



Greenprint Denver NEWS

DIA Completes Composting Pilot

In April 2008, the City and County of Denver's Solid Waste Management Division and Denver International Airport received a grant from the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment's Recycling Resources Economic Opportunity fund for a pilot project to study the potential of increasing the diversion of organic waste from both non-commercial and commercial sources at the airport. Serving more than 51 million passengers in 2008, the airport used this project to evaluate the feasibility of making organic waste collection and composting a permanent program.

The three month pilot focused on two operational areas: concessions (restaurant, retail, and service) in Jeppesen Terminal and select employee break rooms in the terminal and Airport Office Building. In all, more than 800 weekly collections were made resulting in a total of 9,400 collections for the entire project.

Materials were transported weekly to A-1 Organics - an organic recycling company producing compost, mulches and soil amendments - by Waste Management. Over the course of the project the airport collected as much as 39 tons, or approximately 151 cubic yards of organic waste, to be composted.

DIA's Department of Environmental Services is currently preparing a report that will evaluate both the economic and environmental implications of organic waste collection and composting in a permanent program, not only for the terminal but also for the airport's three concourses.

Excerpt from an article written by Mark Kunugi @ DIA

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In This Issue:

- * DIA Composts
- * Rockies Score New Trees
- * How to be a Grasscycler
- * Cheesman Park Blitz Success
- * Green Team Event List
- * Oasis in the (Food) Desert
- * A New Playground in Westwood

More Details: www.flydenver.com



Waste collection at DIA



Rockies players promote tree planting at Coors Field

Rockies Home Runs Score New Trees In Denver

The Colorado Rockies continue to support *The Mile High Million* as part of their 20 Games of Green; a campaign to encourage players and fans to make a positive impact on the environment. The final Green Week of the season (September 1–7) kicks off with “Wood for Wood” when every Rockies home run results in new tree planting in Denver. September’s Green Week will also feature ticket packages, in-game incentives, fan contests, and bike-to-the-game events.

More Details: www.coloradorockies.com/green

GRASSCYCLE

Feed your lawn for free and make less trash

What is Grasscycling?

It’s the practice of leaving grass clippings on your lawn when mowing instead of bagging them. It’s the natural way to recycle clippings and provide your lawn with the valuable nutrients and water that it needs.

Why Grasscycling?

- *It makes less trash:* Up to 37% of what Denver residents put in the trash during the growing season is yard waste which is predominantly grass clippings.
- *Enjoy a healthier lawn:* Clippings break down quickly when left on your lawn and release nutrients like nitrogen back into the soil beneath your lawn.
- *Save water:* Grass clippings left on your lawn will shade grass roots and help keep the soil cool. And, because the clippings are made up of more than 80% water, they return moisture to the soil.



How to Grasscycle Successfully!

1. Mow your lawn when it’s dry
2. Keep your mower blades sharp
3. Follow the 1/3 rule: Mow often enough that no more than 1/3 of the length of the blade of grass is cut off and left on the lawn. (Lawns are more healthy when mowed to a length of 2 ½ to 3 inches).

Cheesman Park Neighborhood Posts Emissions Reductions

On June 27th and 30th, the Cheesman Park Green Team conducted a community blitz going door-to-door offering energy efficiency resources and conservation measures to their neighbors.

Volunteers reached 432 homes, with 80 households receiving some level of service. The effort resulted in a potential 191,958 lbs reduction in carbon emissions.

This outreach is ongoing in Cheesman as the Green Team and other residents continue to share information and resources with their neighbors. Congratulations to the Cheesman Park Green Team on their success.



Cheesman Park Green Team

Upcoming Green Team Events

There are several neighborhood Green Teams at work around the city bringing energy efficiency resources to their communities.

If you're interested in *volunteering* at any one of these events, contact us at 720-865-9079.

If you'd like to *start a community Green Team*, call Mike Barney at 720-865-9059.

August 8

West Colfax Neighborhood – Villa Park Home Energy Fair

Noon—2:00 p.m.

Meet at Confluence Ministries

1400 Quitman Street

**Free Family Picnic and Resource Sharing

August 15

Sloan Lake Neighborhood Energy Blitz

9:00 am – 1:00 pm

**Meet at Sloan's Lake for canvas training

Oasis in the Food Desert

A new movement is putting fresh, organic, and healthy food at the fingertips of Denver citizens. Free community and household gardens are sprouting all over town as one solution toward eating a healthy diet. Dardano's Flowerland nursery understands the importance of these gardens and donated nearly \$3,500 worth of plants to the *Re:Farm Denver* initiative to support and encourage community and household gardens in the Westwood neighborhood.

Some Denver communities are “food deserts” – communities that do not have easy access to fresh, healthy produce. Re:Vision International, through *Re:Farm Denver*, began working in low-income urban communities to create organic vegetable gardens for people to not only grow the food they were missing in their diet, but to provide education about gardening and health. The gardens are free to families who are willing to help plant and maintain them, and share their bounty with neighbors. The gardens include a wide variety of food including: tomatoes, tomatillos, kung pao peppers, jalapeño peppers, and squash. At the low cost of \$250 per garden, anyone can help sponsor gardens for communities.



Kepner Middle School Commu-

Gardens like these not only provide food, but they are becoming a pivotal step in addressing health concerns through what we eat. Eric Kornacki, president and founder of Re:Vision International, tells a story about how a small boy who despised vegetables was excited to try the carrots growing in his yard. He was so proud of planting them that he couldn't wait to eat them.



Household garden

People are learning valuable lessons about sustainability, responsibility and food security by planting gardens throughout the city. The gardens provide a sense of pride that is seen across the smiling face of six-year-old boy exclaiming that the papas (potatoes) are getting big. They are a simple solution that utilizes all of the greatest qualities a neighborhood has to offer.

Written by Jacqueline Johnston

More Details www.revisioninternational.org

BEFORE



AFTER



Build It and They Will Play!

On July 16th, Greenprint Denver partnered with Councilmember Paul Lopez, KaBOOM, Mutual of Omaha, Park People, Parks and Recreation, Public Works, Waste Farmers, and over 300 volunteers to build a new playground in the Westwood community. This playground will provide neighborhood children with a place to have fun on cool new equipment, and a site that the community can be proud of.

Greenprint Denver worked with [Waste Farmers](#) – a locally owned resource management company – to make this a low-waste event. It proved to be an excellent example that all events: a family reunion or block party, a wedding, graduation, or a project like this should have a waste management plan.

The all-day project collected three bags of recycling, five bags of compost, and a truck load of cardboard, leading to a diversion rate (avoided from the landfill) of 70%! Unused materials including tools and concrete were donated to Parks and Recreation for future use.

More Details To learn more about event recycling, go to www.greenprintdenver.org and refer to the Sustainable Events Guide.

Become a FAN!

Greenprint Denver is on
[Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#)

To learn more about Greenprint Denver, [click here](#).
Contact us at greenprint@denvergov.org, or call 3-1-1

