



REGIONAL DISTRICT
of Fraser-Fort George

MEDIA RELEASE

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SMALL LOAD FEE APPROVED FOR LANDFILL

The Regional District of Fraser-Fort George has approved the introduction of a new small load fee for the Foothills Boulevard Regional Landfill. The new fee will apply to loads of household waste weighing less than 100 kg.

"This new fee is being introduced as a measure to ensure those who use the landfill more are paying more, rather than all residents subsidizing those frequent users," says Terry Burgess, Chair of the Environment and Parks Steering Committee for the Regional District. "It is also part of a waste reduction strategy to provide an incentive for residents to generate less waste," says Burgess.

The new fee will come into effect on September 1.

The fee will not apply to residents in the Salmon Valley area. Salmon Valley is one of the only communities in the Regional District electoral areas not serviced by a Transfer Station and residents there have no reasonable access to waste disposal other than through the Foothills landfill, so they will be exempt from paying the fee. The exact boundaries and details of the exemption are still being determined.

Revenue from the fee will be applied to operating costs for the landfill. Solid Waste Management Services in the Regional District cost \$10 million annually, and the Foothills landfill is by far the biggest solid waste operation in the Regional District.

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**See attached for additional question and answers regarding the new fee

Questions about new \$6 small load fee at Foothills Regional Landfill

Why is the new fee being introduced?

The new fee is being introduced as a measure to ensure those who use the landfill more are paying more, rather than all residents subsidizing those frequent users. It is also part of a waste reduction strategy identified in the Regional Solid Waste Management Plan to provide an incentive for residents to generate less waste.

When will it be introduced?

The new fee will come into effect on September 1.

Why is it \$6?

The fee will apply to small loads of household waste that weigh less than 100 kg. \$6 reflects roughly 10% of the tipping fee charged for large loads (\$62 per tonne).

Where will money from the new fee go?

Revenue from the fee will be applied to operating costs at Foothills Boulevard Regional Landfill. Solid Waste Management Services in the Regional District cost \$10 million to operate, and the Foothills Landfill is by far our largest operation.

Lineups to get into landfill are already so long. How are you going to handle the impact this will have on the lineups?

We expect this fee will take some getting used to and the public can expect some slower moving traffic through the landfill entry/exit points. The fee will be charged as vehicles leave the Landfill so during peak hours we will have staff resources assigned to deal with the outbound traffic to help things move as quickly as possible. To help speed up the process, residents are encouraged to sort their loads between recyclables and waste, avoid peak hours if you're coming for compost and utilize the recycling drop depots if your load is all recyclables.

How will the Regional District deal with the rise in illegal dumping?

The majority of residents make responsible choices in disposing their household waste. Unfortunately there is a small segment of the population that participates in illegal dumping. Illegally dumped material can have serious effects on the environment, wildlife habitat and the ability of others to use and enjoy outdoor recreational areas. Thankfully, there has not shown to be a significant rise in the amount of illegal dumping in other jurisdictions that have introduced a similar fee. The Regional District is working with the Conservation Office and the Ministry of Environment on an awareness campaign to draw additional attention to the issue.