

Complete Guide to Recycling

Recycling and composting helps to extend the life of the South Canyon landfill. Glenwood Springs assures us there is room in the landfill, but it doesn't take a lot of imagination to foresee a time when it does fill. New research offers a second reason for reducing landfill waste: buried garbage is broken down by anaerobic bacteria, which produces methane. And methane is a greenhouse gas that contributes to climate change.

Recycling can only work, however, if recyclables can actually be recycled. Certain items in a recycle bin can lead to all that bin's contents going into the trash. Pizza boxes, cans caked with dried food and plastic bags are the biggest culprits, though any of the items on the "Keep Out" list on the reverse are problems as well. All recyclables must be contained within a recycle bin. The exception is corrugated cardboard, which may be flattened and placed beneath the bin.

New Castle's recycling is handled by Mountain Waste and Recycling, and their website, www.mountainwaste.com, includes additional information. Mountain Waste will gladly answer questions about recycling at 970 963-3435.



There are additional ways to reduce garbage sent to the landfill. Food waste and yard waste can be composted. New Castle is served by EverGreen ZeroWaste (evergreenzerowaste.com). And anything that might be used by someone else can be donated to Habitat for Humanity or a thrift store.

When in doubt, leave it out. A single contaminant can send an entire recycling bin to the dump.

Prepared by the New Castle Climate and Environment Commission