

# Proposed Extension to Ordinance to Charge for Composting Collection Services



**DENVER**  
THE MILE HIGH CITY

**311**  
for City Services  
Denver gets it done!



# Ordinance Provisions

- Will allow the Department of Public Works (PW) to continue to collect compost from eligible participants.
- Removes the sunset provision.
- Still limited to the 3,000 households in current pilot area.
- Opens the door to school participation limited to existing pilot areas.
- Allows PW to offer a set discount to residents who pay for annual service up front.
- Leaves the door open to further expansion when resources permit.

# Billing for Services

- Subscribing households are charged a compost collection fee of \$117 annually.
- Billed quarterly at \$29.25 in January, April, July and September.
- Residents are encouraged to pay the annual fee for this service in January for a \$10 discount.
- Offer weekly service year round.

# 2010 Update

- Fees collected in 2010 covered costs to operate the program.
- 2,200 subscribed at the end of 2010.
- Reduced efforts to attract new subscribers in August due to the uncertainty of continuation.
- Big learning curve with billing and fees for service.

# 2011 Update

Recruiting for additional participants.



Have you heard the good news?  
**Space is available in the  
Denver Composts Program!**



**Order your green compost cart today and join your neighbors in reducing waste the easy way.**

## HOW IT WORKS

With Denver Composts you can put yard waste, food and non-recyclable paper in your green cart, and we'll collect it from your home weekly.

Residents who recycle and compost report a reduction in their trash of at least 50%. You can too!

- Call 3-1-1 or go to [DenverGov.org/DenverRecycles](http://DenverGov.org/DenverRecycles) to sign up for compost collection service.
- You will receive a 65-gallon green cart, a 2-gallon green kitchen compost pail, and weekly compost collections.
- The base payment for this service is \$29.25 per quarter (three months). Payment is due within two weeks of receiving your green cart.
- Space is limited in this pilot program, so carts will be provided on a first-come, first-served basis. **ACT NOW!**

## WHY PARTICIPATE?

Instead of trashing your food scraps, non-recyclable paper and yard waste, we will ensure it's naturally recycled into high quality landscaping and agricultural compost for growing more plants.

You could reduce the waste your home throws away to almost nothing. Some of the items you can compost in the green cart include weeds; leaves; grass clippings; all leftover food including fruit and vegetable peels, meat, bones, pizza and more; and soiled paper which includes non-recyclable paper like paper towels, paper plates, paper cups, paper milk cartons, used tissues, paper take out cartons and more. For a more comprehensive list of compostable items, please visit [DenverGov.org/DenverRecycles](http://DenverGov.org/DenverRecycles)

Keeping organic material out of area landfills is an important step in reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Burying yard waste such as grass clippings and leaves, food scraps and paper in a landfill creates methane, a greenhouse gas 21 times more potent in its heat trapping capabilities than carbon dioxide.