



Waste Reduction and Landfill Diversion

County of Alameda

Climate Corps 16-17

Projects

While at Alameda County, I worked to increase the amount of compostable and recyclable material that was diverted from the landfill in order to reduce greenhouse gases emitted.

Increase Access to Recycling & Compost

- Conducted site assessments, 260 waste audits, and roll-outs at 7 buildings
- Designed 5 new waste enclosures
- Oversaw and coordinated program implementation with building occupants, janitorial staff, and waste haulers to balance the needs of each stakeholder and create individual plans for each site

Outreach and Education

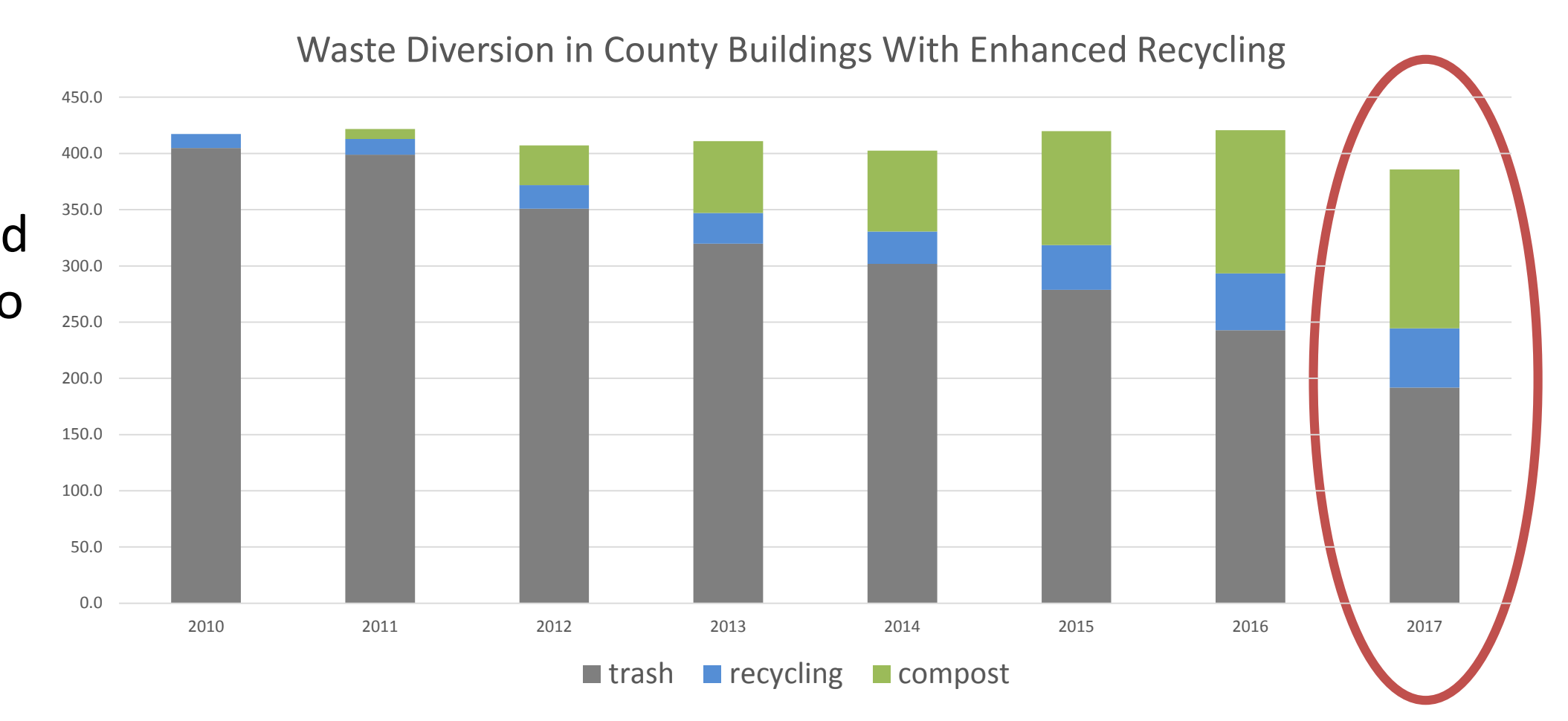
- Trained 350 stakeholders in Alameda County on how to correctly sort waste into compost and recycling bins and why it is important to do so
- Created and updated outreach materials, such as signs and stickers, for specific buildings
- Prepared intranet content and photos



Results

Roll-Outs

By increasing access to compost and recycling, right-sizing containers, and training employees how to sort material, we have decreased landfill-bound materials in County buildings.



Lessons Learned

Successful Strategies

1. Collect maximum information for roll-out proposals
2. Long-term projects must be balanced with daily tasks

Recommendations for Program Expansion

1. Expand roll-outs to leased spaces
2. Film a waste sorting video for the website
3. Compile an updated list of building and janitorial contacts



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 Bay Area native Natalie Calhoun graduated Connecticut College with a degree in Environmental Studies and a minor in Government. Her senior thesis on municipal waste management drew from her two summer internships with waste hauler Recology. In July, Natalie will start her new job as the Environmental Manager for Delaware North at Kings Canyon and Sequoia National Parks.



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