# Pay As You Throw Case Study



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# Today's Presentation:

- Longmont Service Overview
- Considerations
- Before PAYT Structure
- Results



## **Waste Services in Longmont**

- Longmont begins municipal trash service 1948
  - Enterprise fund
- Began automated curbside collection-1999
- Single stream recycling begins 2010
- Enhanced PAYT and Curbside Composting begins 2017
- ► First every-other-week trash option in CO 2017
- Population now close to 100,000; 29,614 Households served







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bit.ly/waste-services-tips

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## **Considerations When Establishing a PAYT Program**

- What are your goals?
  - Sustainability plan goals and objectives
    - Decrease household waste
    - increase waste diversion
  - Equitable rates for different size containers
    - ► Staggered rates, "right size your trash"
  - Reduce landfill use
  - Promote waste diversion practices like recycle and compost
- What to be aware of!
  - There may be revenue shifts- project your revenue and expenses
  - Success !! you may need to buy additional containers and put greater staff emphasis during the launch of a program while customers are switching out cart sizes

# Objective: Increase opportunities for waste diversion, education, and reuse to reduce environmental impacts. Targets Decrease household trash landfilled to less than 2 pounds per capita per day by 2018 (from approximately 2.2 pounds per capita per day in 2015) Increase residential waste diversion to 50% by 2025 Increase internal waste diversion for all City operations (baseline to be defined) Increase commercial waste diversion (baseline and target number TBD based on 2018 data collection)

#### PAYT and equity

- Context
- BMPs, options and recommendations

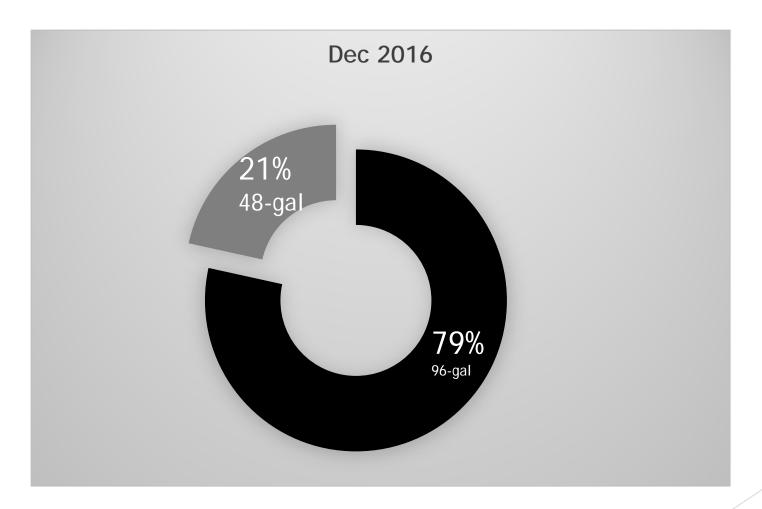
#### Longmont organics

- Context, regional activity & BMPs
- Options, services, & optimization for Longmont
- Estimated costs and impacts





# Cart Distribution on December 2016 (prior to 2017 Enhanced Pay-as-you-throw)





#### Pay-as-You-Throw (PAYT) Rate Structure

- Previous Approach
  - ► 48 gal. or 96 gal. 50% cost differential
  - 79% of customers subscribed to 96 gal. trash
- PAYT Approach
  - ▶ 48 gal. EOW, 48 gal., or 96 gal. 80% 100% cost differential
- In Addition to PAYT
  - Established an Opt-in Curbside compost service to support increase household waste diversion



### **PAYT Changes Adopted**



- Trash
  - 96 weekly \$24.00 per month
  - 48 weekly \$12.90 per month
  - 48 every-other—week \$6.50 per month
- Recycling
  - Fee embedded in trash services
- Compost/organics (opt-in) \$6.60 per month



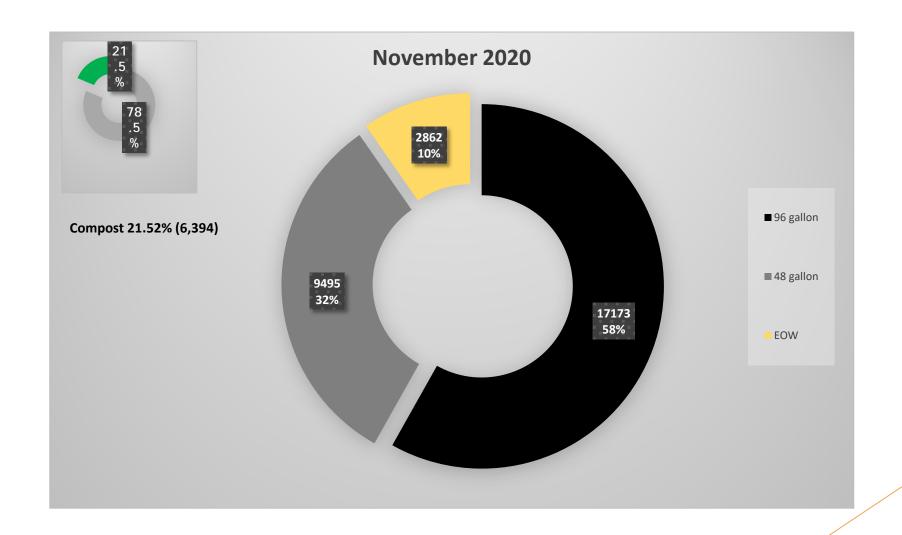








## **Container Distribution Today**



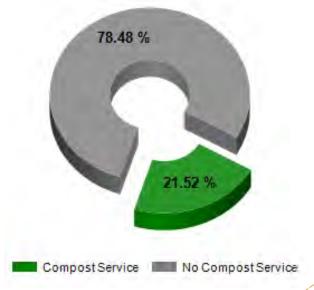


## Opt-In Compost Sign up

Pre launch sign-ups 9% (1,500) April 2018 12% (3,957) Today 21.5% (6,394)



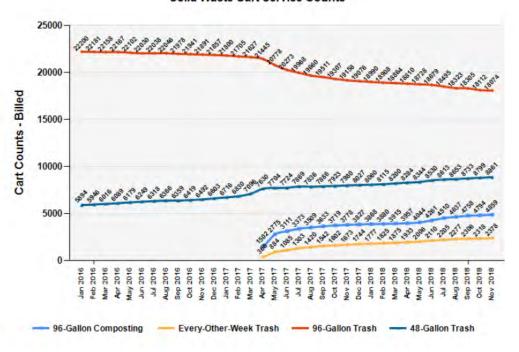




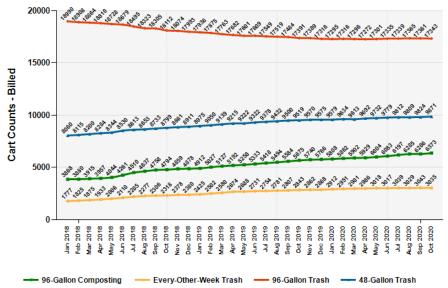


## **Subscription Changes With PAYT**

#### Solid Waste Cart Service Counts



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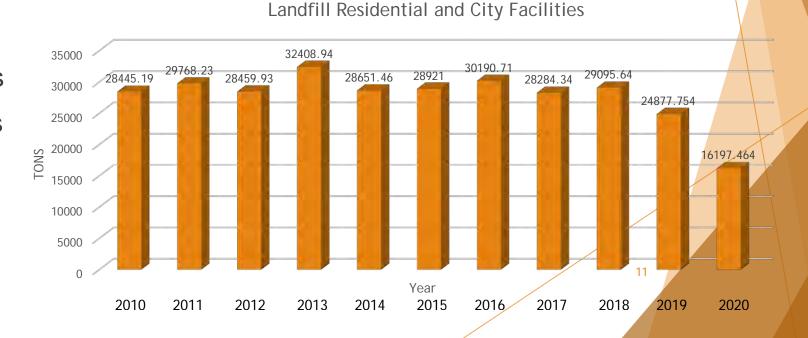


#### **Waste Diversion Results**

- Overall waste diversion rate for Longmont in 2019 was 36%.
  - ▶ 2020 Covid Pandemic has changed the makeup of the collections figures
    - ► Higher Recycle tons- Amazon affect
    - ► Trash tons appear to have reduced- need to see long term trends
    - ► Compost is achieving the results expected for an Opt- In program

#### 2019 totals

- Trash 24,877 tons
- Recycle 11,953 tons
- ► Compost 1,978 tons





#### What PAYT Looks Like

#### **Trash, Recycle and Compost**









Three trash subscription choices







## **Questions & Thoughts**

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