

# Recyclers' Corner

March 2009 Issue



[Editor's Note: Recyclers' Corner is a periodic news column sponsored by Denver Recycles, a program of Denver Public Works/Solid Waste Management. It includes updates on seasonal and ongoing activities related to the City and County of Denver's recycling programs. Editors are invited to publish all or part of the column; however, we request that you run major edits by our staff to ensure accuracy of the information. Questions may be directed to Charlotte Pitt or Tom Strickland at Denver Recycles, 720-865-6815.]

## Denver Residents can sign up for Free Learn to Compost Classes

***Spring is just around the corner, so there's no better time to begin thinking about starting or improving your home garden.*** A great way to enhance any garden is by adding naturally produced compost from your own yard and kitchen waste to your soil. Making and using compost as a soil amendment can save you money by reducing the need to buy fertilizer and reducing your need to water. Compost can increase the soil's ability to retain moisture and prevent erosion, which makes it an important component of gardening in arid climates.

Denver Recycles (a program of Denver Public Works/Solid Waste Management), in partnership with Denver Urban Gardens and the Metro Wastewater Reclamation District, offers **FREE backyard "Learn to Compost" classes** to the public from May through October. The hands-on, two-hour backyard composting classes will teach you all you need to know to make terrific compost at home.



For a **complete class schedule** and to **register** for a **FREE** composting class simply visit us online at **[DenverGov.org/DenverRecycles](http://DenverGov.org/DenverRecycles)** or call 720-685-6810. All classes are held at the Denver Backyard Composting Demonstration site located in the Gove Community Garden at E. 13th Ave. and Colorado Blvd. Classes are free, but participants are asked to register at least one week before the class, so proper staffing can be arranged. Class registrations cannot be taken for classes more than two months in advance of the schedule.

Special worm composting (vermicomposting) workshops will be held once a month May through October.

For more information about this program or other Denver Recycles programs call 3-1-1 or visit us on-line at [DenverGov.org/DenverRecycles](http://DenverGov.org/DenverRecycles).

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# Recycling Myth Busters: Learn the Truth.

## Part 3 of 12

There are a lot of myths about recycling passed along from person to person. We are here to explain some of those myths, so you can be the best recycler possible.

### ***Myth: Buying recycled products doesn't really make a difference.***

**FALSE.** Increasing the use of products made from post-consumer recycled material is critical to expanding market demand for the materials we recycle everyday, and in turn that encourages more manufactures to use recycled materials in their products. Manufacturing products from recycled materials results in significant savings in energy, water and other natural resources, and creates less pollution.

When buying recycled products, be sure to read the labels or specifications. A recycling symbol does not mean it is made from recycled materials. Be sure to look for language stating it is made from recycled materials and the higher the post-consumer content, the better. Every recycled product you buy, whether it is napkins made from recycled paper or roof shingles made for recycled tires, reduces stress on our environment.

Check out Denver Recycles' "Buy Recycled Shopping List" online at [www.DenverGov.org/DenverRecycles](http://www.DenverGov.org/DenverRecycles).

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