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## **Eco-Cycle/City of Boulder CHaRM Facility to Start Accepting Plate Glass Windows and Doors on Earth Day, April 22**

*To celebrate, Eco-Cycle will waive the \$3 facility entry fee at the Center for Hard-to-Recycle Materials on Saturday, and host an education booth with free refreshments for visitors*

**For Immediate Release:**

April 19, 2017 (BOULDER, COLORADO)—In keeping with Eco-Cycle’s tradition of adding new materials when viable markets or other end-use options are discovered, the nonprofit recycler will start accepting plate glass windows, doors, and other plate glass materials this Saturday at the Eco-Cycle/City of Boulder Center for Hard-to-Recycle Materials (CHaRM). Plate glass recycling opportunities are rare, even in states such as California, which have aggressive recycling policies.

“Eco-Cycle is thrilled to partner with Momentum Recycling to recycle more of Boulder County’s glass waste,” said Dan Matsch, CHaRM Facility Director. “Glass can be recycled endlessly yet we haven’t been able to recycle plate glass in Colorado until now,” he added. “Momentum is transforming glass recycling along the Front Range.”

Plate glass windows and other items accepted at the CHaRM will be trucked to Utah-based Momentum Recycling’s new state-of-the-art facility in Broomfield, which opened in February. Eco-Cycle actually helped Momentum first get off the ground in Utah and eventually led the company to open a facility in Colorado, which will benefit the Boulder County Recycling Center among other facilities.

Momentum expects to recycle about 23 percent of Colorado’s glass at current capacity and eventually hopes to process 50 percent. Colorado currently recycles about 6 percent of its glass waste. According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, about 4 percent of municipal solid waste is comprised of glass, and the sand used to produce it is sometimes mined from environmentally sensitive areas.

**PHOTO OPP:** What better time to recycle plate glass and other items than on Earth Day? To celebrate, Eco-Cycle will waive the \$3 facility fee and provide free refreshments and an information booth staffed by trained volunteers. Saturdays are typically the facility’s busiest days. The CHaRM is located at 6400 Arapahoe Ave.

Founded by Eco-Cycle in 2001, the CHaRM accepts dozens of unusual discards, such as electronics and mattresses, which cannot be processed at the Boulder County Recycling Center. Last year, Boulder residents and businesses disposed of more than three million pounds of hard-to-recycle materials at the CHaRM, which is a critical part of local recycling infrastructure necessary for both Boulder County and the City of Boulder to meet their Zero Waste goals.

Plate glass windows and doors are not accepted in standard curbside recycling carts. That's because they're bulky, safety hazards, and because the chemistry and melting temperature of plate glass differs from regular glass.

### **What happens to the plate glass?**

All of the plate glass collected at CHaRM will be go to Momentum Recycling in Broomfield where it will be minimally processed and then shipped to Momentum's facility in Utah to be turned into fiberglass. The container glass is processed in Colorado and turned into bottles for beer and other beverages.

### **Guidelines for recycling plate glass**

When it comes to recycling plate glass windows, there are important guideless to follow:

1. The glass **does not** have to be removed from the frames.
2. Previously broken glass is acceptable, but we ask that customers use extreme caution in handling it.
3. If the glass portion of the door or window can be easily separated from the jamb, then that is advised. Otherwise, there will be a small labor fee to remove jambs.

### **The CHaRM will accept these types of plate glass:**

- Window without jamb: \$3.00/unit
- Window with jamb: \$8.00/unit
- Door without jamb: \$12.00/unit
- Door with jamb: \$20.00/unit
- Picture frame glass
- Glass tabletops
- Glass block

### **The CHaRM will NOT accept these types of glass:**

- Mirrors
- Canning jars and Pyrex
- Glassware (drinking glasses and dishes)
- Car windshields

**Note:** Glass bottles and jars can be put in your curbside recycling cart or you can deposit them in the single-stream blue dumpsters at the CHaRM.

Every vehicle entering the CHaRM is charged a \$3 facility fee in addition to fees for some specific materials, although it is being waived on Earth Day.

For details on current materials and prices, visit: [www.ecocycle.org/charm](http://www.ecocycle.org/charm)

### **More about Eco-Cycle**

**Eco-Cycle** is a nonprofit social enterprise based in Boulder. As one of the nation's oldest and largest nonprofit recyclers, Eco-Cycle has been a Zero Waste pioneer since the organization started curbside recycling in the City of Boulder back in 1976.

As a social enterprise, Eco-Cycle invests revenues it receives from business activities, including operating both the Boulder County Recycling Center (since 2001) and the CHaRM to provide essential funding for Eco-Cycle's award-winning schools programs as well as public education, outreach, and advocacy programs that benefit Boulder County residents.

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