As municipalities and local governments encourage - and even require - restaurants, the service industry and the hospitality trade to compost and recycle, Texas Disposal Systems (TDS) serves a leading company to help those businesses minimize their waste footprints in Central Texas.

Because of TDS’ long history of recycling, composting, and environmental preservation, Buzz Mill Coffee, a full-service bar and coffee shop with multiple locations, picked TDS to be their exclusive waste provider.

“We chose to go with TDS because we want to be as green and sustainable as possible,” said Jason Sabala, founder and chief of culture at Buzz Mill Coffee. “Choosing the partnership with TDS was very simple.”

TDS keeps Buzz Mill Coffee sustainable by utilizing three streams of waste, including composting, recycling and solid waste. The composting and recycling programs help Buzz Mill Coffee stay compliant with Austin’s Universal Recycling Ordinance (URO), which requires businesses to minimize the amount of waste that ends up in the landfill.

With more than 30 acres dedicated to large-scale composting on its Travis County property, as well as three other composting facilities throughout Central Texas, TDS is able to handle compost on an industrial scale for service and hospitality industries. TDS is also uniquely qualified as a disposal partner because of its ability to compost meat and dairy products - a rarity in the resource management industry.

TDS is also able to recycle on a large-scale basis. At its Materials Recovery Facility (MRF), more than 50,000 pounds of recycling are processed each hour. Products processed through the facility include back-of-house restaurant staples such as cardboard boxes, tin and aluminum cans, plastics and paper products.

In addition to offering composting and recycling in its three waste streams, TDS assists businesses such as Buzz Mill Coffee with signage for staff and customers, educational training for sorting, diversion reporting, government compliance and assistance with annual diversion planning.

When it comes to sustainable waste stream practices, TDS is one of the best in Central Texas. Since TDS took on its first service industry customer more than 40 years ago, TDS has been an innovator in keeping materials away from the landfill.

In 2017, TDS diverted more than 471 million pounds of material away from the landfill through composting and recycling efforts. That amount of waste equates to more than one million cubic yards, or the size of 157,000 Olympic-sized swimming pools.