

2012

SOLID WASTE



20



Notes from the Director

2012 was a busy year at the Solid Waste Department. Our landfill volumes have been up for the last two years due to several local and large demolition projects.

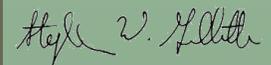
In early spring we finished up the closure of Phase 6A. In the summer, we applied for a special waiver from the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment that allowed us to accept debris from the High Park fire and the Woodland Heights fire in Estes Park. (Normally we are mandated to exclude this type of debris from our waste stream but due to the number of homes lost in Larimer County and the sheer magnitude of the fire, the regulation waiver was granted.)

In this year's Annual Review we are going to spotlight the recycling area of our operation. We have many interesting departments within Solid Waste, but recycling is seeing increased growth at the Larimer County Landfill and this year's report centers around how this impacts our customers and the department as a whole. The Recycling area of our Department is unique and changes with volumes, markets, and

other costs of doing business. It is important for everyone to understand that recycling is NOT FREE. There is a lengthy chain of events in the processing of recycled wastes. Recycling is just one part of the three R's- reduce-reuse-and recycle. And the county is only one option of several available to citizens. Together we can make a difference in utilizing potential resources and making better decisions around

what to dispose of and what to recycle.

Solid Waste Director



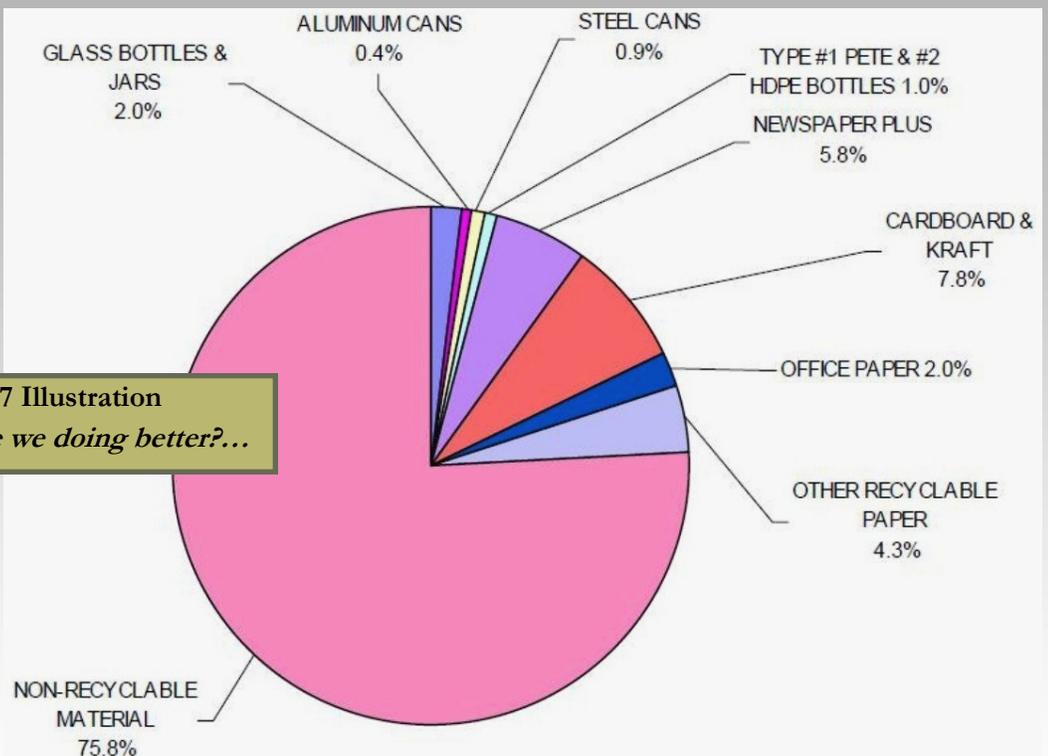

Waste Management
Franklin Street
recycling sort line

Environmental Impact of recyclables

A 2007 study found that over 24 percent of disposed wastes going into the Larimer County Landfill could potentially be recycled. The recyclables in our landfill take up precious space and shorten the potential life of the landfill. A new study is underway to compare 2013 data.

With the 2013 study, we hope to find out if participation in recycling has changed over the last few years, and where we can do better.

2007 Illustration
Are we doing better?...



Recycling Partnership

Summit with over 80 invited guests, both public and private businesses and citizens. They were invited to share their input and ideas on the future of recycling in Larimer County. The Cities of Fort Collins and Loveland partnered up to work on a solution to the lack of a facility. The ideas from the summit were put forth and included into the bid to find an Operator for the facility.

Our current facility was built in 1984 and is a partnership between Larimer County and Waste Management Inc.



The contract provided for:

- The ability to take source separated fiber materials
- Curbside collection of single stream materials
- Performance standards-residue rates (5% for source separated and 10% for single stream)
- Contractor to be responsible for marketing
- County to be responsible for education

In 1983 the Solid Waste Department hosted a Recycling

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- Ability to add or delete materials as market conditions change
- No preferential service- all customers treated the same
- Guaranteed minimum payment to the County
- 10 year contract with two five year renewals at County's discretion



This contract worked well for a few years but has since been rebid. We saw our profits rising and added an amendment enabling us to rebate our customers 25% of the adjusted net sales. This gives our recycle center an edge against the competition and our customers enjoy one of the highest rebates in the state.

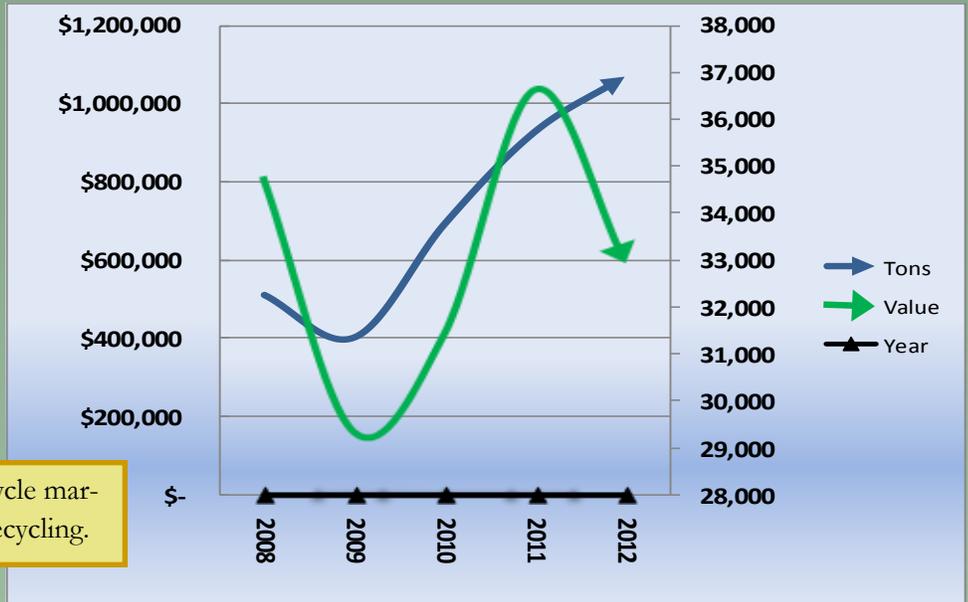
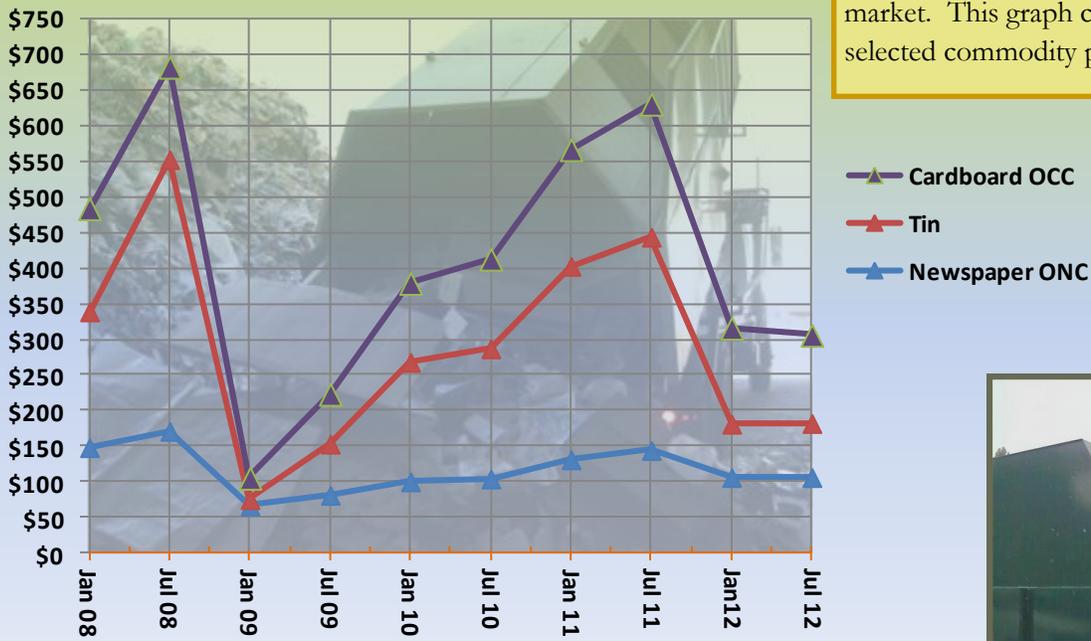
Please note that the Larimer County Recycle Center is not the only place our customers could take their materials to. Boulder County, Alpine Waste and Recycling, Waste Management, Inc. and Best Way all have single stream facilities in the state of Colorado. People use our facility because of location and great customer service.



Mountain of recyclables at Waste Management Center on Franklin Street in Denver prior to processing. This is where the materials from the Taft Hill Road location are shipped to.

Market Ups And Downs

We have seen the ups and downs of the market. This graph compares some typical selected commodity prices from 2008-2012.



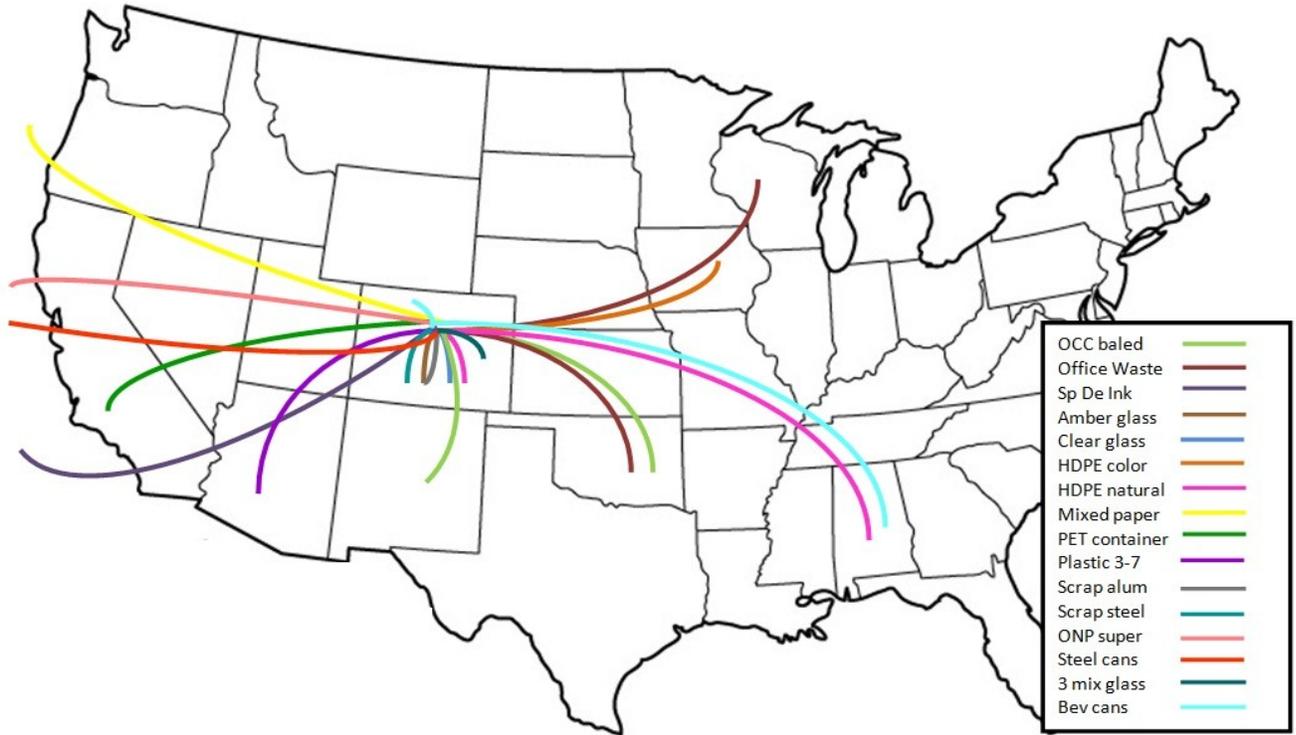
This graph illustrates how the recycle markets effect our total revenue for recycling.

Running a facility based on a roller coaster market is challenging but just like the weather in Colorado- if you do not like what is happening- wait awhile and it will change.

Processing Recyclables

The materials we collect are shipped to a multitude of locations as illustrated here.

National and international recyclables markets can be very unstable. Prices go up and also can drop suddenly leaving tons of recyclables without a buyer. We have experienced the flux in the markets first hand but our partner, Waste Management, Inc., is one of the largest players in the market, giving us an advantage in getting our commodities sold.



Education can change our future

Recycling revenue funds 25% of the operating expenses for education. Over 5,000 individuals in 2012 were served by these dollars through tours, drop-in visits, classes and outreach. These dollars are well spent!

"There are five people in our family. Our trash cart is always full. I'm realizing now that we really should be recycling!"

(These comments by a Mom of triplets were shared after a hands-on trash/recycling sorting activity during a tour at the Garbage Garage Education Center.)

Her words sum up the value of the dollars spent educating the public about recycling as well as reducing, reusing and the Landfill.



Learning how the layers of the landfill are formed then enjoying the "edible" landfill during Waste Ranger Camp (above.)

Scouts and their leaders find much to learn at the Garbage Garage.



Birthday party attendees show off their hand-made trash trucks before "picking up the trash!"



High school students brave a cold day learning about the importance of recycling.

Landfill Recycling



Clean Christmas trees are recycled into mulch and given to citizens each spring



Concrete and asphalt are ground up and re-used on the landfill site to pave roads around the property.



Revenues/Expenses 2012

The Larimer County Solid Waste Department is an enterprise fund department.

Total revenues for the department : \$6.5 million.

Revenues by Major Program:

Landfill - \$5,137,627

Recycling - \$591,702

Education - \$24,156

HHW - \$42,366

Transfer Stations - \$268,385

Interest/ Sale of Assets - \$398,341

Total Expenses for 2012: \$4.7 million.

Expenses by Major Category:

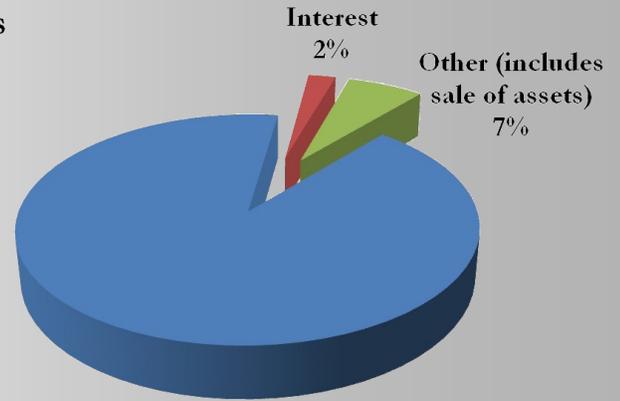
Personnel - \$1,506,846

Operating - \$2,081,326

Capital - \$1,134,633

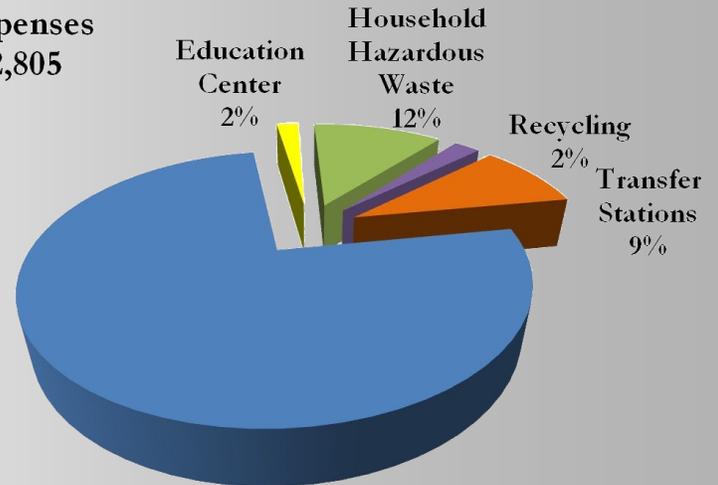
2012 Revenues
\$6,462,577

Fees
91%
\$5.8M



2012 Expenses
\$4,722,805

Landfill
75%
\$3.5M



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Solid Waste Department ~FAST Facts
We receive **ZERO** tax dollars !!



We have 7 major service areas:
Sanitary Landfill * Hazardous Waste * Environmental Compliance * Education * Transfer Stations,* Recycling * Support Services

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Monday - Friday

On the Web at:

www.larimer.org/solidwaste

Public Works Division

Engineering
Fleet
Natural Resources
Road and Bridge
Solid Waste
The Ranch



Our Director greets a current trash enthusiast and potential future Landfill Manager

Solid Waste Facilities

Landfill

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970-498-5760

Hazardous Waste

5887 S. Taft Hill Rd.
Ft Collins, CO 80624
970-498-5771

Education Center

5887 S. Taft Hill Rd
Ft Collins, CO 80526
970-498-5772

Berthoud Transfer

Hwy.56 & County Line
Berthoud, CO
970-498-5760

Wellington Transfer

Owl Canyon Rd.
Wellington, CO
970-498-5760

Red Feather Transfer

West of Parvin Lake
Red Feather, CO
970-498-5760