

1. Briefly describe your idea. How will it implement transportation and transit solutions, protect the ecosystems that originate in the Central Wasatch, steward recreational access, or sustain the economic viability of the project area?

In 2024, Recycle Utah's Dumpster Days remains a vital community event, enabling Summit County residents to handle their waste and yard debris efficiently. This initiative allows community members to compost yard waste and dispose of non-recyclable and non-compostable garbage through a temporary transfer station, just as it has in previous years. Thanks to Recycle Utah's ongoing efforts, residents can access a large garbage dumpster and a large yard waste dumpster on the final weekends of May, June, September, and October.

Volunteers continue to play a crucial role in facilitating the process, ensuring participants receive the assistance they need. However, it's essential to adhere to the guidelines regarding prohibited items, such as mattresses, refrigeration units, electronic waste, tires, and hazardous materials, which cannot be accommodated in the dumpsters.

Transportation and Transit: Dumpster Days remains committed to addressing transportation and transit concerns. By functioning as a temporary transfer station, Recycle Utah helps minimize CO2 emissions by reducing the number of individual trips to the landfill. This strategic approach to waste management contributes significantly to mitigating the environmental impact associated with waste transportation, consistent with past initiatives.

Environmental Protection: In its ongoing dedication to environmental protection, Recycle Utah continues its partnership with Spoil to Soil, a local compost business, to manage yard waste effectively. Organic matter, a predominant component of Summit County's waste stream, contributes to methane production in landfills, negatively impacting air quality. Dumpster Days actively combat methane emissions by composting yard waste, which benefits air quality throughout the Central Wasatch, as demonstrated in previous years.

The success of past Dumpster Days events is evident in the significant amount of organic matter diverted from landfills. This effort addresses immediate waste management needs and serves as an educational platform, emphasizing the importance of composting and landfill preservation to the community.

Expanding its outreach beyond yard waste, Recycle Utah advocates for adequately disposing of noxious weeds during Dumpster Days. These invasive species threaten native ecosystems and wildlife habitats and increase wildfire risks, echoing the concerns raised in previous years. By raising awareness and facilitating their disposal, Recycle Utah remains committed to mitigating the adverse environmental impacts of these weeds.

Through the continuation of Dumpster Days in 2024, Recycle Utah reaffirms its commitment to sustainable waste management practices, community engagement, and environmental stewardship, building upon the foundation laid by previous years' successes.

2. Does the idea result in other benefits for Central Wasatch and its users?

In 2024, Dumpster Days continues to serve as a platform for active community involvement. We actively engage residents by inviting volunteers to assist with the event, fostering a sense of environmental stewardship and collective action. Each weekend that Dumpster Days is held, we are grateful to have approximately six dedicated volunteers contributing their time and efforts.

This event holds significance for Summit County residents, providing a centralized opportunity to consolidate transported loads, support local businesses, compost yard waste, and responsibly dispose of noxious weeds to mitigate wildfire risks. With the support of our volunteer team, we aim to further engage and mobilize the community, encouraging broader participation and collective responsibility in environmental initiatives.

Since its inception in 2012, Dumpster Days has become a cherished community tradition, annually averting the need for 653 individual car trips and thereby preventing the emission of 19,126 pounds of CO₂ from driving. Without Dumpster Days, residents would collectively travel an additional 25,000 miles per year, considering that the Summit County Landfill entails approximately a 40-mile round trip from most population centers within the county.