



NEWS

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City of Boulder and ReSource roll up carpet recycling program

The city of Boulder's Office of Environmental Affairs and the Center for ReSource Conservation's used building material program, ReSource, announce the completion of their six-month pilot program testing the feasibility of carpet pad and carpet recycling that focused on two of the most common nylons used by carpet manufactures -- Nylon 6 and Nylon 66. Effective Wednesday, Oct. 31, city residents will no longer be able bring used carpet, carpet scraps or carpet pads to the ReSource sales yard.

Over 200 people participated in the pilot program, achieving a 25 percent recycling rate of carpet pad and Nylon 6 carpet. Since Nylon 66 recycling is not available at this time, the city determined that continuing the program is not financially feasible. Carpet in good condition was re-sold by ReSource with other used building materials to the general public. All carpet and pads not fit for resale were collected at ReSource and recycled by All Recycling, a company based in Englewood, Colorado.

"Since only one of the two most common types of carpet nylons are recyclable at this time, we were only able to recycle 25 percent of the carpet collected for the program," said Elizabeth Vasatka, city environmental coordinator. "The remaining carpet was disposed of by the city, resulting in costs that were too high to continue the program."

The city will continue to research and test markets for recycling construction waste materials, as it is a priority to continue to support the infrastructure for reuse and recycling of these materials.

In April 2006, Boulder's City Council adopted the Waste Reduction Master Plan (WRMP), along with a Zero Waste Resolution. The plan is the city's roadmap to reducing waste and diverting it from the landfill. The city and community partners, such as ReSource, continually will develop more recycling opportunities for Boulder businesses and residents. To learn more about the city's WRMP, visit www.environmentalaffairs.com

A division of the Center for ReSource Conservation, a 501c(3) non-profit organization, ReSource has been saving over two million pounds of reusable building materials from the landfill each year since 1996 by accepting them as donations and re-selling them to the public via sales outlets in Boulder and Fort Collins. For more information about ReSource, visit www.ReSourceYard.org or contact Spenser Villwock (303) 419-5418.

For more information on city-sponsored recycling and composting programs, visit www.environmentalaffairs.com or contact Elizabeth Vasatka at (303) 441-1964.

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