WHAT HAPPENS TO MY RECYCLABLES?

Your single stream recyclables are collected and taken to the Larimer County Recycling Center. Cardboard and some paper products are separated from the mix. Then they are pressed into large blocks (or bales) and shipped directly to market. The rest of your recyclables are routed onto a tractor trailer and transported to the recycling sorting facility in Denver.

ALUMINUM CANS

Cans are made into new aluminum cans - which can be done many times over. Recycled aluminum may also be used to make car parts, screen doors or windows.

CARDBOARD

Cardboard is sent to manufacturers in other states and made into new cardboard boxes, brown paper bags, and paperboard.

GLASS

Glass is shipped to Momentum Recycling in Broomfield and turned into a useful glass cullet. Then it goes to Rocky Mountain Bottle Company where it’s turned into new glass bottles.

NEWSPAPER

Newspaper is made into more newsprint, as well as paperboard, insulation and wallboard.
Office paper is made with strong fibers that hold up well the second time around. When recycled, it is sold to paper mills and made into new paper or tissue products.

Paperboard is often remanufactured into new paperboard, paper tubing, like you might find in paper towel and toilet paper rolls, and packaging.

Plastic containers can be made into all sorts of plastic products. Your used plastic bottle might be made into park benches, fencing, toys, new containers, and even carpets, sleeping bags, or clothing!

Steel cans are recycled into new cans, car parts, appliances, rebar, sports equipment and more.

Market prices and market demand for recyclables are constantly changing. The materials accepted at the recycling center are dependent on the global market. The companies purchasing the recyclables today may not be the same ones sold to tomorrow. For recycling to succeed, consumers must look for and purchase products made from post-consumer recycled content.

Remember: Keep contaminants out of your recycle bin.