

# recycling is important, but it's not free

# HERE'S WHY

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## You Recycle Your Items

Not everything can be recycled! Contaminants increase costs.

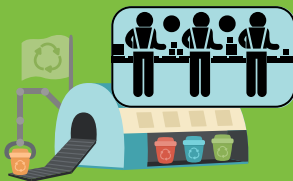
2



## Collection and Transportation \$\$

Trucks use fuel and maintenance adds up. The farther the facility, the higher the cost. In Colorado's mountain towns, recycling facilities are few and far between.

3



## Sorting at Recycling Facility \$\$\$

Sorting takes time, labor, and expensive machinery. If too many items are contaminated, costs increase!

4



## Processing and Baling \$\$\$\$

Large compressors create bales out of different materials. Each material (plastic, glass, metal) has different processing costs.

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## Sell Recyclables (Market Demand)

If demand is low, recyclables might not sell, making it difficult to cover costs. Items that can't be sold go to a landfill, wasting time and money.

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Here's what you can do to keep it effective and affordable:



- ✓ Rinse containers & jars before recycling
- ✓ Follow local guidelines
- ✓ Avoid "wishcycling" (don't throw non-recyclables in)