

Composting helps divert plant and food waste from Colorado landfills. Thornton has a compost drop-off program for residential use only. The compost bin is located at the Infrastructure Maintenance Center (IMC), 12450 Washington St. This drop-off program allows residents to bring in compostable items and material that would normally be tossed into their trash containers to be sent to the landfill.

In 2021, Thornton offered a “pilot curbside” composting option at no cost to a sample of 900 residents in three different areas of the city. The trial program aimed to gauge interest levels and collect data. Unfortunately, only 15% (134 homes) of the addresses that the program was offered to opted to participate. At the conclusion of the 7 month trial, a survey was sent to all residents that participated and we found, among other things, that more than half of those homes were not aware of the compost drop-off program. This information steered us towards educating people about composting in general, and to promote the fact that we have a drop-off program already in place at no cost to residents.

