

# Multifamily Compost Pilot Update

March 11, 2021

---

Selene Castillo

[AustinRecycles.com](http://AustinRecycles.com)



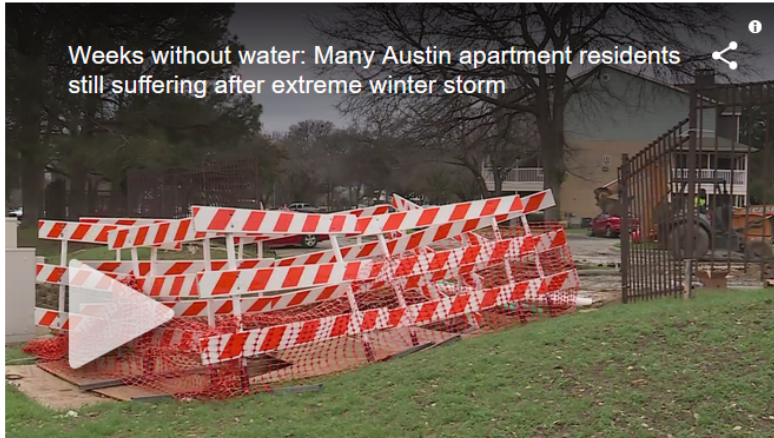
# Multifamily Pilot: Goal

- Inform future policy discussions around composting at multifamily properties
  - Gathering information from properties and tenants
  - Identifying challenges and best practices

# P i l o t D e l a y

- Original launch in March 2020 put on hold due to COVID-19 pandemic.
- Planned restart in March 2021.
- Winter Storm Uri caused further delay and resulted in significant impacts to multifamily properties. Many still do not have water due to shortages in plumbers and parts.
- Several properties originally planning to participate elected not to continue or did not respond to our communications.

## Weeks without water: Many Austin apartment residents still suffering after extreme winter storm



by: John Engel

Posted: Mar 3, 2021 / 04:33 PM CST / Updated: Mar 3, 2021 / 06:49 PM CST

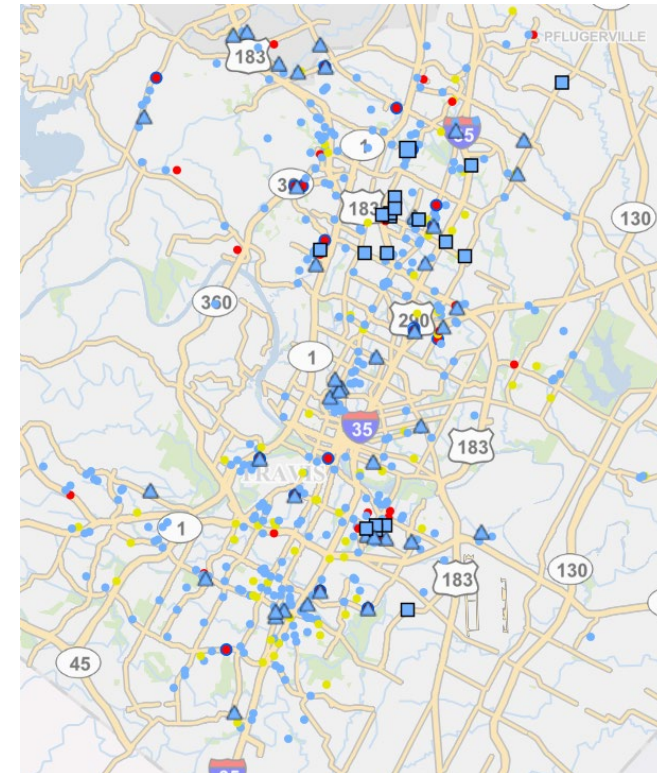
AUSTIN (KXAN) — It was the best news Lindsey Hyde had received in three weeks — a drop of water fell from her kitchen faucet on Wednesday.

“Save it!” she yelled.

In the nearly three weeks since an extreme winter storm first hit Texas, leaving millions without power and water for days, Hyde’s North Austin apartment complex, Westdale Creek, has been without water — a scenario familiar to many apartment residents in the city.

Still, Hyde’s rent payment on March 1 didn’t change.

## Austin Water Map of Multifamily Properties Reporting Water Outages (3/4/21)



# Storm Impact

# Original Properties

Property Name	Number of Units	Zip Code	District	Still Participating?
West Lynn Quarter	44	78703	9	YES
College Courts	38	78705	9	YES
Nelray Place HOA	17	78751	9	YES
Eight Hundred Banister Place	32	78704	3	NO
Chambord Condominiums	100	78741	3	YES
Lakeshore Pearl	199	78741	3	NO
Bexley at Tech Ridge	342	78753	7	NO
Lakeline Station	132	78717	6	YES
Kinney Lofts	27	78704	5	NO
Flatiron Domain	364	78758	7	NO

# Baseline Meetings at Properties

- February 2020
- Goal: Discuss trash, recycling and compost service levels and education plan
- Overall service recommendations:
  - Start small, then expand in time
  - Ensure hauler will provide contamination documentation
- Overall education recommendations:
  - Use established communication channels
  - Regularly engage with residents to avoid contamination issues

# Information Sessions

- Live, virtual presentations and recordings available
- ARR will provide residents with:
  - Kitchen compost collectors with informational sticker (like ARR carts)
  - Compostable bags for kitchen collectors
  - How-to guides
  - Live, virtual Q&A



# Initial Property Recruitment: Early 2020

- 125 individual properties contacted over the phone
- 650 property managers emailed
- Outreach to all compost haulers
- Met with and presented at Austin Apartment Association
- Social media advertising



# Efforts to Add New Properties : Ongoing

- Social media advertising
- Outreach to all compost haulers
- Outreach to Austin Apartment Association
- Outreach to new, individual properties

**Opportunity to assist with recruitment**

## Next Steps

- Move forward with 4-5 properties already engaged
- Continue outreach to add more properties
- Add new properties on a rolling basis, up to August 2021
- Conclude pilot once properties have completed 6 months of service; begin data analysis
- Develop report to present to URO Committee

# QUESTIONS ?

