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Colorado honors top recycler

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The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment has named Brent Hildebrand of [wAlpine Waste & Recycling](#) and Eric Drummond, mayor of Manitou Springs, as its 2009 Sustainability Champions.

Hildebrand is vice president of recycling at Alpine.

Hildebrand's award is for his leadership of Alpine's efforts to promote recycling along the Front Range. Alpine began the service in 2007, and it has resulted in taking thousands of tons of material out of landfills, as well as saving on natural resources such as trees, water and fuel.

"This is a tremendous honor, and it speaks loudly about our company's vision and commitment toward making recycling easy, excuse-free and widespread," Hildebrand said in a news release.

He was chosen by a nine-member committee comprised of officials from the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment and the Colorado Environmental Partnership.

Alpine, which has made its recycling facilities available to competitors, is the largest privately held commercial waste and recycling collection company in the Denver area. It was founded in 1999 and now has more than 40 trucks and more than 100 employees.