

THE FIRST ZERO WASTE MODEL FOR SMALL TOWNS



Eco-Cycle worked with every sector of the community in Lyons under an E.P.A. grant to create a Zero Waste Model for small communities. We worked with residents, schools, businesses, events, and government to educate Lyons residents on Zero Waste practices and to develop a plan for the community's first-ever curbside compost collection program. The city is soon to issue an RFP for compost hauling bids for their first ever curbside compost program.

CARBON FARMING: PROMISING LOCAL CLIMATE SOLUTION

Eco-Cycle helped launch carbon farming projects in Boulder County, working closely with the Marin Carbon Project in California to advance this promising climate change solution. Carbon farming uses regenerative farming practices, including compost application, to restore healthy soils that can sequester more carbon from the atmosphere. We are working with Boulder County, Colorado State University, City of Boulder and local farmers to test and pilot carbon sequestration on local farms.



MILESTONE: 1st CITIES IN TO OFFER K-12 ZERO WASTE EDUCATION

Our Green Star Schools program educates youth about resource conservation and the environmental benefits of reusing, recycling and composting. In 2018, we worked with 50 Boulder County public schools (representing 60% of public schools in the county) and reached 21,000 students. By 2020, with the enrollment of Fairview, Boulder, and Centaurus High, the cities of Boulder and Lafayette will be the first in the nation to offer comprehensive K-12 Zero Waste education throughout a student's academic career.

ZERO WASTE MOVEMENT

From Nebraska to the Netherlands, Eco-Cycle shared as well as learned about best practices for the purposes of spreading the Zero Waste Solution as far and as fast as we possibly can.

eco-cycle

2017-2018 YEAR IN REVIEW



DIVERTING 81% OF EVENT WASTE

Through our Zero Waste Events program, Eco-Cycle works with local event organizations, including PrideFest, the Lafayette Peach Festival, Cinco de Mayo, and Juneteenth, to reduce their environmental impact. In 2018, we worked with 60 events and nearly 250,000 event attendees to recycle or compost on average 81% of waste by volume. In comparison, events without customized Zero Waste services typically divert only 15-30% of waste by volume.



COMPOST EXPANSION IN DENVER

Eco-Cycle successfully advocated for the inclusion of almost \$2 million in Denver's 2019 budget to expand compost routes and education. Our Latino Outreach Coordinator has focused on engaging and empowering Latino populations in this effort to ensure education and expanded services meet diverse community needs.



URBAN CARBON SEQUESTRATION DEVELOPMENT

Eco-Cycle helped develop a citizen science project testing the potential to sequester carbon on urban landscapes, including residential lawns. Our goal is to bring the climate benefits of carbon farming to more populated areas. This project demonstrates the importance of composting to reduce methane emissions from landfills, and helps build a more robust compost market to supply large-scale carbon sequestration projects.

RESILIENCY IN CHANGING MARKETS

International strains on recycling markets have affected domestic markets, causing some recyclers to send materials to landfill. Thanks to an educated public, Eco-Cycle's recyclables are some of the cleanest on the market and are NOT being landfilled.