



Newsletter

Summer 2020



Holiday Schedule

If your pickup day falls on a weekday on or after any of the holidays listed below, your pickup will be delayed by one day during that week. Friday collections will take place on Saturday.

The following holidays are observed by Western Disposal:

Independence Day — July 4, 2020

Labor Day — Sept. 7, 2020

Thanksgiving Day — Nov. 26, 2020

Christmas Day — Dec. 25, 2020

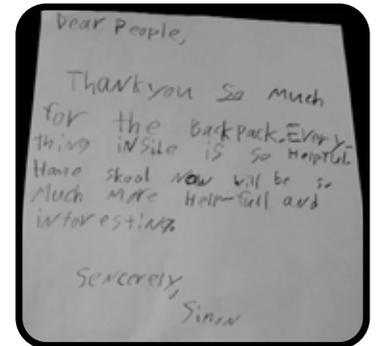
New Year's Day — Jan. 1, 2021

For holidays not listed above, your residential collection service will not be affected. For questions give us a call at 303-444-2037 or refer to your collection calendar.

Supporting At-Home Learning

Due to COVID-19, change was coming. Fast. And as a local foundation dedicated to supporting student achievement, Impact on Education knew they would have a critical role to play. Before school doors even closed, they started working with partners in the Boulder Valley School District to ensure that all students would be both able and ready to attend school from their homes if that became necessary. This preparation has proved not only necessary but invaluable.

When schools moved to remote instruction, Impact on Education stepped in as the partner best positioned to ensure all students had the physical tools and materials needed for at home learning through their Crayons to Calculators initiative, a program Western Disposal, its customers and associates have been supporting for over a decade. The program, which provides 11,000 backpacks full of necessary school supplies annually at the start of each school year to students in need across both Boulder Valley School District and St. Vrain Valley School Districts, carries with it an overflow inventory that rolls over into the following year's supply drives.



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Local Businesses Need Our Support

COVID-19 has obviously had significant impacts on our community and over the past few months' businesses, employees, and residents are learning how to deal with this unprecedented and turbulent time.

Throughout Boulder and Broomfield Counties, business and governmental organizations have stepped up and created a wealth of guidance, resources and support for our small businesses, their employees and their customers. These resources include everything from financial support and education to social networking via Zoom or other on-line platforms. In addition, there is information for residents and customers to understand which businesses may be open and how best to support our local businesses. Kellie & Erik Jeannette

Here are few websites for local organizations that are offering COVID-19 related information. Things are changing virtually every day as of this publication date, so be sure to check these websites frequently for up to date information.

Boulder:

Boulder Chamber: <https://boulderchamber.com/>

Boulder Chamber is providing a wealth of information and updates on happenings around the community as well as support. In the spring, they offered a Small Business Relief Fund providing over \$400,000 of funding to support business in need. In addition, they provide a clearing house of info to help businesses determine how/when to open etc.

Downtown Boulder: <https://www.boulderdowntown.com/love-the-local>.

This site provides up to date information for the businesses in the downtown corridor of Boulder. It provides great resource for both the businesses and potential customers to understand what the regulations and which businesses are open.

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Can I Recycle...?

Know Your To-Go

In recent months take-out has become a lifeline; both for those of us hungry for something other than our own cooking, and for the local restaurants depending on us to help them through this unprecedented time. But oh, what to do with all those containers? Here's the dish, straight from the Boulder County Resource Conservation Division. Now you can not only sort properly, but settle those ongoing family debates about what goes where.

COMPOST



RECYCLE

Empty and rinse



LANDFILL



STORE DROP-OFF

Take to bag collection bins at participating stores or to Eco-Cycle's Center for Hard to Recycle Materials (CHaRM)



Supporting At-Home Learning

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In response to the immediate need caused by the pandemic, Impact on Education shifted gears and provided an entire storage pod filled with Crayons to Calculators inventory, from crayons to scissors to notebooks to calculators, to be assembled and distributed to all students and families in need to support at-home learning. **Over 3,000 backpacks filled with more than \$100,000 worth of school supplies were assembled in late March and distributed to elementary students to support their home learning.**

Since mid-March, Impact on Education has also supported BVSD's robust emergency food distribution efforts. Bags of groceries and grocery gift cards are an important lifeline for the 6,500 students who relied on school to provide nutritious breakfast and lunch as well as those families who suddenly found themselves in need. Since mid-March, **over \$40,000 in gift cards and 200,000 meals** have been distributed across Boulder Valley's public schools so that students' minds and bodies are nourished and ready for at-home learning.

Impact on Education is supporting all this work through the generosity of donors to its Critical Needs Fund and corporate partners who are stepping up to support them. It's the role Impact on Education was created nearly forty years ago to fill: leverage resources so that all students in Boulder Valley's public schools achieve their full potential. Right now, Impact on Education is standing with students and families as they navigate these uncertain times and relying on long-standing partners like Western Disposal to support this critical work.

Recycling: Taking the Long View

During the past 2 months the Covid-19 pandemic has impacted almost every aspect of our lives. While the most pressing impact is on the health and safety of our community, the swing of supply chains has also experienced changes. Recycling has been a common theme in our customer newsletters, with most of our attention focused on decreasing value and increased costs due to China's decreased demand. Now, with Colorado and most states implementing shelter in place mandates, and closing public access to commercial and retail businesses, certain recycled material values have increased. Heikal, Sandry & Veralli, Paul.

Western collects recycling from commercial and residential customers. The material composition is unique to each segment, primarily differentiated by the percentage of cardboard. Businesses generate more cardboard and fewer containers (aluminum cans, glass and plastic bottles) and residential is reversed. In a very short time, the displacement of cardboard due to business closures has created some scarcity and the markets are responding. In both April and May, cardboard prices have increased. In some regions of the US, prices are up more than 100% since early 2020.

Where else has the stay at home directive impacted recycle value? The grocery store and demand for toilet paper. The sudden increase in purchases eliminated supply and caused a disruption in the supply of tissue. Most tissue has a high recycled content, much of it sourced from office paper and mixed paper. With offices closed and employees working from home, supply decreased just when more orders for tissue were coming from grocery and other retail suppliers. Just like cardboard, prices



for office paper and mixed paper have increased as tissue and pulp mills compete for less available fiber. These recent gyrations support a universal truth – whether it’s the stock market or the recycling market - it’s folly to attempt to time markets. Our recommendation? Invest for the long term and keep recycling!

Local Businesses Need Our Support

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Boulder County:

Boulder County:

<https://www.bouldercounty.org/families/disease/covid-19/>

This is Boulder County's site for all information COVID-19 related. It offers guidance for both businesses and residents as well as information on the status of Boulder County operations.

Longmont:

Longmont Chamber of Commerce:

<https://www.longmontchamber.org/we-speak-longmont/>

Longmont's Chamber has a wealth of information available for businesses and employees impacted by COVID-19. They also launched a Take Out Takeover program and have lists of restaurants that are participating.

Longmont Economic Development Partnership (LEDP):

<https://longmont.org/covid-19/>

LEDP created a three-pronged strategy to support the Longmont business community. These included capital, communication and education.

Resources for these areas of focus are available here.

Broomfield:

Broomfield Chamber of Commerce:

<https://www.broomfieldchamber.com/>

Created a Stronger Together: Business Support Toolkit to assist those businesses in need. There are also a number of other resources including financial information, re-opening toolkits, and guidance for Broomfield businesses.

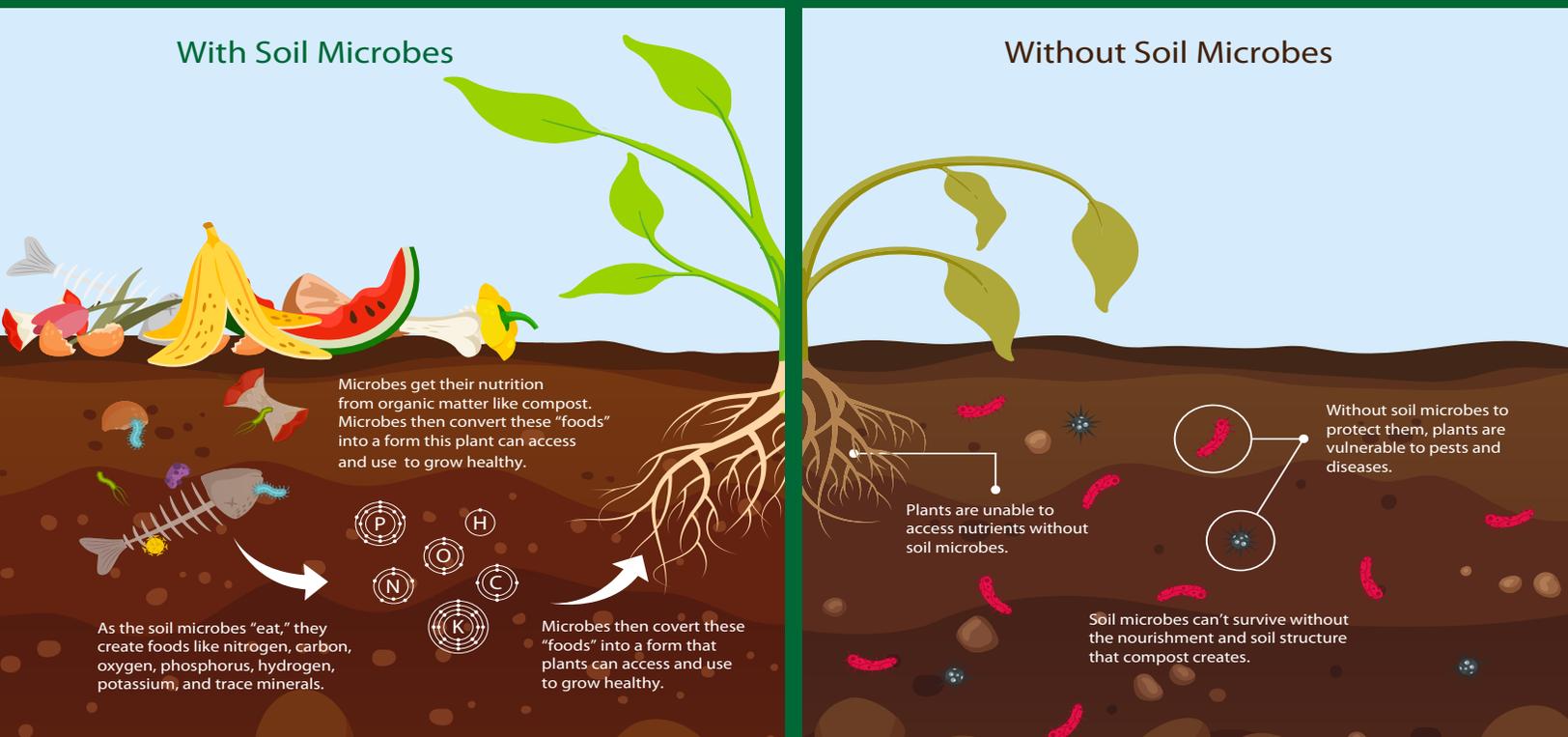
Clarification: Backyard Composting in Bear Zones

We are big fans of backyard composting. But please remember, if you live in an area where bears are active, put food scraps in your curbside compost bin, not your backyard bin. Sandra Foa & Dewitt Harrison



WHY DO PLANTS NEED COMPOST

Compost literally brings soil to life. In addition to improving the moisture holding capacity and structure of soil, compost contains an abundance of microbes which metabolize organic waste into essential plant nutrition, help ward off pests and disease and reduce the need for added fertilizers.



Shred Events Cancelled for 2020

The ongoing dilemma around maintaining recommended social distance has challenged our ability to assure Shred Events will be safe for both our employees and our customers. For this reason, Western has decided to cancel Shred Events for the remainder of 2020. We understand this will be a disappointment to many of our customers, and apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

Please note that EcoCycle's Center for Hard to Recycle Materials (CHaRM), located at 6400 Arapahoe in Boulder, offers paper shredding services for a fee. Go to ecocycle.org/charm#shred for pricing, hours of operation and COVID-19 protocols.



Western Disposal Trash & Recycle Center

Western Disposal operates a transfer station at our facility located at 5800 Butte Mill Road in Boulder. The operation's main purpose is to consolidate small loads of trash from our route trucks that service both commercial and residential customers. Trash is unloaded on our "tip floor" and transferred into larger, 53' semi-trailers and driven to the Front Range Landfill in Erie, CO. The consolidation reduces the number of Western trucks on the road and improves our collection efficiency. Chris Nuerberger



In addition to providing trash transfer for Western trucks, our transfer station is also open to the public. Western receives material from homeowners, landscapers and builders. We also receive compost from other waste haulers including the city of Longmont, CU and Eco-Cycle. Western accepts all types of residential trash including large bulky items, and unwanted appliances. We also offer a drop off area for clean wood and metals for recycling.

Large branches, yard waste and wood waste are also accepted. Depending on where you live there may be subsidies available to reduce the cost of disposal. Both the City of Boulder and Boulder County offer reduced rates for their residents.

If you are interested in sprucing up your yard or garden, Western offers compost and mulch for purchase. We carry two varieties of compost, both locally sourced: A1 Bio-Comp made from brewer's yeast, wood waste and biosolids and CMI Silver made from dairy manure and yard waste. Our mulch is local as well, made from yard waste dropped at our facility. For more information visit westerndisposal.com/compost.

Summer Operation Hours:

Monday – Saturday from 7:00 am to 5:00 pm
Contact Western for more details at 303.444.2037

Win One Month Free Trash Service

Several lucky residential 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.

Paperless Billing

Sign up for paperless billing and receive your newsletter electronically! Visit westerndisposal.com and sign in or sign up under "my account".

Trash & Recycle Center

Hours of Operation:

Monday – Saturday 7 AM – 5 PM

Phone: 303-444-5794



Committed to Exceptional Service Since 1970

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