

# Rocky Mountain Sanitation

Staff



By [Special to the Sentinel](#)

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## **When did you start Rocky Mountain Sanitation?**

My husband, Loren Mullen, and I started RMS in 1997 and have been in the industry since 1981. We are the oldest locally owned waste removal company in Mesa County. We are getting ready to celebrate 20 years in business thanks to our wonderful community and supportive customers.



## **As you enter your 20th Anniversary in business, what do you think sets you apart from other waste removal businesses?**

We are locally owned and operated. Many companies are started and are built to sell; we are built to stay. When you live and work in the same community you are more vested in the service you provide. We see our customers face-to-face and are friends with many of them, it makes us that much more conscientious. We are here for the long haul and that means focusing our priorities on the quality of the service we provide and our employees. Those two priorities combined are a recipe for success.

### **QUICKREAD**

#### **Rocky Mountain Sanitation**

Lisa and Loren Mullen,  
owners

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rockymountainsanitation.co  
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## **How has RMS changed over the last 19 years?**

We started with just two trucks and one employee in the basement of our home. Now we have 25 employees, 23 trucks, and a

7,000 sq. ft. office and shop on more than four acres.

**How has your family business evolved over the years?**

It's now a two generational family business. Our son, Gunnar, is the assistant manager and has been working in the business since he was 10. I can remember when he was a little boy he would help his dad go from neighborhood to neighborhood hanging door hangars to help market the business. His wife, Mattie, is our office manager and has been working for us for six years. And their 16-month-old son, Shooter, comes to the office twice a week, so now we are grooming the third generation of our business!

**How many people do you currently serve?**

We have more than 13,500 customers and are still growing.

**What services do you offer?**

We currently offer residential, commercial, construction/roll-offs, portable toilets, and our most recent addition to the business is commercial cardboard recycling.

**What is something most people don't know about RMS?**

Our very first employee still works for us. Chris Bishop took a chance on us 19 years ago as a rear-load driver and is still a rear-load driver with us today. We're very proud of our employees and their commitment to the business. It's obvious the community is very important to you. You display your goodwill year after year through generous donations.

Yes, we live here and we want to do our part to help others in our community. Last year we donated more than \$23,000 to more than a dozen non-profit organizations. Giving back is a huge part of our personal and business philosophy.

**You are also involved with numerous business organizations. Why is that important to you?**

We are members of the Grand Junction, Palisade and Fruita Chambers of Commerce, as well as the Housing and Building Association of Northwestern

Colorado and the Western Colorado Contractors Association. These organizations make our community stronger and better. As local business owners and good stewards of the community it's important to stay connected and support the community where we work and live.

**Where would you like to see your business in the next 20 years?**

Our goal is to still be the largest trash hauling service with the very best customer service in Mesa County. If you haven't already given us a try, we invite you to GO PURPLE! When you invest in us, you invest in your community.

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