

News Release

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Tipping fees for garbage increase at regional recycling centres in 2020

Duncan, BC – Effective January 1, 2020, the tipping fee for garbage disposal at Cowichan Valley Regional District recycling centres will increase from \$140 per tonne to \$148, and the minimum fee for small quantity disposal (under 30 kilograms) will increase from \$5 to \$7.

“The good news is our region has reduced the amount of landfill waste moving through our facilities by 15% since 2012. Unfortunately the cost of exporting our waste has increased by almost 30% during that same period of time and, combined with other factors, has dramatically reduced the revenue we generate from solid waste,” said Aaron Stone, Chair of the Cowichan Valley Regional District. “It is our hope that as we implement the strategies from our regional Solid Waste Management Plan, we will continue to see significant reductions in the amount of landfill garbage we create and move closer to our goal of becoming a zero waste community by 2040.”

This is the first time since 2012 that CVRD tipping fees have increased. A number of factors have contributed to increased costs in recent years, including decreased revenue, land remediation projects at former landfills, and increased contracted garbage disposal costs. Garbage export expenses make up the bulk of this cost, increasing from \$97 per tonne in 2012 to \$136 per tonne in 2019.

The waste disposal rate across the Cowichan region is currently 358 kg per person, well below the provincial average of 472 kg per person. However waste audits show that regionally more than 48% of what is sent to landfill is made up of compostable or recyclable material. Please visit the CVRD website for more information about [accepted materials and fees](#) at our facilities and to learn more about the recently updated [Solid Waste Management Plan](#).

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