



Snapshot of Organic Diversion Programs Across Colorado



Eco-Cycle + NOJO:FARM

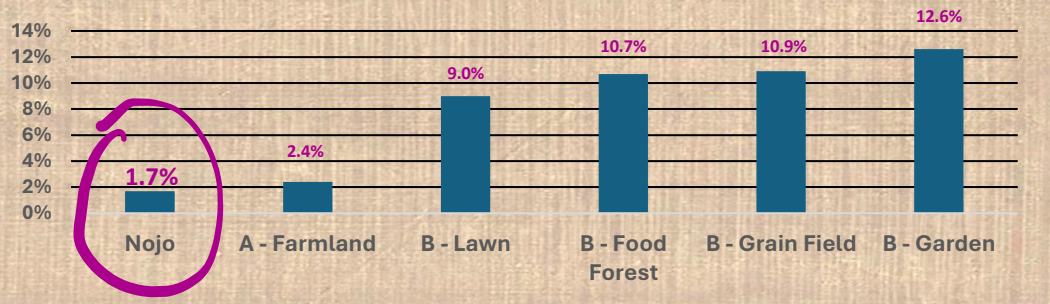
on-site composting + soil regeneration



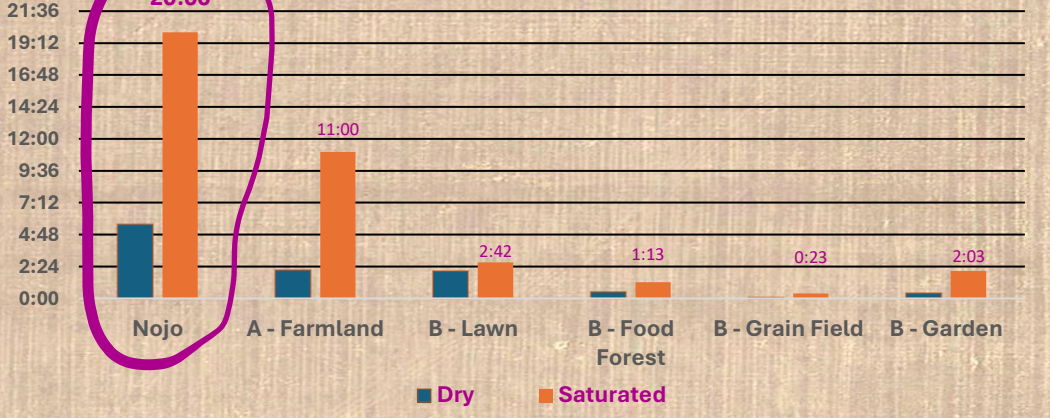
Summit for Recycling - Westminster, Colorado - June 1st-3rd, 2026



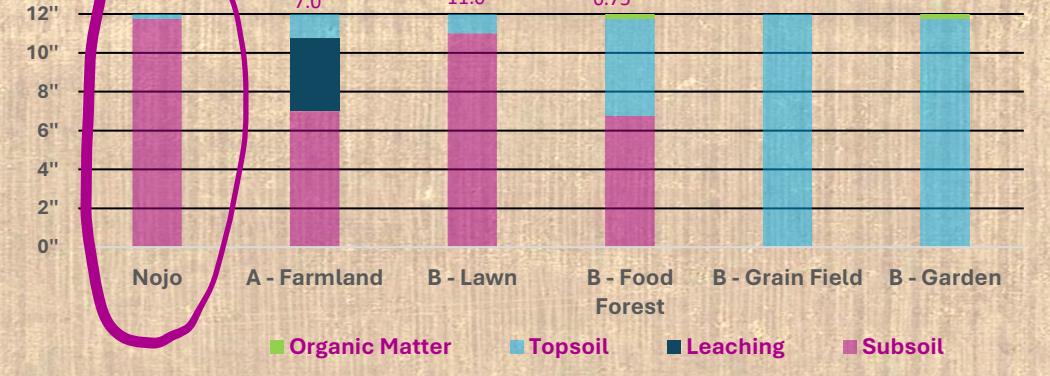
Soil Organic Matter



Water Infiltration



Soil Horizon Analysis



Property A: Agricultural property 2 miles north of Nojo

Property B: Residential property 2 miles northwest of Nojo



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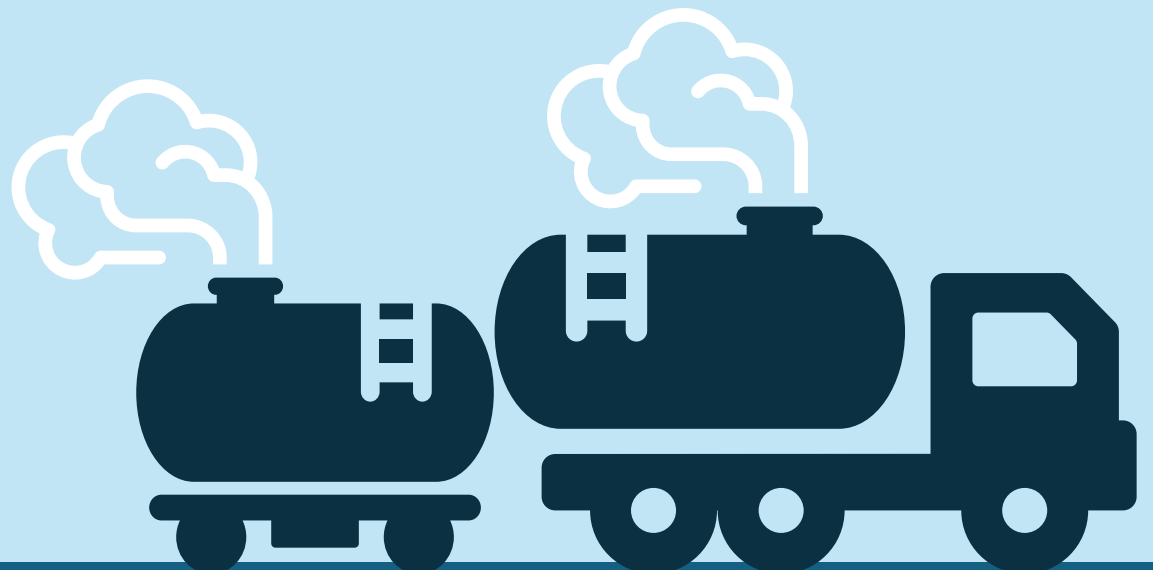


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EMISSIONS FROM 29 GASOLINE VEHICLES DRIVEN FOR 1 YEAR



13,800 GALLONS OF GASOLINE



ENERGY USED BY 16.5 HOMES FOR 1 YEAR

Year 1

100 tons of organics diverted from the landfill

(200,000 pounds of food scraps and agricultural waste)

<https://www.epa.gov/energy/greenhouse-gas-equivalencies-calculator>

4.4 METRIC TONS OF METHANE EMISSIONS

(123 MT CO₂)





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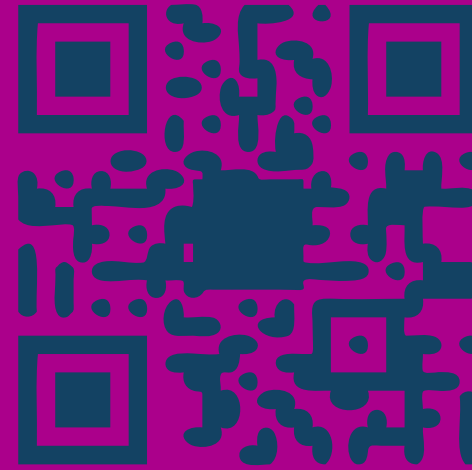


Thank You!

NOJO : FARM

nick + tigger park

info@nojo.farm



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&



Food Waste Composting Pilot Program



Jamie Blanchard-Poling
Owner, Compost Queen PBC

The Pilot

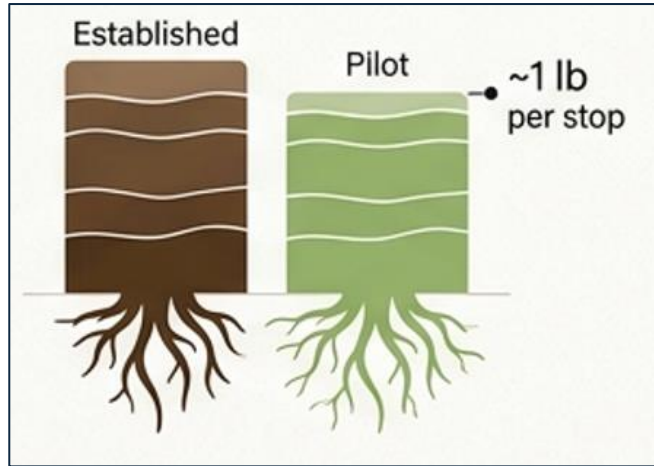
- 600 Residents
 - \$5 for drop-off
 - \$10 for curbside
- 20 Commercial
 - \$40 for 65G bin

Why?

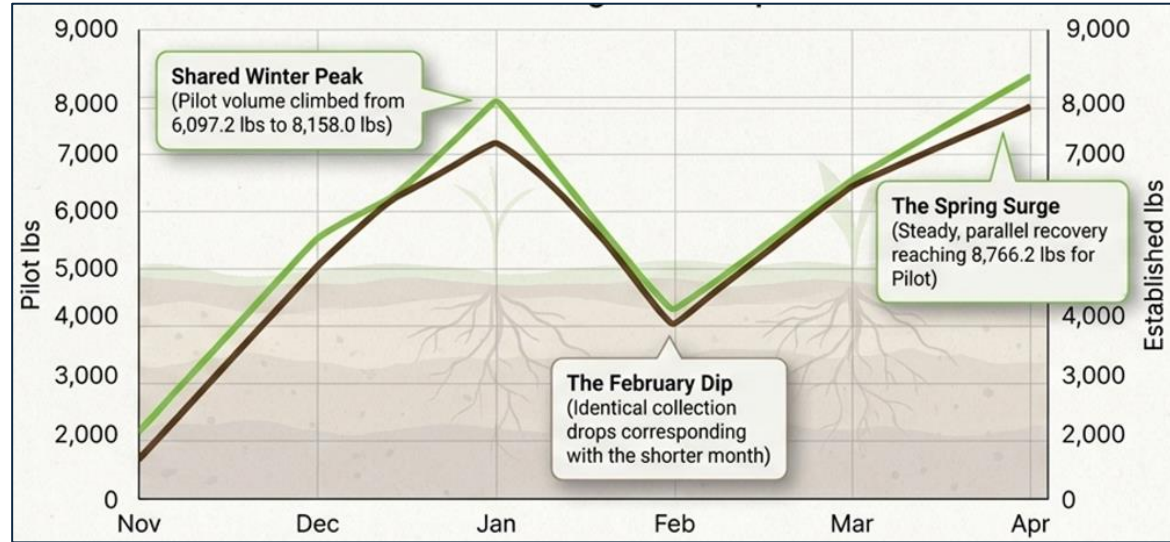
- ★ Participation Rates
 - Does a lower cost make people less likely to use it?
- ★ Contamination Rates
 - Does a lower cost = more contamination?
- ★ Satisfaction Rates
 - Are customers getting what they need?
- ★ Surveys
 - Ask questions about opinions of the service
- ★ Environmental Metrics
 - What's the average weight per household?
- ★ Operational Metrics
 - How much additional feedstocks are needed?

Some Results...

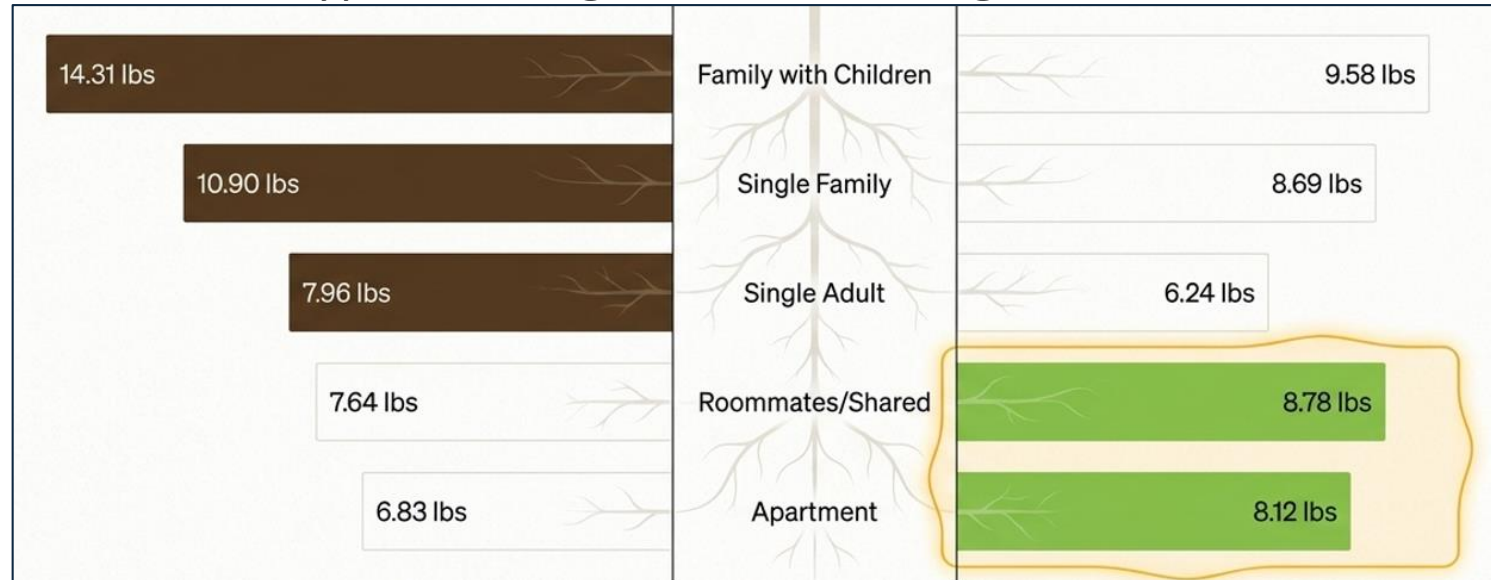
Average Weight Per Stop



Seasonality Behaviors

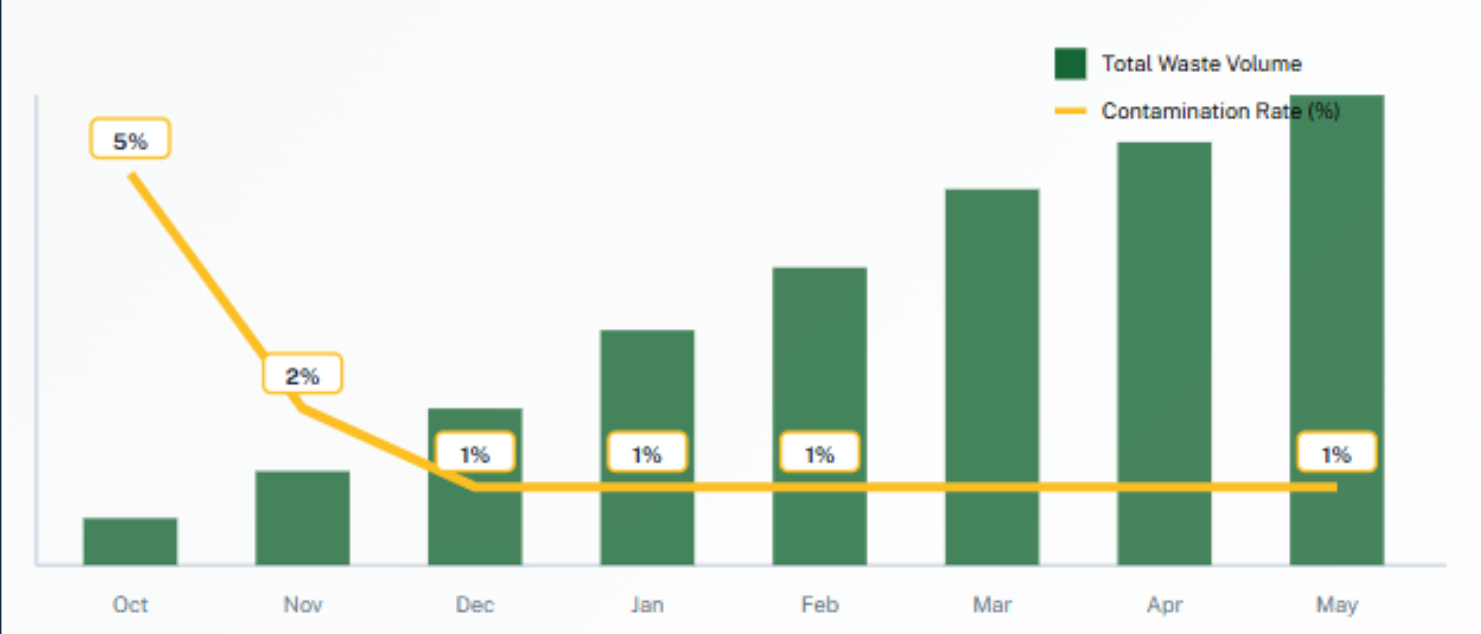


Household Type + Average Collection Weights

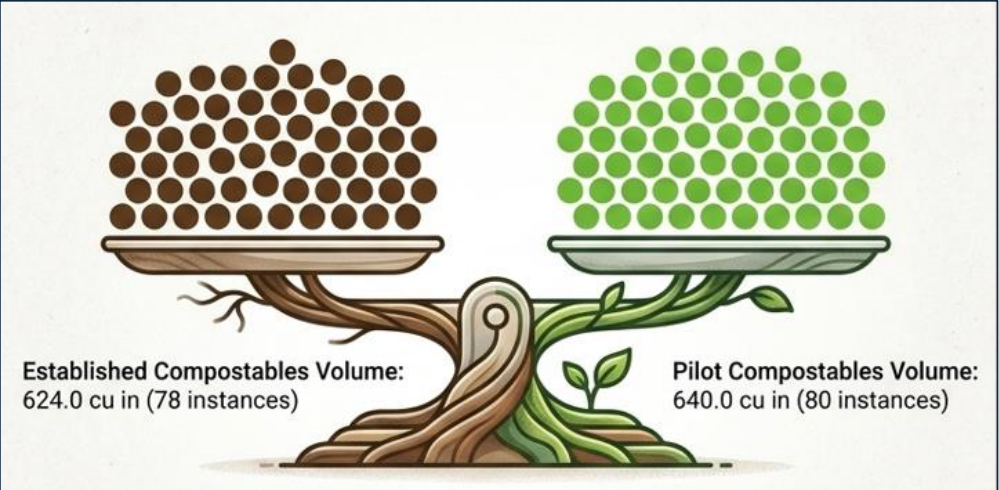


Some More Results...

Volume Collected & Contamination



Compostable Contamination Rates



Thank you!



Jamie Blanchard-Poling
Compost Queen PBC

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Summit for Recycling - Westminster, Colorado - June 1st-3rd, 2026



Aspen Organics Update

Jimena Baldino

Organic Waste Diversion Ordinance

Requirement: Divert all organic waste from the trash

1st phase: All Retail Food Establishments



October 2023



2nd phase: All businesses and multifamily buildings



January 2026



3rd phase: Everyone in the city limits



January 2028



Challenges and lessons learned

Multi family buildings:

- Mix of full time and STR
- Waste area
- Container size
- Education for STR
- Municipal Code



Each building has their own bin



The city provides countertop bins and signage but does not pay for the hauling service

Businesses:

- Lack of food waste
- Waste area
- Alley space in downtown core
- Education
- Municipal Code



Centralized drop-off locations



The city provides countertop bins, signage and pays for the hauling service for the centralized drop-offs



Summit for Recycling - Westminster, Colorado - June 1st-3rd, 2026

Thank you!

Jimena Baldino -
Jimena.Baldino@aspen.gov





DENVER
CLIMATE ACTION,
SUSTAINABILITY &
RESILIENCY

Denver's Universal Recycling & Composting Ordinance (URCO)

Recycle Colorado Summit for Recycling

June 2026

Background

City Diversion Goal: Divert 50% of solid waste by 2027 and 70% by 2032

Current Citywide Diversion Rate (2024): 22%

80/20: Denver's commercial sector generates 4x as much waste as residential sector

Waste Characterization: 36% of commercial waste stream comprised of 'divertable' organics

URCO Timeline

2022: ‘Waste No More’ ballot measure passes

2023: Task Force convenes & publishes recommendations

2024: Updated draft ordinance developed based on original ordinance, task force & city staff input

2025: Updated draft ordinance is revised, adopted by City Council on September 15

2026: Rulemaking is in progress

September 1, 2026: Compliance Date

Ordinance Overview

As of **September 1, 2026**, Denver's Universal Recycling and Composting Ordinance requires:

Recycling and **Composting** Services for:

Multi-Family Residential Buildings

Food Waste Producers

Permitted Events

Recycling Services for:

Non-Residential Buildings

Permitted C&D Activities

Access & Container Requirements

Multi-Family Buildings (8 or more units):

- Recycling and composting service for residents

Food Waste Producers (licensed retail food, commissary, food processing, wholesale or warehouse):

- Recycling services for customers, employees and contractors (front-of-house, back-of-house)
- Composting services for employees and contractors (back-of-house)

Permitted Events (350+ daily attendees):

- Recycling and composting services for event attendees, employees, contractors, customers and volunteers (*composting only required when event has 1,000+ weekly attendees and food vendors)

‘Adequate and convenient’ collection containers required across all sectors.

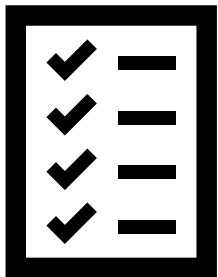
Other:



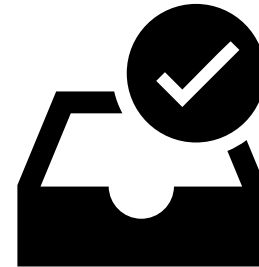
**Training & Signage
Requirements**



Exemption Pathways



**Waste Diversion
Plan Requirement**



Compliance

What's Next?

- Finalizing Rules & Regulations – **June 2026**
- Signage Templates
- Best Practices Guides, Educational Resources
- Administrative Processes
- Developing a Technical Assistance Program & Incentives
- Conducting a ‘Commercial Waste Study’
- **September 1, 2026: Compliance Date**



Thank you to all our speakers!

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