

Inside is a  
Recycling Guide!

# THE RECYCLONE TIMES

Get caught up in it!



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## Fort Collins Wins CAFR Award

At the 2006 Summit for Recycling held in Keystone, the Colorado Association for Recycling recognized the Fort Collins community for its local recycling and waste reduction efforts. Cited was Fort Collins' success at achieving a high waste-diversion level, a pay-as-you-throw trash system that financially motivates citizens to recycle, and innovative collection events.

## Hewlett-Packard is Outstanding!

Hewlett-Packard of Fort Collins and Colorado Springs were named "outstanding business program" of the year by the state recycling association. The Fort Collins HP diverted 87% of its waste from landfill disposal.

## Habitat for Humanity "Can"

This fall, Fort Collins Habitat for Humanity plans to join a national recycling project called "Cans for Habitat." The campaign has already helped over 500 communities around the country raise money to build homes for low-income residents and at the same time keep valuable materials out of the landfill. To provide support, call Shannon Hein, Volunteer Coordinator, at 223-9909 ext. 212, or e-mail her at shein@habitatstore.org.

## Talk Trash at Garbage Garage

Want to learn more about the 3 Rs—reducing, reusing and recycling? Curious how landfills work, or how to be safe around household hazardous wastes? Then visit the Garbage Garage! Join thousands of others who have learned how to "talk trash" by exploring the colorful and interactive displays. The center is located at the Larimer County Landfill in Ft. Collins. For more info, visit [www.larimer.org/solidwaste](http://www.larimer.org/solidwaste).

## New Technology Makes Recycling Easier!

By Stephen Gillette, Director  
Larimer County Solid Waste Dept.

Recycling has come a long way from its roots in the era of the Great Depression and World War II, when President Franklin D. Roosevelt's mantra was, "Use it up, wear it out, make it do, or do without." These are still words to live by—and probably something that we all need to think more about!—but recycling, at least, has been made much easier and more efficient with the advent of curbside service and new technology.

A change initiated last year at the Larimer County Recycling Center has made recycling more convenient for residents. As you may know, the recycling center is now equipped to handle "single-stream" recycling. Single-stream refers to the collection of mixed recyclables: various types of paper, cans and bottles all in one pile. Previously, recycling was all "dual stream," in which cans and bottles were kept separate from paper, and even different types of paper had to be sorted. Today, the recycling center accepts materials both ways.

The option of single-stream recycling has allowed local trash haulers to pick up cardboard, paperboard (e.g., cereal boxes), and office paper in curbside recycling bins. Just last year, this wasn't possible because there weren't enough compartments in the recycling trucks to keep the different types of paper sorted. But now, since no sorting is

required, that isn't a problem. Some haulers, however, still request that their customers keep paper recyclables separate from the glass, plastic and metal containers, so be sure to check with your hauler to learn its guidelines.

But if **you** don't have to sort things any longer, who does? The mixed recyclables are taken to the Larimer County Recycling Center where they are compacted into semi-trailers and shipped to a materials recovery facility in Denver. There, a state-of-the-art sorting machine, along with some manual labor, separates the various types of recyclables and bales them for their journeys to remanufacturing plants, where they're made into new products.

The idea behind single-stream recycling is to make it easier for individuals to recycle, thereby increasing the volume of materials recycled. Is it working? Data collected from the recycling center shows that it is. Since the switch to single-stream, the volumes of recyclables processed at the Larimer County Recycling Center have increased by 30 percent.

Larimer County and the Cities of Fort Collins and Loveland extend a big thank you to all of our residents who recycle. With your help, we will keep progressing toward a more sustainable and environmentally responsible future.

(See inside for a guide of what can and cannot be recycled.)

## Get Rid of Hazardous Waste for Free

### Larimer County Offers Free Service to Rid Households of Hazardous Waste

Many household items - from lawn chemicals to car products to cleaning supplies - should not be thrown away with the trash. These items contain hazardous substances that can contaminate the environment and cause dangers for landfill workers and garbage truck drivers. So, what do you do if you have leftover household chemicals? Bring them to the Larimer County Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facility. Drop them off free of charge, and be assured they will be reused, recycled or disposed of correctly. Also, take some time to browse the Drop 'N' Swap for others' unused items that you might need - they're free, too!

#### Attention Small Businesses:

For a small fee, Larimer County's Business Hazardous Waste Program helps qualified businesses properly dispose of small quantities of hazardous waste. Call 970-498-5760 for an information packet.

#### Larimer County Household Hazardous Waste Collection and Drop 'N' Swap

(at the Larimer County Landfill)  
5887 S. Taft Hill Rd., Fort Collins  
970-498-5760

Hours: Tues., Thurs., Fri. & Sat.  
9am-4pm

#### Estes Park Household Hazardous Waste Collection

(at the Estes Park Solid Waste Transfer Station)  
455 Elm Rd., Estes Park  
970-586-6478 or 970-586-5740  
Call for hours or more information.

## Used Cooking Oil is Gold for Local Companies

By John Armstrong  
City of Fort Collins Natural Resources

One of the goals of recycling is to reuse materials for their "highest and best use." For aluminum cans, this might mean recycling them into more aluminum cans; for plastic bottles, the highest and best use might be to remanufacture them as carpet or a fleece jacket. So, what about atypical recyclables, such as waste cooking oil?

Boulder-based Rocky Mountain Sustainable Enterprises ([www.rmse.biz](http://www.rmse.biz)) collects waste cooking oil from Front Range restaurants and institutional businesses, including more than 40 businesses in Fort Collins. And, the City of Loveland recently contracted with RMSE to pick up household waste oil from its recycling drop-off facility at 400 N. Wilson Av., to help mitigate the impacts of waste cooking oil on the municipal water treatment.

The waste oil is filtered to remove water and food particles at RMSE's processing plant in Berthoud. The processed cooking oil is then sold as a feedstock to Rocky Mountain Biodiesel, a

biodiesel producer also based in Berthoud. Closing the recycling loop further, Rocky Mountain Sustainable Enterprises powers its diesel truck fleet with biodiesel.

Biodiesel is an alternative fuel made from vegetable oils (and in some cases, animal fats) that can be used in standard diesel engines without modification. Biodiesel has many benefits: it's produced locally from locally derived feedstocks (including virgin oils, such as soy and canola, as well as waste cooking oils), it increases engine efficiency, and it lowers emissions, including standard pollutants and greenhouse gases. (Plus, tailpipe emissions smell like french fries, not diesel!)

So, while waste cooking oil has traditionally been recovered from businesses, Rocky Mountain Sustainable Enterprises is committed to ensuring the material is used for its highest and best use.

The oil used to fry your next order of fast food may well end up fueling a local delivery truck!

## Recycling is Good for the Economy, Too

By Susie Gordon  
City of Fort Collins Natural Resources

Recycling is big business, comparable in size to the US auto/truck manufacturing industry. In 2000, recycling employed more than 1.1 million people and generated an annual payroll of \$37 billion, representing a significant force in our economy and job creation.

It takes 6 jobs to landfill 10,000 tons of waste, while recycling the same amount can create as many as 36 jobs. And for every local worker collecting recyclables, 26 more workers are processing the materials and manufacturing them into new products. (For data sources, go to [www.fcgov.com/recycling](http://www.fcgov.com/recycling).) As an example of how efficiently the market functions, a recycled aluminum can returns to the grocer's shelf, new and filled, in as few as 60 days.

In Fort Collins and Loveland, recycling saves money, especially with the recent addition of cardboard and paperboard to curbside bins. By "right-sizing" your trash containers to best fit your household, you save money by reducing or avoiding your trash charges.

Recently, well-run recycling programs are showing they cost less to operate than sending waste to landfills. Loveland's municipal garbage utility's costs to recycle are almost \$40 per ton less than the cost to landfill trash, while Denver's recycling programs saved about \$200,000 in landfill costs in 2004 and collected nearly \$1 million from the sale of recyclables.

An often overlooked attribute of recycling is it helps promote a sense of community involvement and responsibility. For 2 decades, polls have routinely reported 7 out of 10 Americans view recycling as an important solution to some of the planet's environmental problems, and a recent survey in Fort Collins confirmed 98% believe recycling is good for the community. For many Americans, recycling is clearly an important way to quietly express commitment to the environment through minor adjustments made to their daily trash disposal habits, shopping choices, and product consumption.



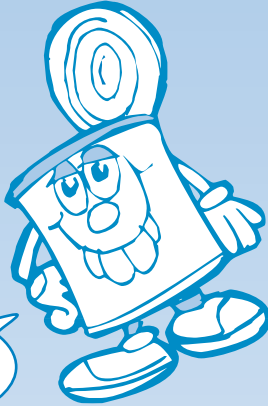
# Curbside Guide

What you can recycle at your curb.

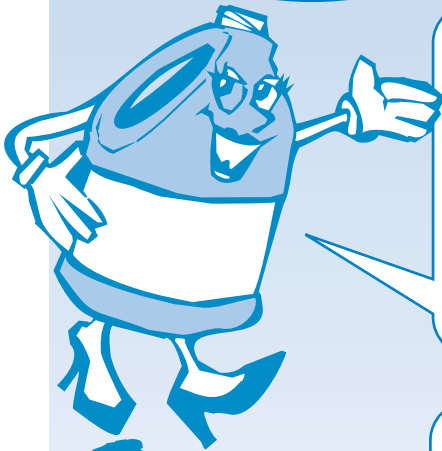
For more info:  
Larimer County 970-498-5760  
Fort Collins 970-221-6600  
Loveland (separation is required) 970-962-2529  
Visit [www.rethinkrecycling.org](http://www.rethinkrecycling.org)



Aluminum Cans  
Rinse, don't flatten.



Tin Cans  
Rinse, keep lids and labels. Spray cans are okay.



Plastic Bottles & Jars  
Rinse. Anything with a narrow neck and/or screw top, like soda or milk bottles. No snap-top plastic like yogurt cups, or margarine tubs. No chemical/pesticide containers. No bags!



Glass  
Rinse, remove lids, labels okay. No plate glass, drinking glasses, cookware, light bulbs or ceramics.

Metal lids are OK!

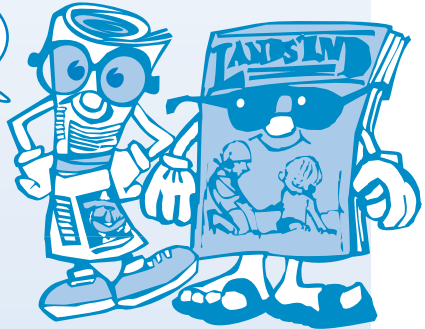
Paperboard & Phonebooks  
Almost any non-corrugated box like cereal and shoe, also paper egg cartons, greeting cards, gift & tissue wrap, manilla folders, mailing tubes...and much more!

Cardboard  
Flatten and cut/fold down to under 2 feet. Include pizza boxes, if clean.

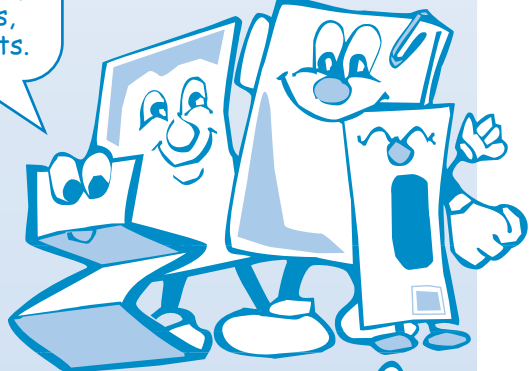
Paper bags are always OK!



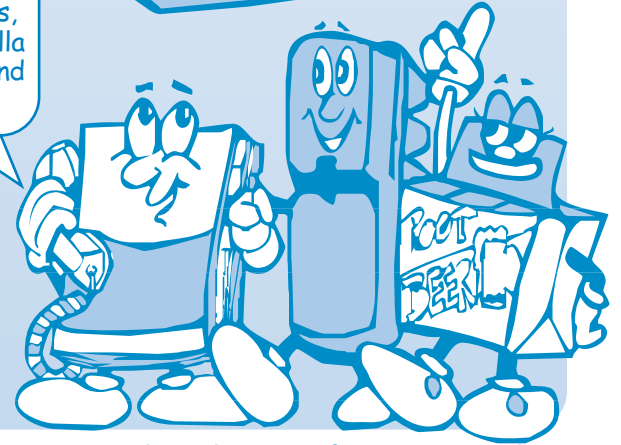
Magazines, Catalogs & Newspapers  
Including the inserts.



Office Paper & Junk Mail  
Envelopes, letters, postcards, fliers, brochures, reports.



**No paper towels, tissues, napkins, plates or cups.  
No pet food or charcoal bags.  
No waxed paper or waxed cardboard. No photographs.  
No foil or foil-lined boxes.  
No carbon paper.**





# Drop-off Guide

**What you can recycle, if you're willing to take a little trip.**

Check out [www.fcgov.com/recycling](http://www.fcgov.com/recycling) for more opportunities!

	Cans - Aluminum	Cans - Tin (steel)	Brown Paper Bags	Corrugated Cardboard	Glass Bottles & Jars	Junk Mail	Magazines & Catalogs	Newspaper	Paperboard	Plastic Bottles & Jars	Phone Books	Office Paper	Plastic Grocery Bags
<b>Curbside (check with your local hauler)</b>	☑	☑	☑	☑	☑	☑	☑	☑	☑	☑	☑	☑	☑
<b>FORT COLLINS</b>													
<b>Albertson's (All 3 locations)</b>													☑
<b>Aragon Iron &amp; Metal</b> 516 N Hwy 287 • 970-484-2577	☑	☑											
<b>City of Fort Collins Drop-off</b> 1702 Riverside Av • 970-221-6600 Open every day during daylight hours	☑	☑	☑	☑	☑	☑	☑	☑	☑	☑	☑	☑	☑
<b>Colorado Iron &amp; Metal</b> 1400 E Mulberry St • 970-482-7707	☑	☑											
<b>King Soopers</b> 4503 JFK Pkwy • 970-223-5759 2325 S College Av • 970-482-8855 1015 S Taft Hill Rd • 970- 221-4943	☑			☑				☑					
<b>Larimer County Recycling Center</b> 5887 S Taft Hill Rd • 970-226-1101 Mon-Sat 8-4:30, Sun 9-4 (Apr-Oct)	☑	☑	☑	☑	☑	☑	☑	☑	☑	☑	☑	☑	☑
<b>Rocky Mountain Battery &amp; Recycling</b> 1475 N College Av • 970-484-5384	☑						☑	☑				☑	
<b>Wild Oats Market</b> 200 W Foothills Pkwy • 970-225-1400	☑			☑		☑	☑	☑					
<b>BERTHOUD</b>													
<b>Larimer County Drop-off</b> 248 Welch Av • 970-498-5760 or 532-2643	☑	☑			☑	☑	☑		☑				
<b>Town of Berthoud</b> 248 Welch Av • 970-532-2643				☑									
<b>ESTES PARK</b>													
<b>Estes Park Recycling Drop-off</b> (Transfer Station) Elm Rd • 970-586-6478	☑	☑		☑	☑	☑	☑	☑		☑			☑
<b>LOVELAND</b>													
<b>Albertson's (all locations)</b>													☑
<b>City of Loveland Drop-off</b> 400 N Wilson Av • 970-962-2529	☑	☑	☑	☑	☑	☑	☑	☑	☑	☑	☑	☑	☑
<b>King Soopers</b> 253 E 29th St • 970-669-6222 1275 Eagle Dr • 970-663-4125	☑			☑									
<b>Larimer County Recycling Center (Listed under Fort Collins)</b>													
<b>Rocky Mountain Battery &amp; Recycling</b> 2929 N Garfield Av • 970-667-4059	☑												
<b>WELLINGTON</b>													
<b>Larimer County Recycling Drop-off</b> Town Garage 6th & Grant • 970-498-5760	☑	☑			☑	☑	☑	☑		☑			
<b>RED FEATHER LAKES</b>													
<b>Larimer County Recycling Drop-off</b> 1417 Green Mountain Dr • 970-498-5760	☑	☑			☑	☑	☑	☑		☑			

## Motor Oil

Please call:

Fort Collins  
Checker Auto Parts  
970-493-8244 (north)  
970-233-5329 (south)

Larimer County Landfill  
970-498-5770

Rams BP 970-482-7710

City of Loveland Drop-off  
970-962-2529

Estes Park Recycling  
970-586-6478

For Household  
Hazardous Waste  
Call 970-498-5760

## Loveland Also Takes

Batteries, Cooking Oil,  
Tires, Scrap Metal,  
Appliances, Lumber,  
Yardwaste, Cell  
Phones, and Printer  
Cartridges...

Citizens can drop off lots of stuff at the City's Drop-off at 400 N. Wilson Av. Yardwaste and wood waste are free for city residents (proof required). Tires and appliances with Freon will be charged a fee. Call for hours and more info:

**970-962-2529**

Styrofoam Peanuts are accepted at mailing centers, call first. Rigid styrofoam is generally not recyclable.



[rethinkrecycling.org](http://rethinkrecycling.org)



[larimer.org](http://larimer.org)



[ci.loveland.co.us](http://ci.loveland.co.us)



[fcgov.com](http://fcgov.com)

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