July 26, 2022

Dear Customer:

A1 Organics, one of the only processors in the region that accepts food waste for composting, has put waste haulers throughout the Front Range on notice that the compostables stream coming from both residents and businesses has reached unsustainable contamination levels and must be cleaned up in order for it to continue to be accepted for composting.

Beginning next month, contaminated loads are subject to rejection and landfilling.

In order to produce clean, quality compost, organic waste is held to an extremely low contamination threshold. One plastic bag can contaminate an entire load of material. Sorting compostables is a very straightforward process; if it was alive in your lifetime, it can be composted. But attention to detail and vigilance are required.

Following is a list of the most common and problematic offenders. NEVER put these materials in your compost cart or container. Please refer to the list of accepted materials enclosed.

- Glass
- Food handler’s gloves
- Cardboard w/tape, labels, etc.
- Trash bags and other non-compostable bags
- Shredded mixed paper
- Non-compostable utensils, plates, cups, and containers (Must be CMA Approved to be compostable)
- Food stickers
- Fast food wrappers and single-serve condiment packaging
- Diapers
- Rubber bands
- Twist ties
- Mesh fruit bags
- Green produce bags
- Recyclables

Effective immediately, Western Disposal will be scrutinizing the contents of compost carts and containers prior to collecting. Visibly contaminated loads will not be collected. Customers will be contacted and offered the option to remove contaminants or have the material hauled as trash. Extra charges will apply.

Your cooperation is essential in order to continue to divert our locally-generated organic material from the landfill.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Western Disposal Services