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Date: 26 April 2012

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Paper Cartons Can Now Be Recycled in Fort Collins

26 April 2012 -- (Fort Collins, CO) – Fort Collins residents can now add one more material to their recycling bins: paper cartons! Starting immediately, these food and beverage cartons can be recycled in curbside recycling bins and in the commingled containers bins at the City of Fort Collins' Recycling Drop-Off Site at 1702 Riverside Ave. (behind the Rivendell School).

Examples of cartons that can be recycled include shelf-stable cartons (e.g., juice, individual juice boxes, milk, soy milk, tofu, soup, broth, wine) and refrigerated cartons (e.g., milk, juice, soy milk, cream, egg substitutes). Paper cartons with and without aluminum linings can be recycled. Please rinse cartons and remove caps or straws prior to recycling, but there is no need to cut out any plastic spouts incorporated into the cartons. Do not include ice cream containers or paper cups in the recycling – they are made from different materials and cannot be recycled with the cartons.

"We're excited that the Fort Collins community can now keep one more type of material out of the landfill," says City of Fort Collins Chief Sustainability Officer Bruce Hendee. "Recycling cartons helps move our community one step further along the road to zero waste," he adds.

After cartons are collected, they're taken to a materials recovery facility to be sorted and baled. The bales of recycled cartons are then shipped to paper mills, where cartons are mixed with water in a gigantic blender to extract all the paper fiber from the plastic and aluminum. The paper fiber is then ready to be used in making new products, such as recycled office paper, tissues, and in wall boards manufacturing. The aluminum/plastic combination left over from the shelf-ready cartons and the plastic left over from refrigerated cartons are used by some mills for generating energy or are sold to plastic manufacturers that use them to make plastic lumber board-like materials.

For more details, please see www.fcgov.com/recycling, or call 970-221-6600.

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