

Recyclers' Corner



April 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.]

2009 Treecycle Mulch Giveaway & LeafDrop Compost

On Saturday, **May 2, 2009**, the City & County of Denver will be holding its annual "**Treecycle Mulch Giveaway & LeafDrop Compost Sale.**" The mulch is made by grinding up the Christmas trees collected from residential homes this past holiday season, and the compost is made from leaves collected in last fall's LeafDrop program.



There will be five sites around Denver where residents can go to pick up **FREE mulch** on May 2nd from 8 AM to 3 PM (or while supplies last):

- NE Denver: **Havana Nursery** (10450 Smith Rd., two blocks south of I-70 on Havana St.). *Loader service for trucks and trailers and dig-your-own.*
- NE Denver: **Fred Thomas Park** (Quebec & 26th Ave.) *Dig-your-own mulch.*
- NW Denver: **Sloan's Lake Park** (Sheridan & 17th Ave.). *Dig-your-own mulch.*
- SE Denver: **Veterans Park** (Iowa & Vine). *Dig-your-own mulch.*
- SW Denver: **Bear Creek Park** (On Raleigh south of Dartmouth). *Dig-your-own mulch.*

Compost will only be SOLD at the Havana Nursery site (10450 Smith Rd.) by A1 Organics at the incredibly low price of \$3 per 10-gallon bag (about 40 pounds) or about \$30 per cubic yard (plus tax). Compost will only be available while supplies last, so come early and bring your own bags or containers. Loader service for trucks and trailers will also be available for compost. Please note that there will be a limit of 3-cubic yards of compost per vehicle.

Please remember:

- The free mulch is available to City & County of Denver residents only.
- Bring a shovel or pitchfork and your own bags or containers to shovel and transport your supply of mulch or compost.
- Only the Havana Nursery site will have loader service (mulch & compost) for trucks and trailers.
- Residents loading material into trucks or trailers must bring along a tarp to make sure loads are covered before leaving the site.

For more information about Denver Recycles programs call **3-1-1** or visit us online at **DenverGov.org/DenverRecycles**.

###

Recycle Your Plastic Flower Pots on April 25th & June 27th

"Keep the Plants, We'll Take the Pots!" For two Saturdays, one in April and one in June, plastic garden pots will be collected for recycling at two drop-off sites in Denver. Plastic garden pots of any size or color, hanging baskets (with wires removed), carrying trays and flower pack holders will be recycled. These events are

sponsored by the Garden Centers of Colorado, Monrovia Nursery, the Denver Post and Denver Recycles (a program of Denver Public Works/Solid Waste Management).



The **Garden Plastic Pot Recycling Drives** will take place as follows:

- **Saturday, April 25, 2009 – South High School** (Louisiana Ave. & Franklin St.) from 9 AM to 3 PM.
- **Saturday, June 27, 2009 – Denver Botanic Gardens** (909 York St.) from 9 AM to 3 PM.

Plastic garden pots are also accepted for recycling anytime at local participating garden stores. For a list of participating stores visit online at GardenCentersofColorado.org.

Please remember, no paper, glass, trash or items other than plastic plant containers will be collected at these events and that these plastics are NOT recyclable in your purple Denver Recycles' cart.

For more information on this event visit GardenCentersofColorado.org.

Recycling Myth Busters: Learn the Truth. Part 4 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: Cardboard boxes left outside your purple cart will get recycled.

FALSE. If you're not putting cardboard boxes inside your purple cart, then you're not recycling them.

Cardboard left outside of your recycling cart will not get recycled, even if it is flattened and stacked right next to your cart. Instead, it will either be left behind or picked up as overflow trash and sent to the landfill. So if you actually want to recycle your cardboard, please put it in your purple cart.

With Denver Recycles' automated collection system, only materials inside the purple carts can be lifted up by the mechanical arm and emptied into the top of the recycling truck. Cardboard and other materials left outside of your cart cannot be collected for recycling.

To ensure that you recycle all the cardboard you can, but also leave room in your cart for all the other valuable recyclable materials, remember to:

- **Make sure the cut cardboard lays flat in your cart**, so it doesn't take up usable space.
- Try waiting to put cardboard in your cart until your recycling day. Then **lay the cardboard flat in the cart on top** of the rest of your recyclables and close the lid. This will help to ensure that cardboard doesn't get stuck in the cart and will enable you to fit more cardboard in your recycling cart.
- **Flatten and break down all boxes** into pieces no larger than 2 feet by 2 feet in size.

Thanks for doing your part and recycling all that you can! If you consistently have more recycling than what will fit in your cart, please contact us by calling 3-1-1 or DenverGov.org/DenverRecycles.

###