used such a system since 1996.

Under the new ordinance, Western Disposal will charge a "base rate" that will cover the base cost of maintaining you on our systems as a customer and coming to your home each week ready to collect trash and recyclables. The ordinance requires that every 32-gallon unit of trash that you subscribe to be charged at an additional amount that cannot be less than the base rate. Nathan Perney. The cost of unlimited recycling (acceptable items will be specified by the City before November 1st) is included with the first 32-gallon unit of trash that you subscribe to. So, if you are an excellent recycler and can get by with one 32-gallon unit of trash service per week, you will be charged our lowest rate. If you need 64-gallon service, your total trash bill will be one and one-half times what the 32-gallon service would cost; and if you need 96-gallon service, your total trash bill will be two times what the 32-gallon service would cost.

The good news is that you will be able to recycle more materials at curbside than was possible in the past and that may allow you to reduce your trash service. While the City has not yet issued definitive lists of what materials

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must be collected, we anticipate that you will be able to recycle not only newspaper and junk mail, but also cardboard, magazines, catalogs, paperboard (cereal boxes) and phone books. This is a substantial increase in the variety of fibers that can be recycled at curbside. At this point it appears that, in addition to the containers that are currently collected, aerosol cans and paper drink cartons (e.g., juice containers and paper milk cartons) will be collected under the new system.

Some specific questions you may have:

1. Who will this ordinance affect?

All residential dwelling units located in the City of Boulder including single family homes and multi-unit residential properties. Commercial businesses will not be affected.

2. What will happen to the recycle bins I currently have that were provided by the City of Boulder?

Nothing; the City will leave the bins at your house when the new ordinance takes effect on November 1, 2001.

3. Will I still have to pay the City of Boulder Recycle Tax?

Yes, the City will still require all haulers to collect a tax, the "Trash Tax". We do not know at this time if the Trash Tax will be assessed on a volume-based level as it currently is or if the City will change it to a flat rate for all residences.

4. Will haulers continue to pick up trash that is outside of my kart? Will there be an additional charge?

We cannot answer for other haulers; but, yes, Western Disposal will continue to pick up extras and is committed to providing the same high quality service you have come to expect from us over the last thirty years. The ordinance, however, requires that our charges for extra trash not be a "bargain" compared to the rates we charge for the 32-gallon units of trash service. We will take any "extras" you have out, but the ordinance requires that we charge you for them. This also means yard clippings and branches that you are not able to fit into your kart will be subject to extra charges even though in the past they were included in your service level. Viatcheslav Tatarskii. Under the ordinance, if you have extras only once in a while, the extra charge would be more economical than subscribing to a higher level of service. If, however, you have extra materials out more than twice per month, it would be less expensive to subscribe to a higher level of service.

5. Will Western Disposal continue to offer its pre-paid bag service?

Yes, for residents who generate small volumes of trash (no more than one 32-gallon bag twice per month) our pre-paid bag service will be the most economical service for you. You will, however, have to begin paying the monthly base rate to be eligible for the pre-paid bag service.

6. How will this ordinance affect residents who live in multi-unit residential properties?

Multi-unit residential properties that have a common collection system, such as a dumpster, for their trash service will not be charged in 32-gallon unit increments. The ordinance will, however, require that all trash hauling companies provide recycling services to their residential customers and

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account for the cost of these services in their monthly rate for container trash collection.

Western Disposal does not yet have the information needed to calculate our ordinance-based rate structure. The ordinance requires us to take the recyclables we collect to the new Boulder County Recycling Center on 63rd Street in Boulder, which is slated to open this summer. Terry Healy. We are waiting to see what the facility will pay the haulers, if anything, for the recyclables or if they will charge to accept materials for processing. When we receive this information, we will be able to establish our rate structure for the "Pay-As-You-Throw" system.

Western Disposal realizes this will be a big change for many residents and property owners in the City of Boulder. We want to help you minimize your trash bill and maximize the amount of materials you are able to recycle. Over the coming months we will mail you several educational pieces that will describe in further detail how the system will work and how you can become a better recycler. The best way to prepare for the new "Pay-As-You-Throw" ordinance is to think of the three Rs of recycling: Reduce, Reuse and Recycle.

This short overview may not answer all your questions, but between now and November 1st when the ordinance takes effect, we will continue to provide you with information you will need to prepare for the change. If you have any questions during the interim, please call our Customer Service Department at (303) 444-2037; or if you would like to discuss upcoming changes with a City representative, please call the Recycle Boulder Hotline at (303) 441-4234. The full text of the new ordinance can be found at www.environmentalaffairs.com.

Western Disposal Collects 48,500,000 Pounds of Recyclables in 2000!

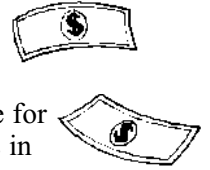
Western Disposal helped divert 48.5 million pounds of recyclable materials from the landfill last year. This number represents a seven percent increase over 1999's effort. Here are some highlights:

- 32% of the total recycling we picked up was from residences on the Recycle Boulder program
- 18% of the weight (8,729,000 lbs.) was yard waste either dropped off at our Transfer Station or picked up through the City of Boulder's Spring Cleanup
- Carpet pad recycling grew 18% and concrete recycling increased 70% over 1999

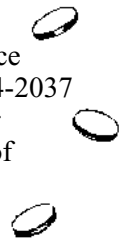
For additional details on our diversion statistics, visit www.westerndisposal.com and click on the *What's New* icon.

Win One Month Free Trash Service

Several lucky customers will receive one month of free trash service for finding their names in this newsletter!



If you find your name, call our Customer Service Department at (303) 444-2037 to receive credit on your account for one month of free 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 on our web site at www.westerndisposal.com.

The following are upcoming holidays observed by Western Disposal.

Memorial Day	May 28
Independence Day	July 4
Labor Day	September 3
Thanksgiving Day	November 22
Christmas Day	December 25

If your pickup day falls on or after the holiday, your pickup will be one day later for that week. For instance, Thursday pickup will be done on Friday; Friday pickup will be done on Saturday.

City of Boulder's Annual Spring Cleanup 2001

Western Disposal is proud to again be working with the City of Boulder on its annual Spring Cleanup Program, providing residents with free collection of their organic materials. After collection, the organics are ground into mulch and made available to residents for use in their gardens and for landscaping.



- April 16 - April 20 **Center Section**
North side of Baseline to south side of Mapleton
- April 23 - May 4 **North Section**
North side of Mapleton to north city limits
- May 7 - May 18 **South Section**
South city limits to south of Baseline

Materials that are accepted: leaves, grass clippings, yard waste, branches up to six inches in diameter. Place your materials at the curb either loose or in paper bags (please **do not** use plastic bags).

Materials not accepted: sod, dirt, construction materials (including lumber), household trash, plastic bags, and all other non-organic materials.

To help you know when we will be in your area, call our Spring Cleanup Daily Progress Report hotline at (303) 448-2281.

If you miss Spring Cleanup, you still have the opportunity to recycle your yard waste by bringing it to the City's organics drop-off center located at Western Disposal's Transfer Station (free for City of Boulder residents; small charge for Boulder County residents and businesses).

Spruce Up Your Neighborhood

If you live within a homeowners association and are tired of looking at your neighbor's junk (or maybe your own), now is the time to plan a neighborhood cleanup. It's easy — just pick a weekend, call for one of our 30-cubic yard construction roll-offs (22 feet long, 8 feet wide, 6 feet tall), place it in a central location, and go to work. Residents can discard broken furniture, yard debris, etc.— all that trash which degrades the aesthetics of your neighborhood. For pricing and availability, call our Sales Department at (303) 444-2037.



Western Disposal's Roll-off

By the way, these same roll-offs are available for individual homeowners. The large capacity is especially well-suited for a major renovation project, roof tear-off, garage cleanout, or landscaping facelift.

Commercial o r n e r



Addressing the unique needs of our commercial customers.

Speech, Speech!

Recycling is a hot topic right now (see lead article). People have all sorts of questions like “What happens to my recyclables?” and “How is the new ‘Pay-As-You-Throw’ trash system going to affect me?” To educate your employees or civic group, bring us on-site for a FREE 45-minute presentation entitled “*The Future of Recycling in Boulder County.*” This fun and interactive session — which works great as a “brown bag lunch” — is perfectly timed to add value to your organization and support community recycling goals at the same time.

Western

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*Serving Boulder County
Since 1970*

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20% Post Consumer Waste