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Denver Company Promotes Business Recycling

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DENVER (CBS4) — One Denver recycling company is encouraging businesses to be more environmentally friendly by offering trash services that are easier and cheaper than traditional waste programs. Altogether Recycling has been open on the city's north side since last September and has already doubled the amount of waste it recycles.

"It's the latest wave in recycling technology, to sort materials out," said Brent Hildebrand, vice president at Altogether Recycling.

Most businesses could recycle 70 percent of their trash, Hildebrand said.

"Think about it, paper, cardboard, magazines. If you have a plastic water bottle all that stuff that's recyclable," he said.

Altogether said there are two key reasons why businesses don't recycle

"We'll get the question, 'It costs more to recycle,'" Hildebrand said. "And in the majority of cases, it costs less to recycle."

Another concern among companies is that they simply don't have room for two separate dumpsters.

"One thing we've done is put in a compactor that's split right down the middle, put recycling on one side, trash on the other," Hildebrand said.

He explained by in most cases, recycling with Altogether costs less than regular trash pickup.

"The reason that is, if you recycle more out of that property, than that load gets taken to a recycling plant like ours," Hildebrand said. "If you take it to a landfill, you have a disposal cost. If you take it here, there's no cost to dispose of it.

Altogether works with its customers to get them to recycle more.

Hildebrand said it is key to have a champion in the office to spearhead the recycling efforts. He added that education and changing how people think about trash will help keep tons of waste out of landfills.

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