

# 2026 Recycle Colorado Lobby Day

## Contact Information

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## 2026 Legislative Priorities

### Salvaged Lumber for New Construction

**ACTION FOR 2026: HELP US CONNECT US WITH LOCAL INTEREST GROUPS**

- Local codes lack a clear, consistent pathway for grading, certification, and permitted use for salvaged lumber.
- This will not create new requirements, will clarify & promote allowable opportunities for use.
- We are leading an education and outreach effort to help builders and communities reuse salvaged lumber with confidence.
- Using salvaged lumber reduces greenhouse gas emissions, supports local businesses & labor, minimizes waste and impacts on forests, and increases local supplies of usable lumber.

### Organics Diversion for Colorado

**ACTION FOR 2026: WORK WITH US TO CREATE FUTURE LEGISLATION TO KEEP FOOD SCRAPS & YARD TRIMMINGS OUT OF LANDFILLS**

- Organics Diversion legislation would:**
  - Build resilient landscapes:** Save water, increase flood & drought tolerance & reduce wildfire risk
  - Reverse climate change:** Sequester carbon & avoid landfill methane emissions
  - Support Colorado agriculture:** Help grow healthy foods, restore topsoil & grazing land & save farmers money
  - Build local economies:** Create five times more jobs than landfilling, develop innovative business opportunities, & save municipalities money

### SB26-003 Electric Vehicle End of Life Management

**ACTION FOR 2026: PLEASE VOTE YES ON SB26-003 AND SUPPORT COLORADO'S LEADERSHIP IN PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY.**

- Recycle Colorado supports a strong producer responsibility program for products, including small, medium, and electric vehicle batteries.
- A strong producer responsibility program:
  - Reduces pollution and consumer confusion around battery recycling
  - Mitigates hidden recycling costs
  - Increases battery recycling access while capturing valuable materials contained in used batterie
  - Shifts the cost burden of collection and processing from residents and local governments to producers

## March 12th Lobby Day Agenda

**7:45 AM** | Arrive at the Capitol (200 East Colfax Avenue, Denver), go through security on either the north side (Colfax and Sherman) or the south side (E. 14<sup>th</sup> Ave.) and meet up on the first floor at the base of the main staircase, next to the West Foyer. Light breakfast will be provided.

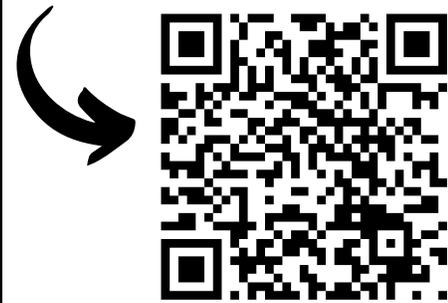
**8:30 AM - 11:30 AM** | Lobbying in Senate and House Chambers and office meetings with legislators.

**11:30 AM - 4:00 PM** | Lunch and office meetings with legislators.

**4:00 - 6:30 PM** | Advocate & Legislator Reception at Forte Wine Bar (Lobby at 1660 Lincoln, Denver, CO 80264)



## Scan for Advocate Resources



## Script for Discussions with Legislators

### 1. LEADER - Welcome

- Thank Legislator/Staff Person** for the meeting and anything else the legislator has done/supported (like SB25-163 Battery Stewardship Program). Congratulate new legislators on being elected.
- Introduce Recycle Colorado** - establish your credentials: Recycle Colorado is a statewide nonprofit organization working to advance infrastructure, end markets, and state and local policies in waste reduction, recovery and diversion. We have more than 300 members from across the state, from the public, private, and nonprofit sectors.

### 2. EVERYONE - Introductions

- Introduce yourselves** - where you live/where you work/what you do and if you are a constituent.

### 3. LEADER - State the topic of the meeting

- We are here today to talk to legislators like yourself about how important recycling, composting, reuse, and remanufacturing is to our state and the need for us to do more to build our circular economy.
- Last year we helped champion the Battery Stewardship Program, SB25-163 that sets up a collection and recycling program for small and medium format batteries, paid for by the producers of the batteries.

### 4. VOLUNTEER 1 - Tell the legislator WHY they should care - HEART

- Appeal to their heart** - briefly share your personal emotions, experiences with them about why recycling, organics diversion, and construction and deconstruction is important to you. Try to make a personal connection with the legislator.

### 5. VOLUNTEER 2- Tell the legislator WHY they should care - HEAD

- Appeal to their head** - briefly share facts, data. Overall, Colorado is currently recycling and composting only 15.5% of its waste, half the national average.

### 6. VOLUNTEER 3 (or can be shared between two/three volunteers) - Ask for their support on bills we are running or supporting. Refer to the Legislative Priorities above.

### 7. VOLUNTEER 5 or LEADER - Ask if the legislator has questions or if we can follow up with any additional information.

### 8. LEADER - Closing

- Tell the legislator/staffer our factsheets and materials are available through the QR Code.
- We will also follow up with answers to the questions he or she asked.
- Thank the legislator again.

## TIPS

- Be sure to make the conversation 50/50. Let the legislator respond and ask questions.
- Don't make anything up. It is WAY better to say, "I don't know. That is a great question. We will get back to you with an answer or have someone contact you who knows the answer."