

A vertical rectangular image on the left side of the page showing a bright blue sky with scattered white clouds.

2025 Year in Review: *Waste Diversion & Recycling Analytics Report*

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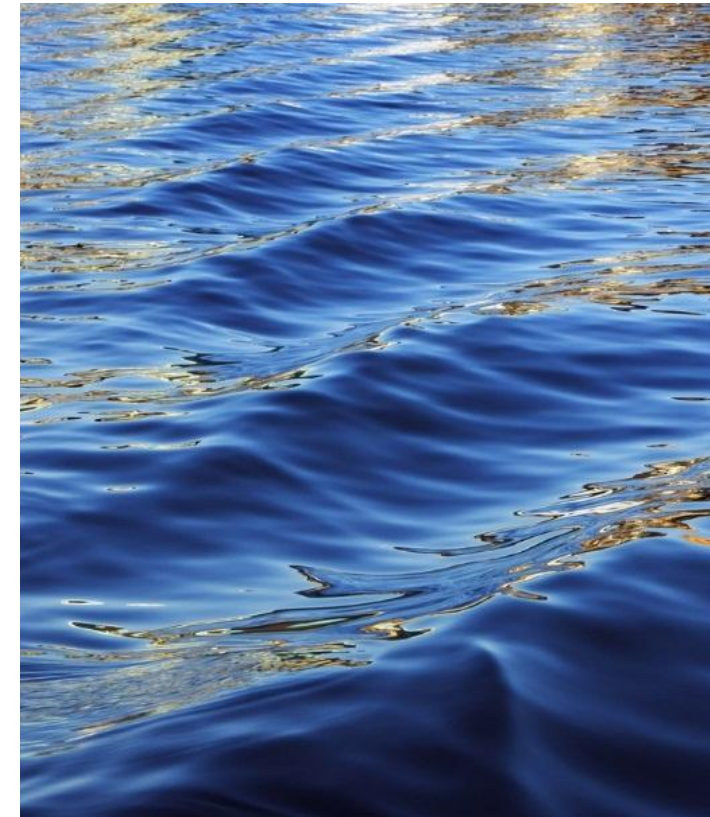


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Introduction & Purpose

Purpose of This Report

- Provide a year-end overview of recycling, green waste, glass, and contamination reduction programs
- Track progress toward WFWRD sustainability goals
- Highlight environmental and financial impacts
- Share market insights and trends affecting program performance
- Identify opportunities to improve future outcomes



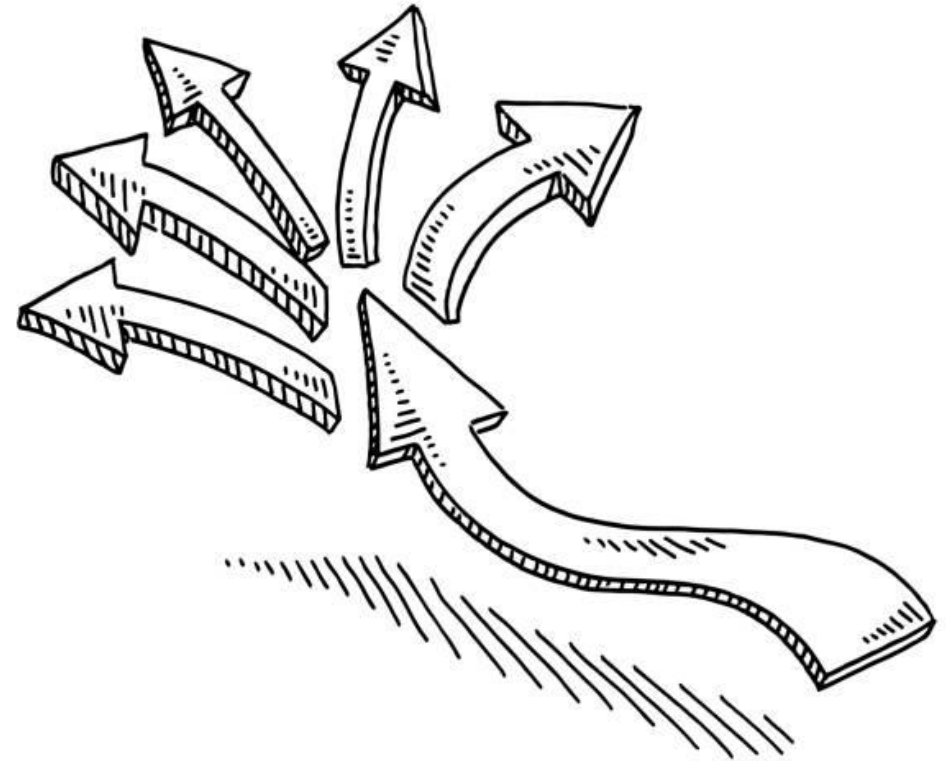
Benefits of Waste Diversion

Conserves natural resources by reducing demand for virgin materials

Reduces greenhouse gas emissions from landfills and manufacturing

Preserves landfill airspace and extends landfill lifespan

Supports a circular economy through material recovery and reuse



Resources Saved by Recycling

- Recycling reduces reliance on virgin materials
- EPA's W.A.R.M. model estimates resource savings by material type
- District recycling volumes translate into significant environmental benefits.

Example: Recycling 1 ton of cardboard saves

- 17 Mature Trees (compared to pulping adult trees for product)
- 7,000 gallons of water
- 3.14 MTCO₂E
- 15.10 BTUs of energy

Estimated Recycled Commodity Tonnage

Commodity	Rocky Mountain Commodity % (14,372 Tons)	Waste Management Commodity % (4,557 Tons)	Tons of Material Recycled
Cardboard	57.49%	47.07%	10,699.64 Tons
Mixed Paper	11.25%	11.42%	2,195.84 Tons
HDPE	2.85%	3.14%	568.14 Tons
PET	3.69%	4.06%	734.20 Tons
Mixed Plastic	2.74%	2.87%	538.61 Tons
Aluminum	2.77%	1.49%	478.92 Tons
Tin/Steel	1.56%	1.17%	284.95 Tons
Glass	n/a	n/a	836.16 Tons



219,223
Mature Trees

Enough to produce **33.2 million** cardboard boxes



90.2 Million
Gallons of Water

Enough water to provide daily usage to **3,016** people for an entire year.



50,324
Metric Tons

of Greenhouse Gases
Equivalent to the amount produced by **10,684 Passenger Vehicles**



102,864
Megawatt- Hours
of Electricity

Enough energy to supply **3,831** homes power for an entire year.

Resources:

https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2023-12/warm_v16.xls, <https://www.epa.gov/waste-reduction-model>, <https://archive.epa.gov/region4/rcra/mgtoolkit/web/html/community.html>

Diversion Rate and Tonnages

- The 2025 diversion rate **decreased slightly by 0.39%** from 2024.
- Tonnages are down slightly across all commodities, reflecting broader trends.
- Commitment remains to expand diversion opportunities and program effectiveness to our residents and community partners.

Chart provides detailed breakdown for each commodity quarterly and year end totals.

Note: Tonnages include Special Servies, Trailers, Central Site Glass, Leaf Bags, and SCRP.

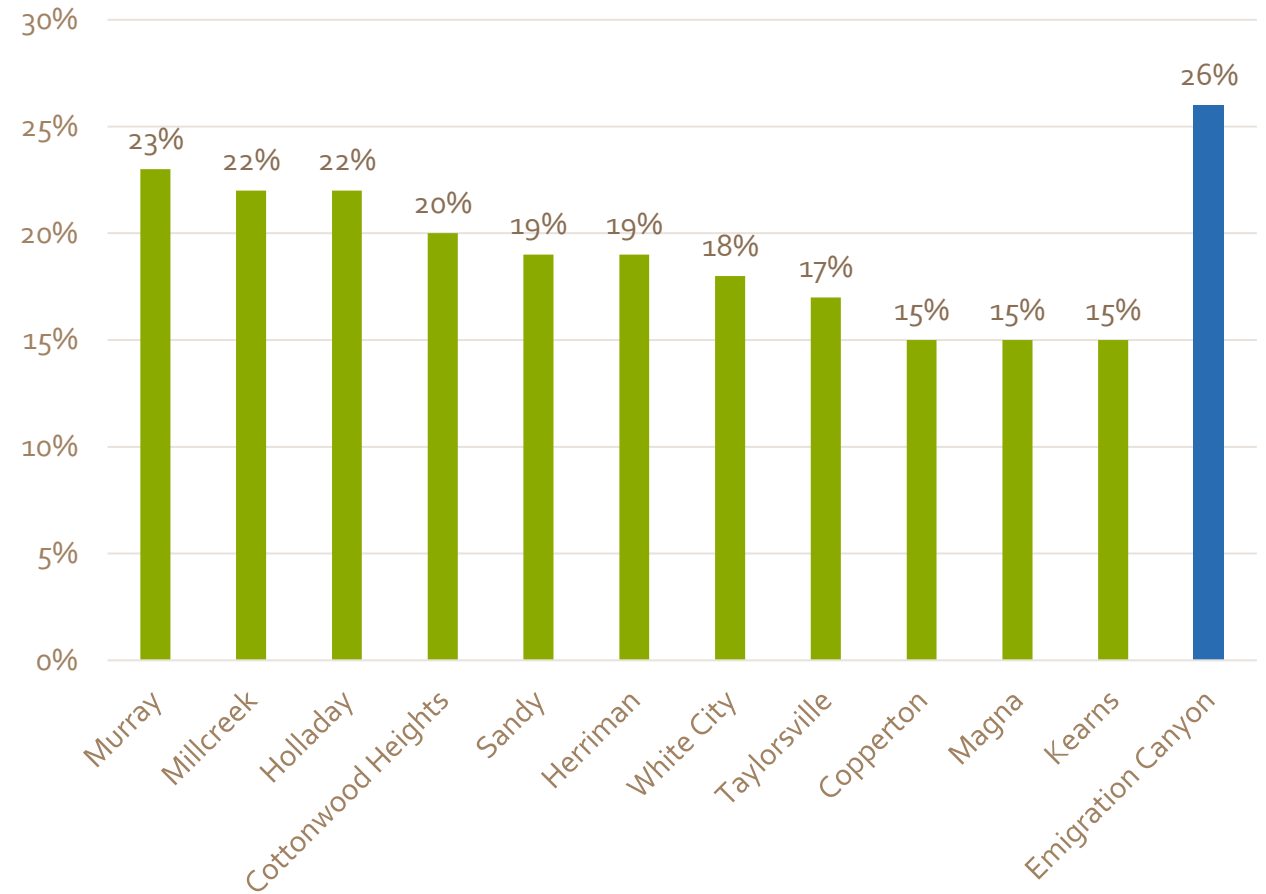
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Year Totals
<u>Diversion Rate</u>					
2024	19.11 %	18.70 %	17.19 %	18.70 %	18.37 %
2025	18.98 %	18.20 %	16.82 %	18.21 %	17.98 %
<u>Refuse</u>					
2024	22,996 Tons	35,708 Tons	33,719 Tons	29,638 Tons	122,061 Tons
2025	22,737 Tons	34,695 Tons	33,167 Tons	29,361 Tons	119,961 Tons
<u>Recycle</u>					
2024	4,932 Tons	4,821 Tons	4,639 Tons	5,056 Tons	19,448 Tons
2025	4,847 Tons	4,735 Tons	4,485 Tons	4,861 Tons	18,929 Tons
<u>Glass</u>					
2024	245 Tons	230 Tons	228 Tons	215 Tons	918 Tons
2025	204 Tons	206 Tons	208 Tons	219 Tons	836 Tons
<u>Green Waste</u>					
2024	230 Tons	3,161 Tons	2,134 Tons	1,546 Tons	7,072 Tons
2025	239 Tons	2,781 Tons	2,013 Tons	1,458 Tons	6,490 Tons
<u>Trees</u>					
2024	27 Tons	N/A	N/A	N/A	27 Tons
2025	36 Tons	N/A	N/A	N/A	36 Tons

Diversion Rates by City

- Diversion performance closely correlates with access to recycling and green waste services
- Communities with expanded service options show higher diversion rates
- Education and outreach remain critical to increasing participation
- Maintaining low contamination protects material value and reduces processing costs

Note: Diversion rate by city only includes curbside tonnages. Canyon Communities include front load tonnages that skew their data.

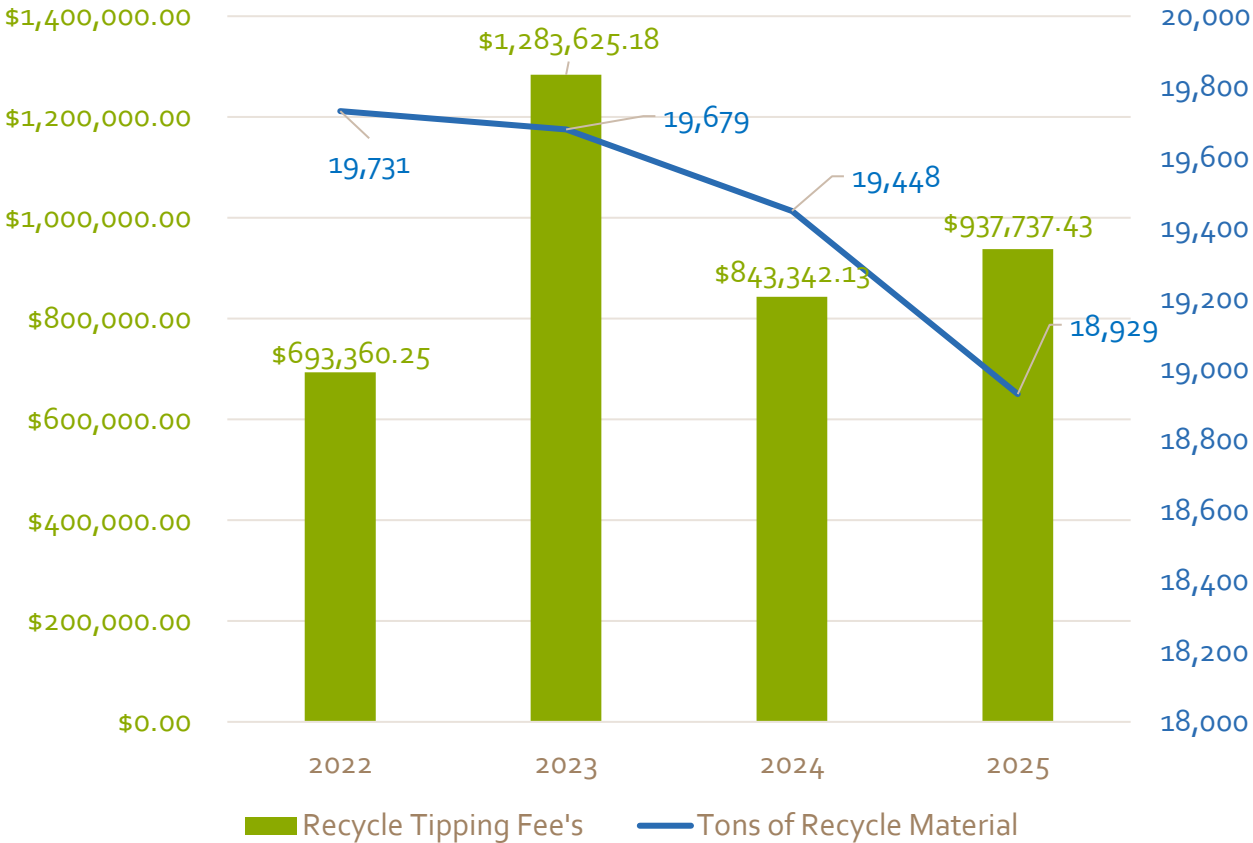
2025 Diversion Rate by City



Recycle Tipping Fees

- **2025 tipping fees increased** compared to 2024, despite lower total tonnage
- Key contributing factors include Q4 **processing increases due to market changes** (detailed in the following slides).
- **Our internal efforts are making a positive impact**, including:
 - QAI efforts
 - Our drivers, through increased contamination reporting.
 - Oops Tag Program

Recycle Tipping Fees and Tonnage by Year



(Includes Curbside and Special Services)

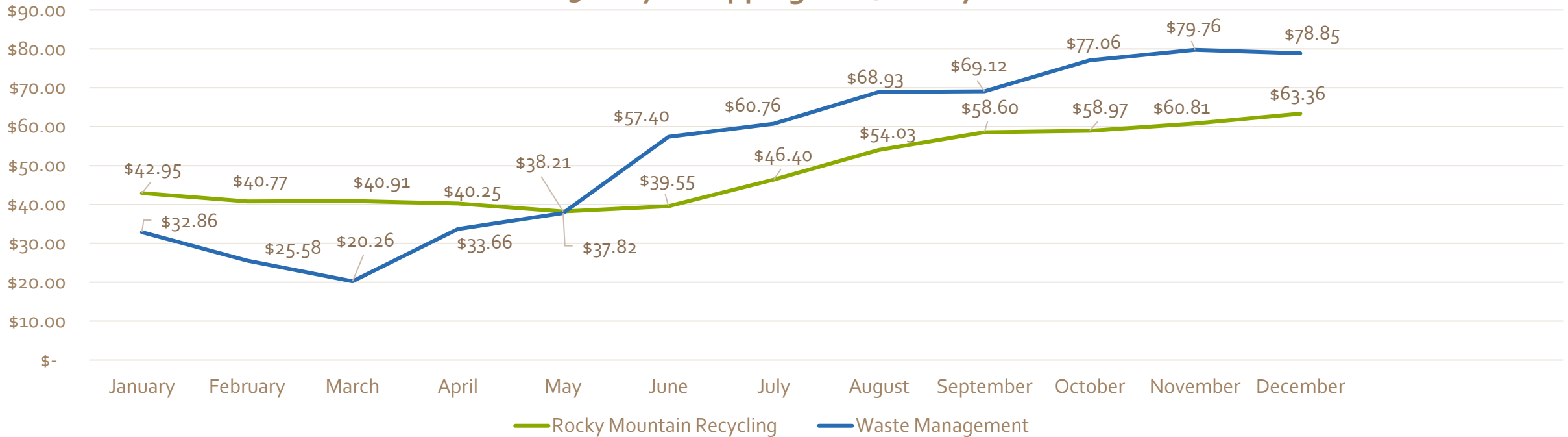
Recycle Processing Price Per Ton

- Price per ton peaked in December:
 - Waste Management - \$78.85
 - Rocky Mountain Recycling - \$63.36
- Processing (tipping) fees are increasing at both Materials Recovery Facilities (MRFs).
- Weaker markets have led to lower MRF rebates resulting in higher tipping fees.

Year-Over-Year Recycle Tipping Cost/Ton Average by MRF

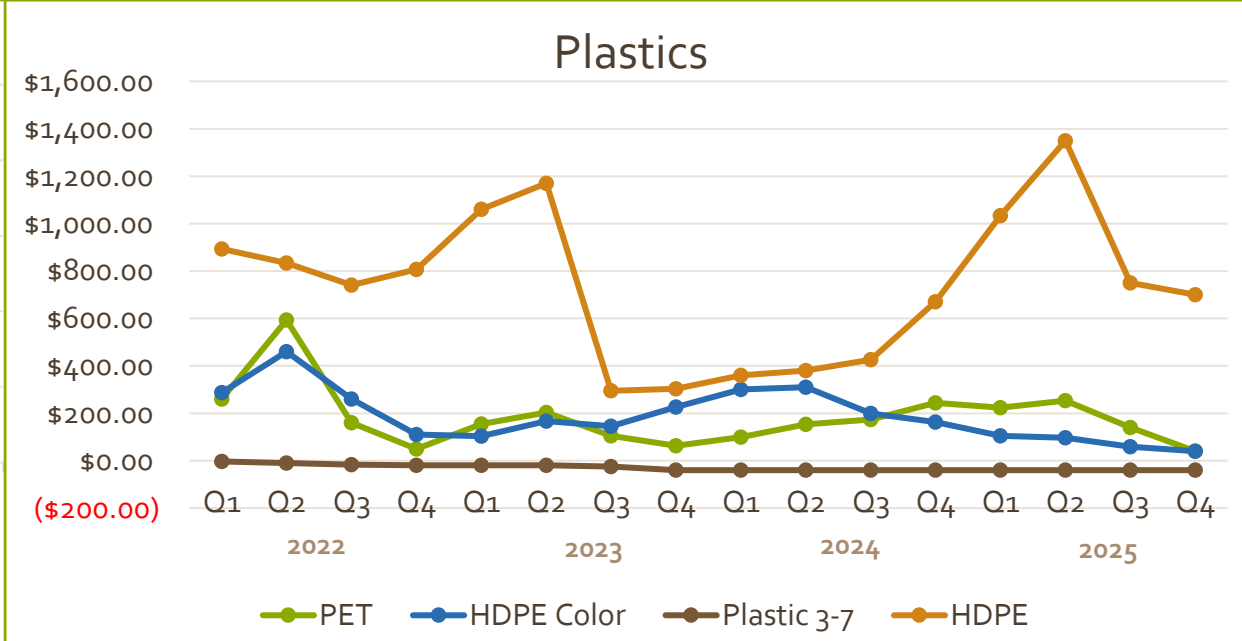
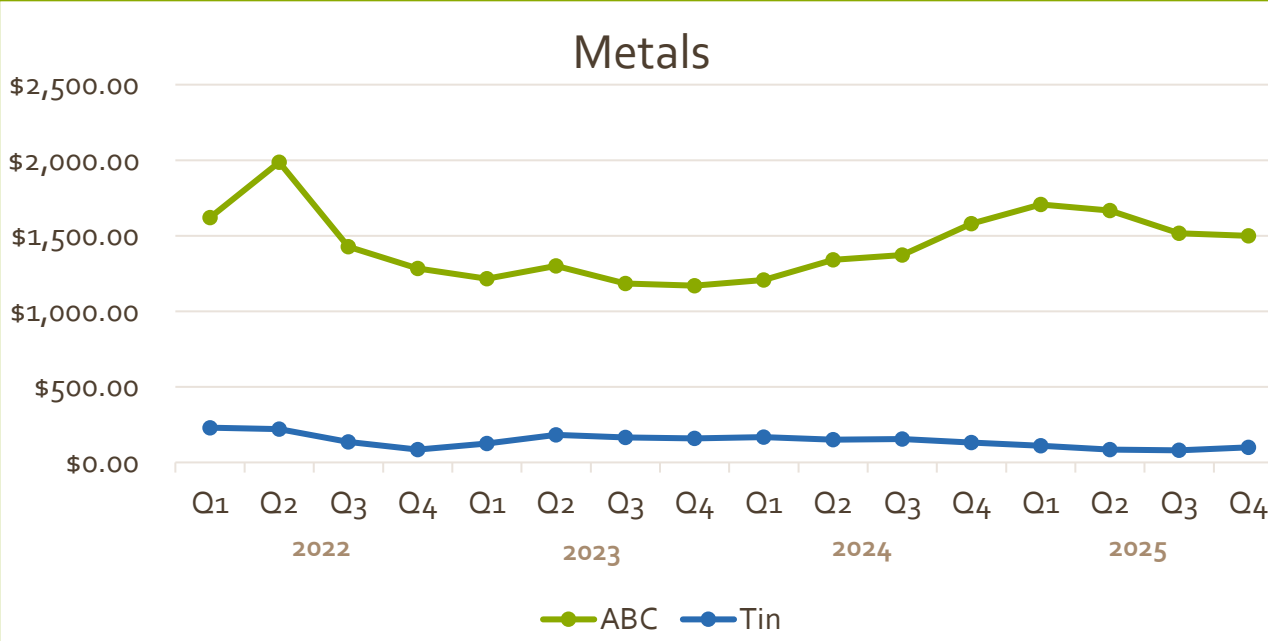
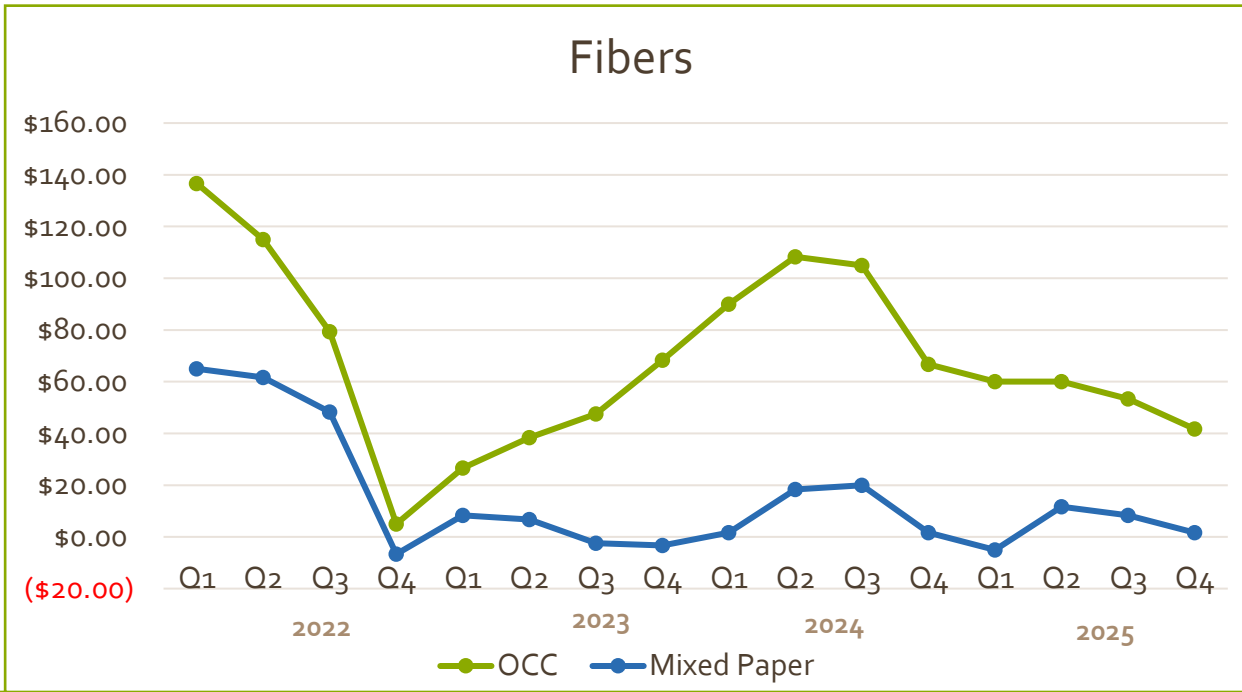
	2022	2023	2024	2025
Rocky Mountain	\$33.43	\$55.87	\$39.49	\$49.11
Waste Management	\$36.27	\$89.83	\$54.51	\$51.87

2025 Recycle Tipping Cost/Ton by MRF



Recycling Market Trends

- All markets other than tin have decreased since Q2, and are reflected in MRF pricing changes.
- OCC has recovered from Q4 2022 low, but prices are lower than 2024 averages.
- Metal markets remain healthy and provide consistent rebate value.
- Natural HDPE remains the most valuable plastic, but has seen significant declines recently.
- Plastics #3-7 have little-to-no value.
 - Some make their way to Geo-Cycle for energy recovery.



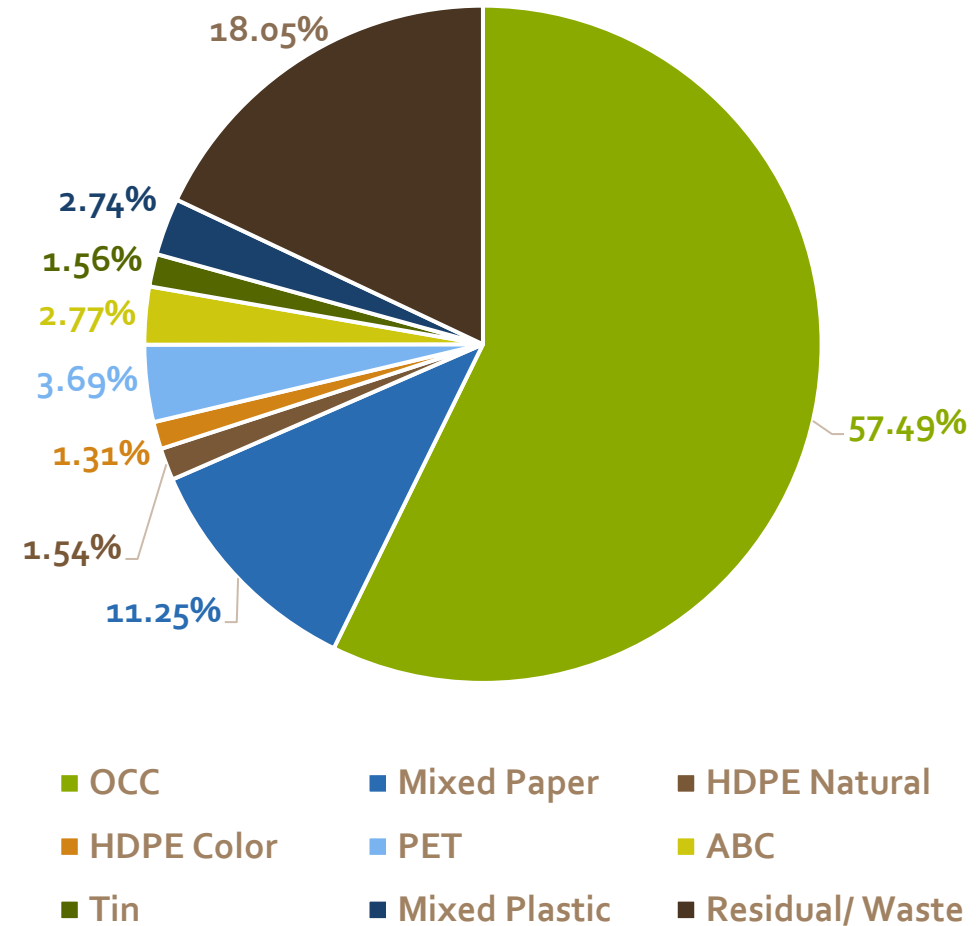
Commodity Composition Percentages by Weight | Rocky Mountain Recycling

Based on 71 sorts conducted:

- OCC has increased to **57.49%**, indicating a cleaner, more fiber-dominant stream.
- PET and ABC have increased in presence in 2025
- Mixed paper has stabilized at approximately 11%.
- Natural and colored HDPE are declining, possibly a shift in packaging.
- Mixed plastic have increased slightly (up 0.11%)

	2024	2025	Delta
OCC (corrugated cardboard)	55.78%	57.49%	1.71%
Mixed Paper	11.39%	11.25%	-0.14%
HDPE Natural	3.39%	1.54%	-1.85%
HDPE Color	2.15%	1.31%	-0.84%
PET	1.97%	3.69%	1.72%
ABC	1.67%	2.77%	1.10%
Tin	1.51%	1.56%	0.05%
Mixed Plastic	2.63%	2.74%	0.11%
Residual/Waste	19.53%	18.05%	-1.48%

Commodity Composition Percentage



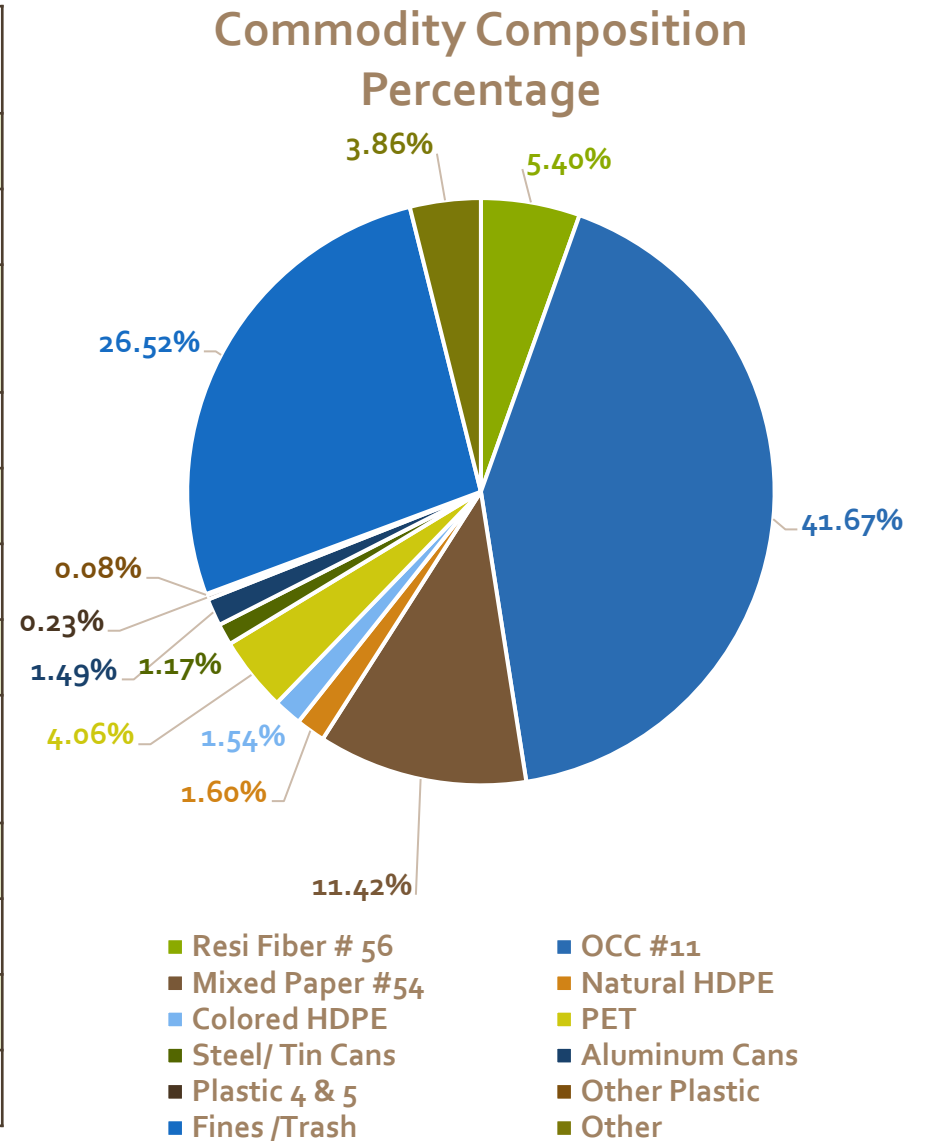
Commodity Composition Percentages by Weight | Waste Management

Based on 9 sorts conducted

- OCC representation is at **41.67%**. A significant increase from 2024.
- Fines/Trash has decreased by **8.57%** from 2024
- Mixed paper has stabilized at approximately 11% across facilities.
- Natural and colored HDPE show lower representation at both MRF's possibly a shift in packaging.

Note: Waste Management has conducted fewer sample sorts and uses smaller sample sizes.

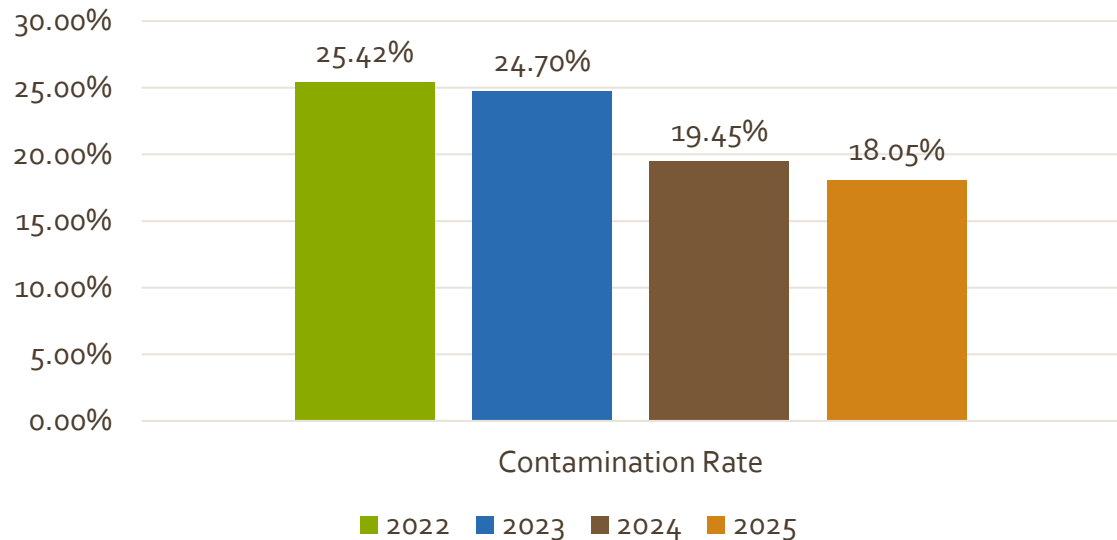
	2024	2025	Delta
Resi Fiber # 56	7.07%	5.40%	-1.67%
OCC #11	28.83%	41.67%	12.84%
Mixed Paper #54	12.13%	11.42%	-0.71%
Natural HDPE	1.65%	1.60%	-0.05%
Colored HDPE	1.65%	1.54%	-0.10%
PET	4.31%	4.06%	-0.26%
Steel/Tin Cans	1.04%	1.17%	0.13%
Aluminum Cans	1.88%	1.49%	-0.39%
Plastic 4 & 5	0.00%	0.23%	0.23%
Other Plastic	0.53%	0.08%	-0.46%
Fines /Trash	35.09%	26.52%	-8.57%
Other	5.41%	3.86%	-1.55%



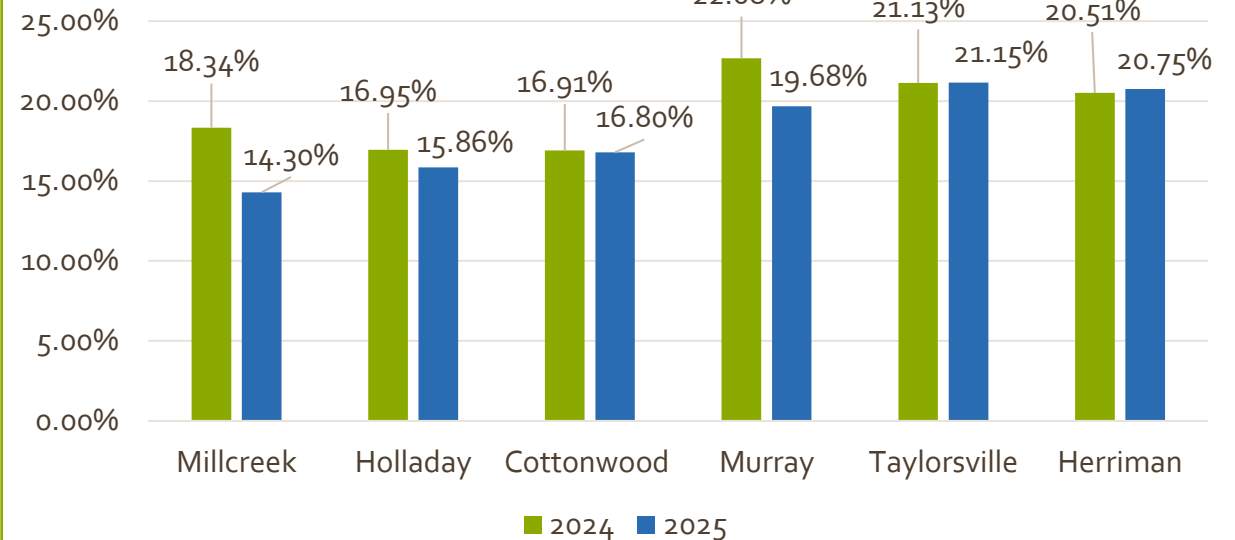
Contamination Rates Rocky Mountain Recycling (RMR)

- Contamination rates have decreased at Rocky Mountain Recycling by 7.37% since 2022 — from 25.42% to 18.05% (2025).
- We conducted 71 sample sorts in 2025 to monitor and enhance material quality.
- Most municipalities demonstrate reduced contamination rate.
- Driver contamination reporting has increased, contributing to improved accountability and addressing issues at the curb.

RMR Contamination Rate by Year



RMR Municipality Contamination Rates

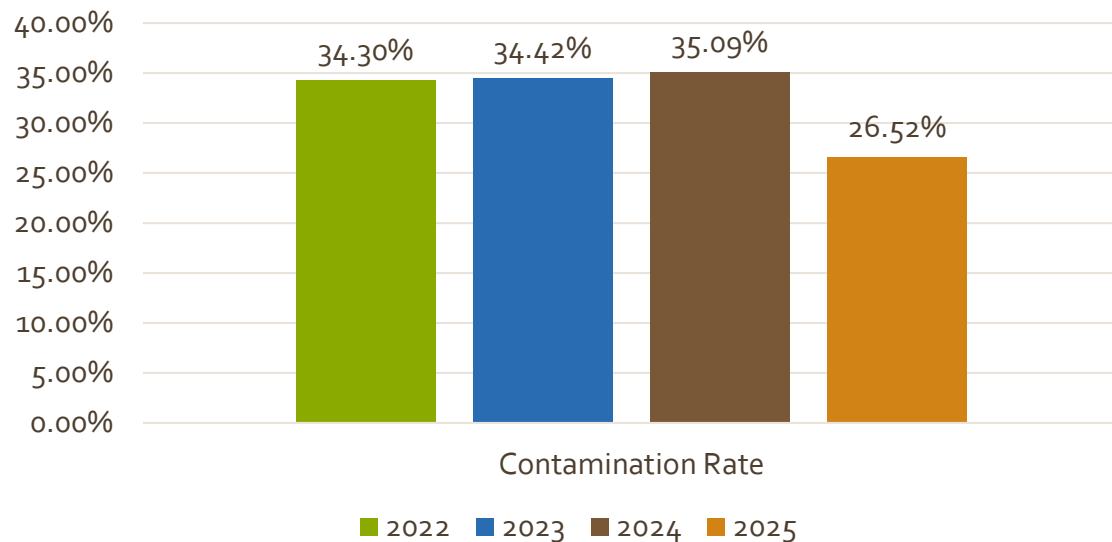


Note: Taylorsville contamination rates represent only RMR data.

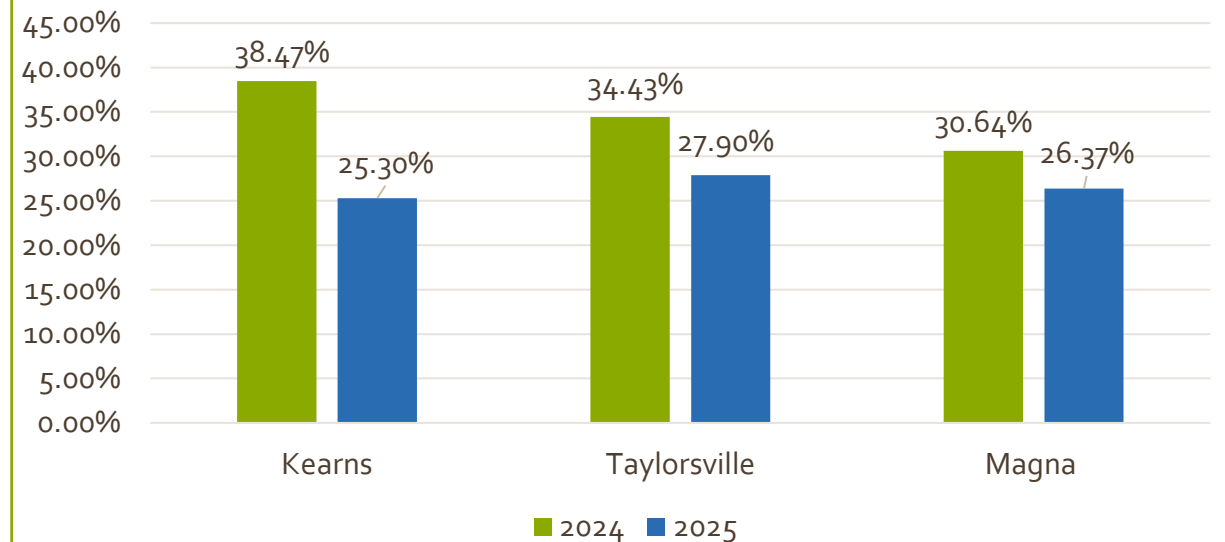
Contamination Rates Waste Management (WM)

- Contamination rates have decreased at Waste Management by 7.78% since 2022 — from 34.30% to 26.52% (2025).
- We conducted 9 sample sorts in 2025 to monitor and enhance material quality.
- Each municipality shows contamination rate reductions.
- Driver contamination reporting has increased, contributing to improved accountability and addressing issues at the curb.

WM Contamination Rate by Year



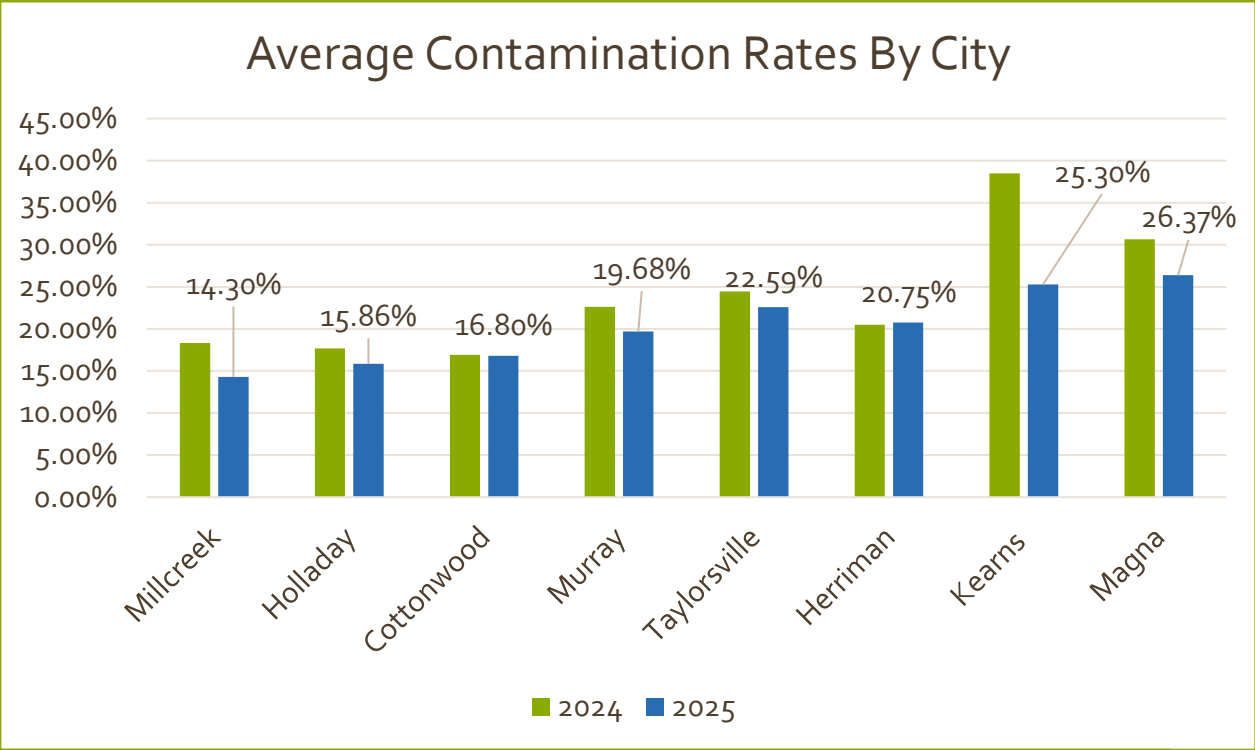
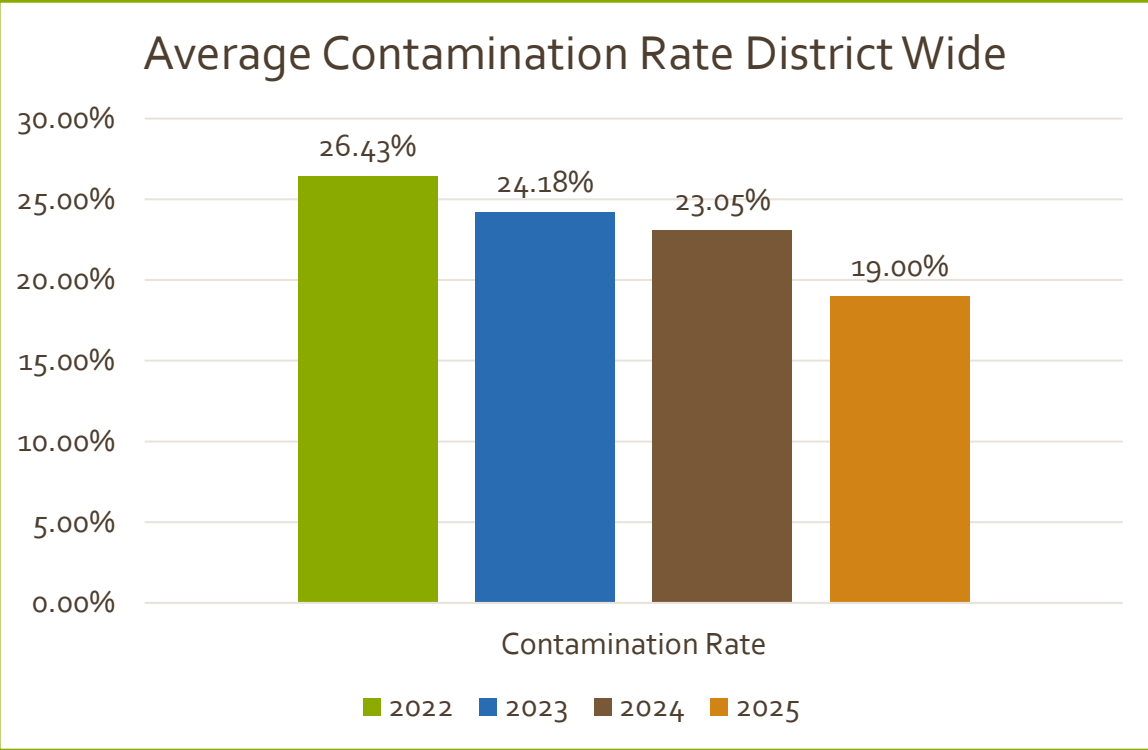
WM Municipality Contamination Rates



Note: Taylorsville contamination rates represent only WM data.

Average Recycle Contamination Rates District Wide

- Average Contamination rate has decreased by 7.43% since 2022 — from 26.43% to 19.00% (2025).
- Contamination rates are based on 80 sample sorts in 2025 across both MRFs.
- Each municipality shows contamination rate reductions.
- Driver contamination reporting has increased, contributing to improved accountability and addressing issues at the curb.



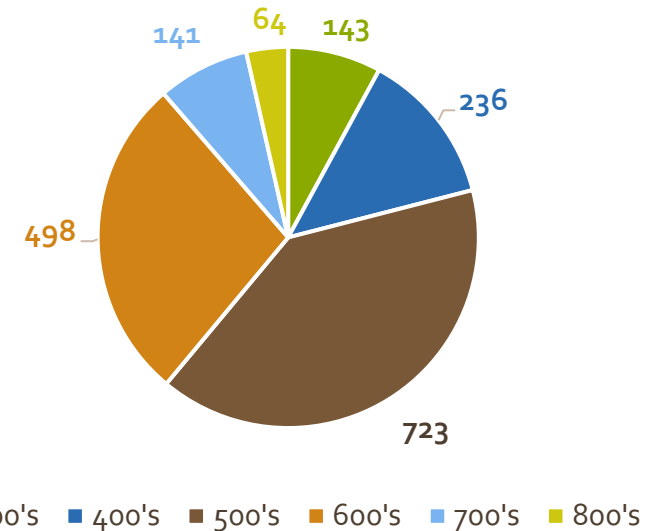
Note: Taylorsville contamination rates represent average rate across 14 sample sorts total at each facility.

Contamination Reporting (Oops Tag Program)

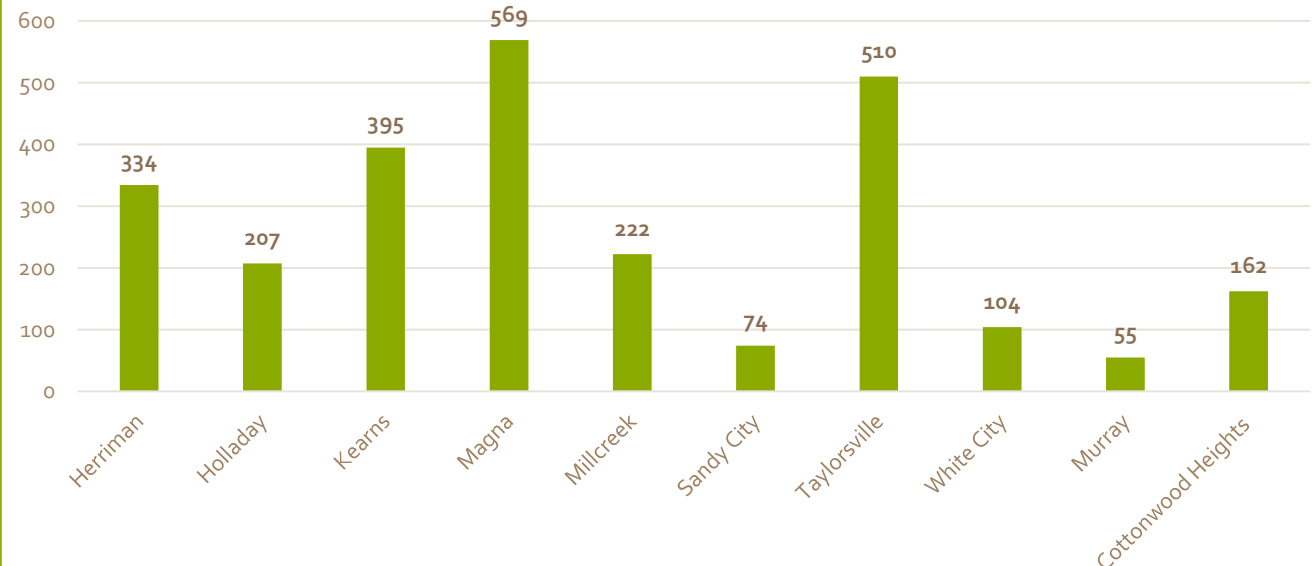
- Average reports: **221 per month** (~10 per day)
- Total reports in 2025: **2,648**
- Top reporting areas:
 - 500's zone — **723 reports**
 - Magna — **569 reports**
- **Tag Escalation Outcomes**
 - 22% of the 2,648 total cans tagged receive a second tag (**426 households**)
 - 29% of the 426 second tag cans receive a third tag (**171 households**)
 - 27% of 171 third tag cans resulted in container removal (**47 households**)
 - 17% of removed containers request container return (**8 households**)

**Beginning in 2026, customers with three or more documented occurrences may be assessed a contamination fee*

Reported Contamination by Team



Driver Reported Contamination by Municipality



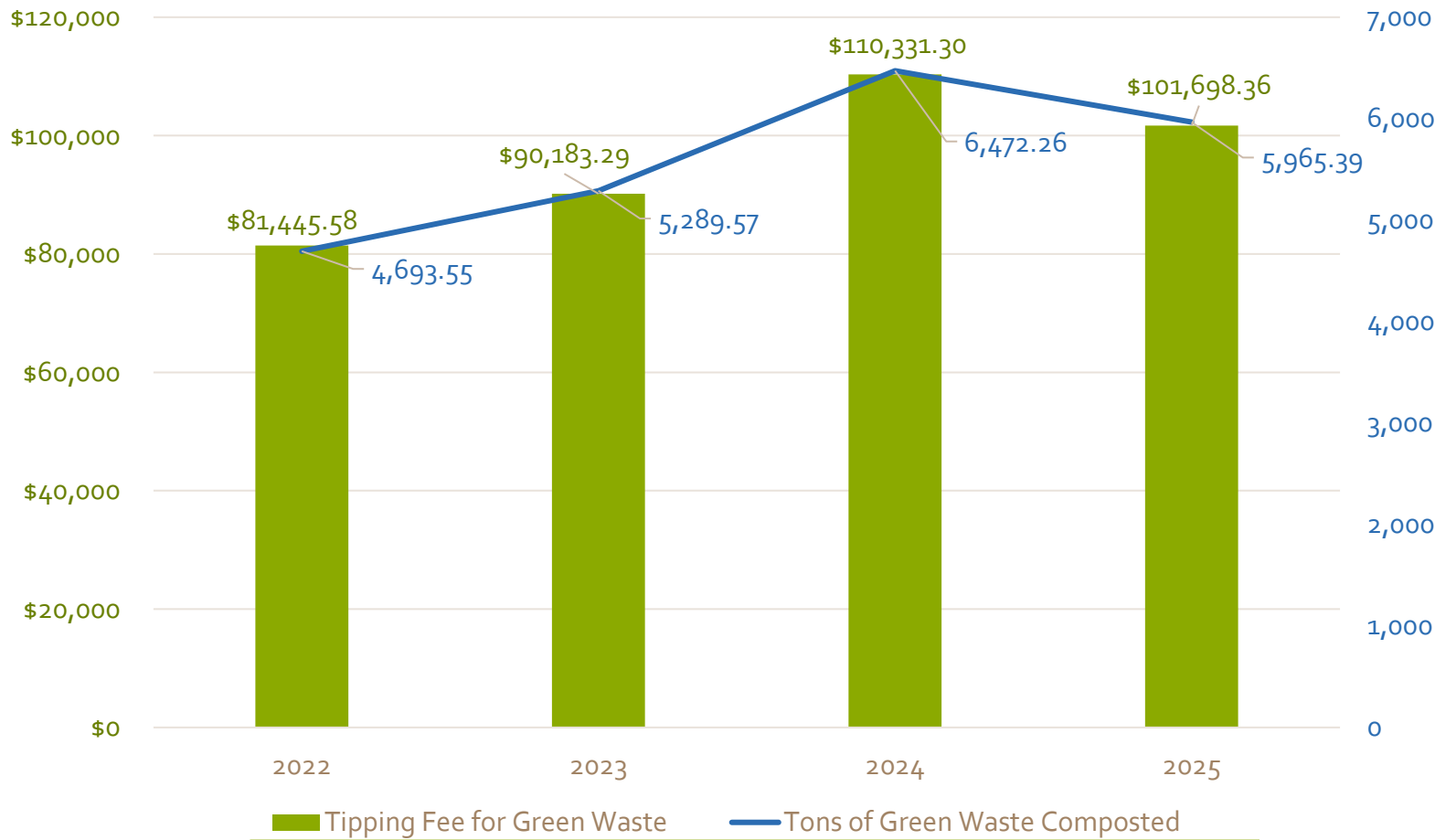
Quality Assurance & Common Contaminants

- Quality Assurance Inspector (QAI) conducts follow-ups and field checks
- **3,506 container checks** completed in 2025
 - Higher than total reports due to repeat follow-ups
- **Most common contaminants:**
 - Wood
 - Food Waste
 - Glass
 - Green Waste
 - Styrofoam
 - Scrap Metal
 - Trash (including bags of trash)
 - Plastic bags and film



Green Waste Diversion and Beneficial Reuse

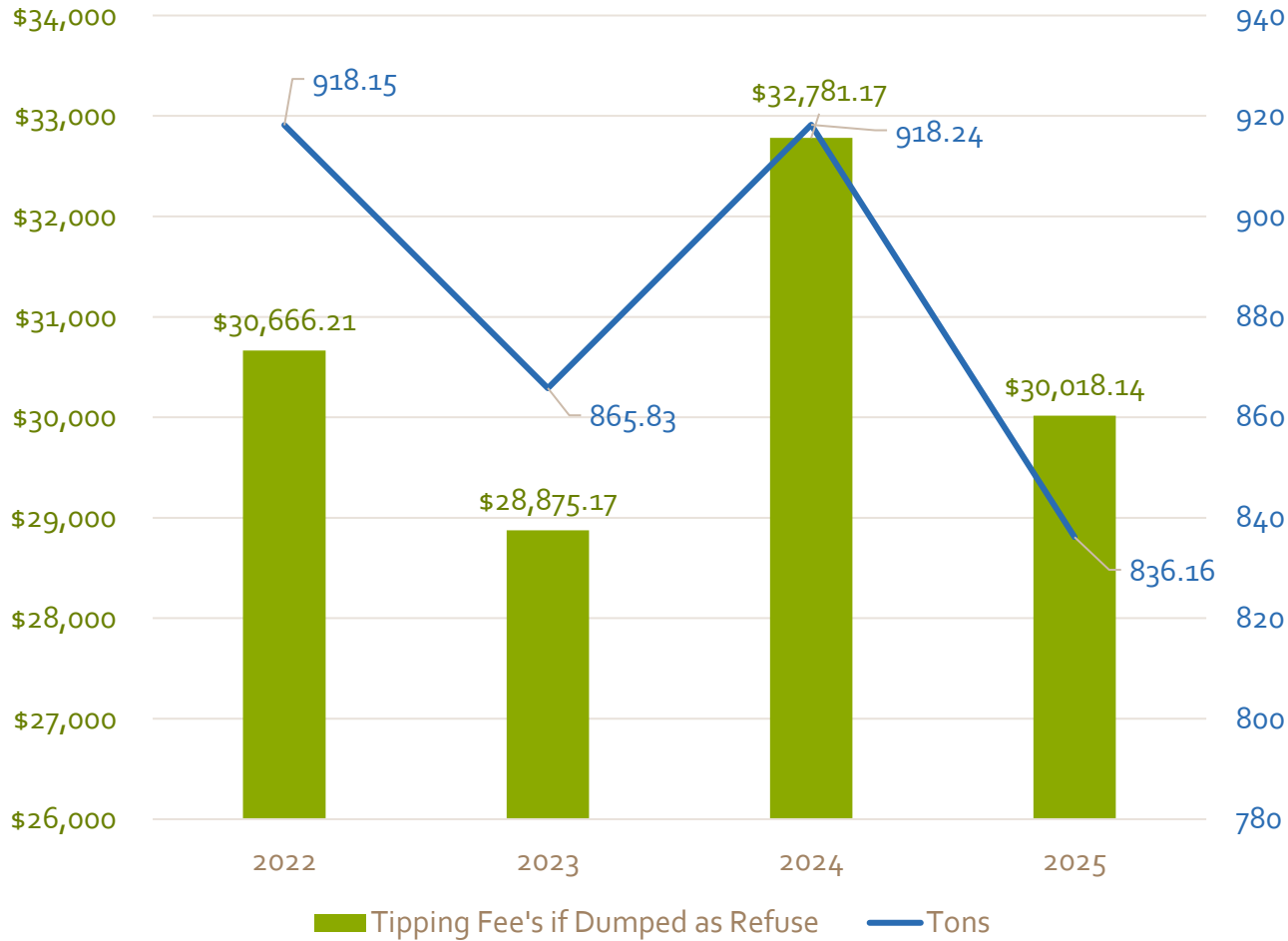
Green Waste Tipping Fees and Tonnages



Green Waste Subscribers	2022	2023	2024	2025
	10,492	11,260	11,824	12,269

- **Green waste tipping fees remain 48% lower** than landfill disposal, supporting both economic and environmental goals.
 - Waste tipping fees **increasing**, while green waste **remain consistent**.
 - **Long term tipping fee stability** (about \$17.00 per ton)
 - Green waste diversion **reduces landfill impact and methane emissions and supports a circular economy**.
 - Green waste is recovered at the Salt Lake Valley facility and **redistributed as nutrient-rich compost** throughout Salt Lake County
- 2025 Totals:**
- **Green Waste Composted– 5,965.39 Tons**
 - **Cost Savings - \$108,402.68**
(Based on if same tonnage was dumped as waste at average landfill waste tipping fees compared to green waste tipping fees)

Tipping Fees Saved Through Glass Recycling



Curbside Glass Subscribers	2022	2023	2024	2025
	2,033	2,037	2,014	1,946

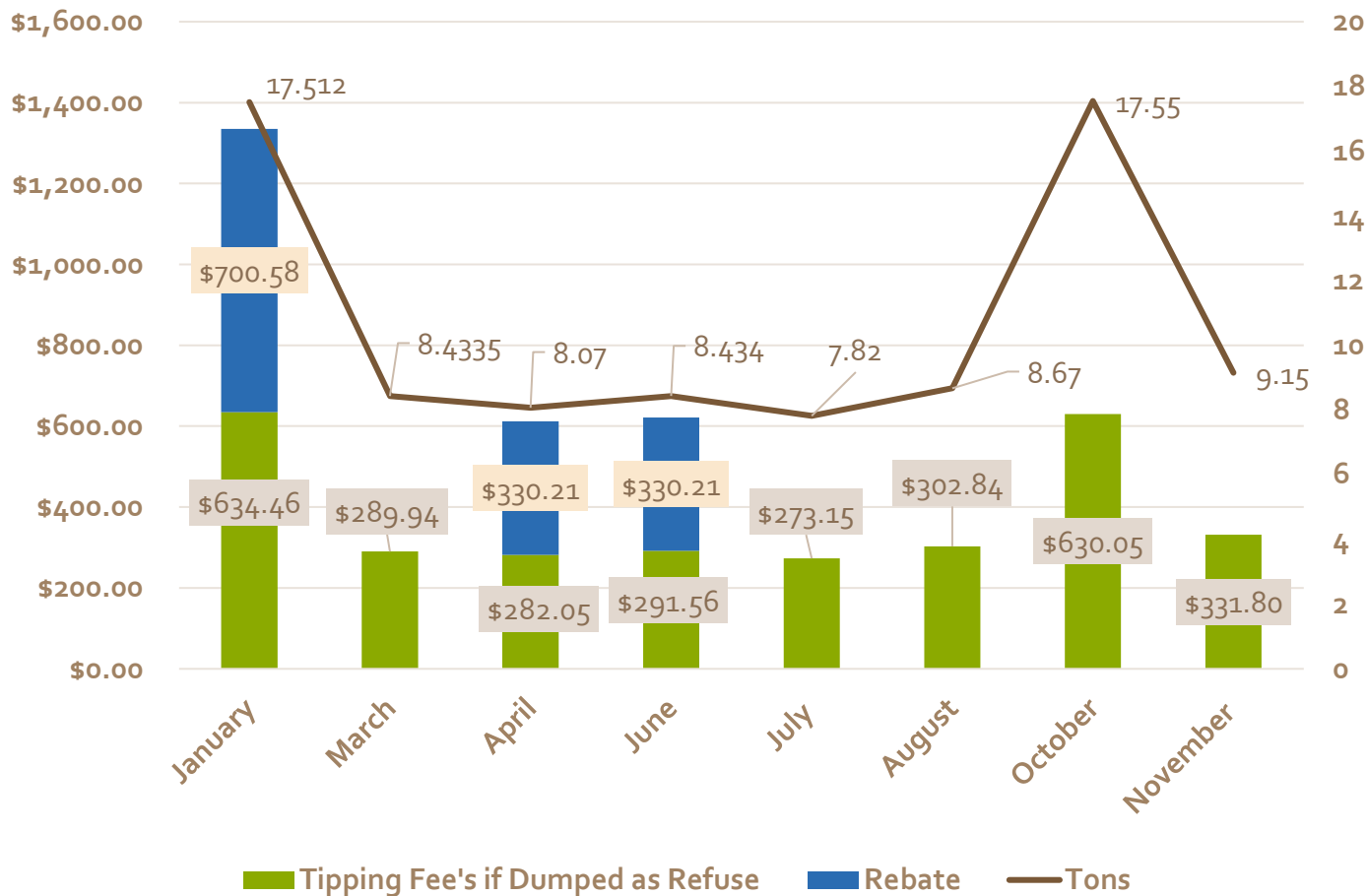
Glass Recycling

- Glass recycling does not incur tipping fees at Momentum Recycling
- Glass recycling has avoided over **\$122,000** in landfill tipping fees since 2022.
- Glass recycling avoided **\$30,018** in landfill tipping fees in 2025 alone.
- Tonnage decreased slightly in 2025, in line with other commodity tonnages.
- Glass diversion saves valuable landfill airspace/volume and creates a circular recycling system.
- Glass can be endlessly recycled.

2025 Totals:

- **Recycled Glass – 836.16 Tons**
- **Cost Savings - \$30,018.14**
(Based on average landfill tipping fees and glass tonnage)

Tipping Fees Saved Through Cart Recycling



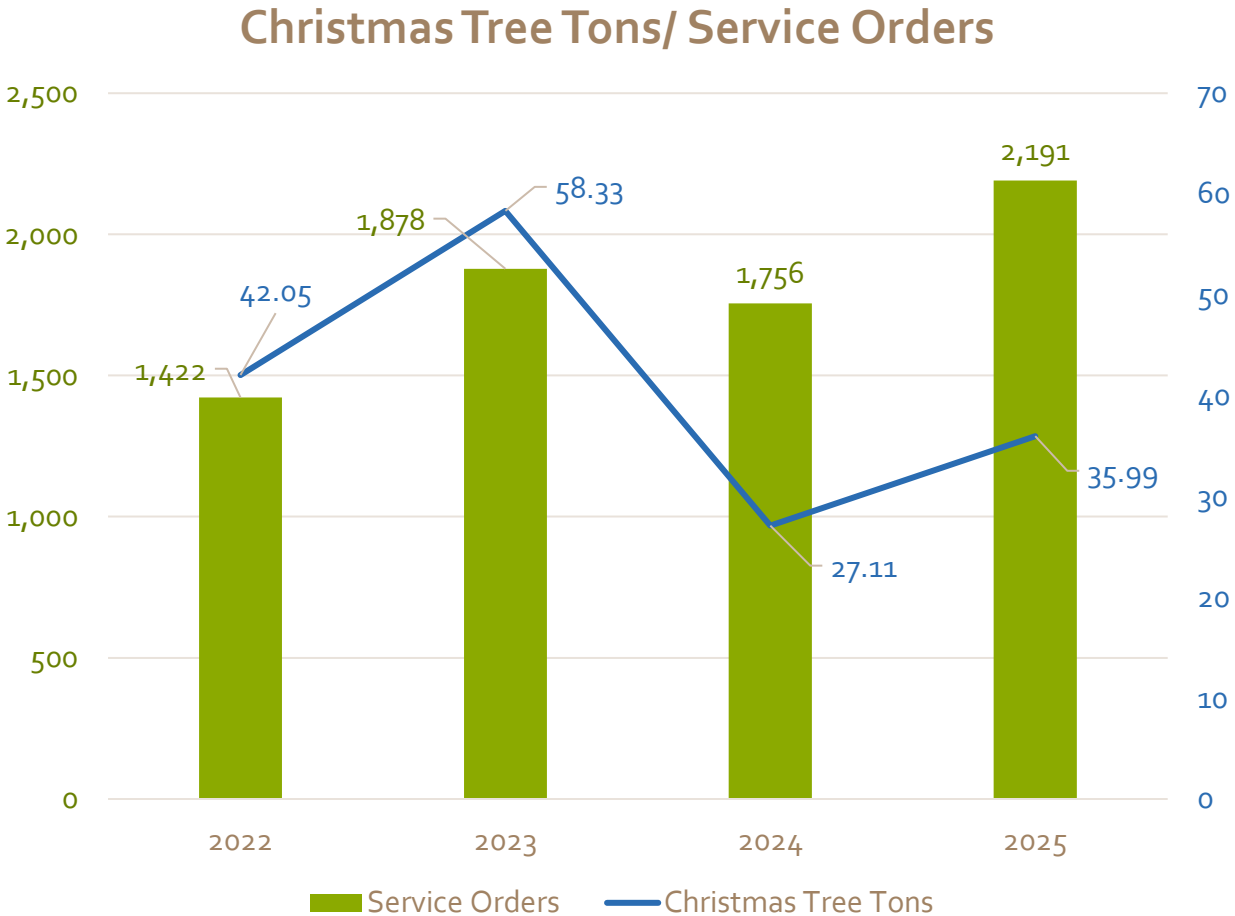
Used Cart Recycling

- Cart recycling provides a **sustainable solution for disposing of unusable toters.**
- **Carts are recycled at either a rebate or no cost,** depending on current plastic markets.
- **Transportation of carts is handled by RMR directly at no cost.**
- Our carts department breaks down, stacks, and loads irreparable carts for pickup.
- Metal axles and washers are separated for metal recycling.

2025 Totals:

- **Recycled HDPE Plastic – 86 Tons**
- **Cost Savings - \$4,396.86**
(Includes tipping fees and rebates. Does not reflect transportation savings.)

Christmas Tree Collection



- Christmas trees are collected separately from curbside waste via resident service orders.
- Trees are diverted from landfills, sent to **Diamond Tree for chipping, and turned into mulch**—saving airspace and reducing landfill gas emissions.

2025 Totals:

- **Christmas Tree Tons – 35.99 Tons**
(An increase of 8.88 tons from 2024)
- **Christmas Tree Service Orders – 2,191 Service Orders**
(An increase of 435 service orders from 2024)
- **Cost Savings - \$1,120.64**
Based on landfill tipping fees of \$36.00 per ton for 35.99 tons (totaling \$1,295.64), compared to 7 loads at \$25.00 per load (totaling \$175.00)

Community Engagement & Education

School Education

- Visited **6 schools**
- Engaged with **18 classes** and **437 students**
- Outreach expanded during the 2024-2025 school year and will continue to grow in 2025-2026

Public Events

- Attended **26 community events**
- Participated in **6 parades**
- Engaged with **~ 1,350 residents**

City Council Engagement

- Presented at **6 council meetings**
- Strengthened alignment with local sustainability goals.

Social Media Outreach

- **46 educational social media posts**
- **861 interactions, reaching 72,380 users.**



Recycle Can Guide

Recyclables must be empty, clean, and dry. **NO BAGS!**



Accepted Items

Plastic Bottles & Jugs (Leave lids on bottles)



Plastic Tubs & Plastic Jars



Paper Clean office paper, mail and newsprint. (NO paper plates/cups, or paper towels/tissues)



Cardboard & Paperboard



Metal Cans



Aluminum, tin, and empty aerosol cans

Make sure your recycling can lid closes completely. Break down cardboard boxes to fit inside the container and help prevent service interruptions.

Hard to Recycle Materials

Do you have a hard to recycle item? Scan this QR code to see drop off locations for hard to recycle materials!



Not Accepted Items



Styrofoam



Electronics*



Glass*



Scrap Metal*



Clothing and Shoes*



Plastic bags/film* (No bagged recyclables)



Bulk Rigid Plastic*



Yard Waste*



Tanglers



Food Waste*

* Items may be recycled/reused via other programs in your area. Scan the "Hard to Recycle" QR code for resources

Green Waste Can Guide



Accepted Items



Weeds and lawn clippings



Sticks and branches



Tea bags & coffee grounds (NO COFFEE FILTERS)



Leaves (NO BAGS)



Eggshells



Fruits and vegetables (Please remove stickers)

Accepted items are delivered to Salt Lake Valley Landfill where they are turned into nutrient-rich compost!

- Items not listed should be discarded or recycled separately.
- Keep all items loose – do not bag or tie any material in bundles.
- Make sure the lid closes completely, and cut down branches to fit inside.

Not Accepted Items



Compostable or biodegradable packaging



Animal Waste



Paper and cardboard products



Meat or Dairy Products



Bagged items



Sod, dirt or rocks



Construction wood or lumber



Trash

Media and Flyers

SMART SORTING FOR THE HOLIDAY SEASON

NICE

(PLACE EMPTY, CLEAN, AND DRY RECYCLABLES LOOSE IN YOUR RECYCLE CAN)

Wrapping Paper
(No metallic paper)

Paper Gift Bags and Tissue Paper
(Reuse when possible)

Paper Greeting Cards

Cardboard Boxes

Paper Boxes

Cardboard Tubes

Plastic Bottles, Jugs, and Tubs

Regular Paper
(NO paper plates/cups or paper towels/tissues)

Metal Cans
(Aluminum, tin and empty aerosol cans)

MAKE SURE YOUR RECYCLING CAN LID CLOSES COMPLETELY. BREAK DOWN BOXES TO FIT INSIDE THE CONTAINER.

NAUGHTY

(DO NOT PLACE THESE ITEMS IN YOUR RECYCLE CAN)

Metallic Gift Wrap

Bows or Ribbons

Metallic Gift Bags
(Reuse when possible)

Photo Greeting Cards

Lined and Plastic shipping envelopes

Bubble Wrap, Styrofoam, and Film Plastic

Clothing and Shoes

String lights and other electronics

Tinsel, Ornaments, or Decorations

REUSE OR DONATE ITEMS WHENEVER POSSIBLE!
REDUCTION IS ALWAYS BEST!

WFWRD PICKUP

Real Christmas Trees and Wreaths

TREE PICKUP GUIDELINES

- MUST BE SCHEDULED
- REAL TREES ONLY - NO ARTIFICIAL TREES
- MUST BE FREE OF DECORATIONS, ARTIFICIAL SNOW, AND STANDS
- PLACE AT CURB, NEVER INSIDE WASTE OR RECYCLE CANS

VISIT OUR WEBSITE TO SCHEDULE YOUR PICKUP
www.wfwrdutah.gov

WASATCH FRONT
Waste & Recycling District

DON'T BAG RECYCLABLES

PLACE RECYCLABLES LOOSE IN BIN

NO PLASTIC BAGS OR FILM PLASTICS IN RECYCLING

Thank you for recycling right!

To see a list of accepted items follow the link in the caption

2025 LEAF BAG COLLECTION Results

Each fall, Wasatch Front Waste & Recycling District makes leaf cleanup easy. 🍂

From mid-October through November, we collect and haul bagged leaves, saving space in your garbage can and making fall cleanup a breeze.

It's just one of the many services funded from your basic services. Check out the full list at the link in our bio.

This program is a proven success every year, and the 2025 results are in!

2025 LEAF BAG STATS

- Collected from October 15 - November 29th
- 215 Loads Collected and Transported
- 1,207 total tons of leaves

WASATCH FRONT
Waste & Recycling District

OOPS! AVOID RECYCLING MISTAKES

4 REASONS WHY RECYCLING RIGHT REALLY MATTERS

WASATCH FRONT
Waste & Recycling District

ONE WRONG ITEM CAN RUIN GOOD ITEMS

Just one non-recyclable item can spread contamination to otherwise good materials.

WASATCH FRONT
Waste & Recycling District

NOT EVERYTHING IS MACHINE-FRIENDLY

Recycling sorting machines are smart - but only for accepted items. Some items can even damage equipment or hurt employees.

WASATCH FRONT
Waste & Recycling District

Summary & Key Takeaways

Recycling tipping fees increased in 2025 due to challenging market conditions, with trends indicating further rises.

Contamination rates have continued to decrease district-wide due to education, media/flyers, driver reporting, and QAI follow-through

Market volatility continues to influence recycling costs

Green waste diversion and community participation continue to grow, providing sustainable solutions that save landfill space and reduce costs by over 50% per ton.

Glass recycling remains steady, avoiding over \$122,000 in landfill tipping fees since 2022.

Community engagement is expanding, with over 1,700 direct interactions via schools, events, and council presentations.

Questions?

