



TIPPING FEE INCREASE

Frequently Asked Questions

What are the new garbage rates?

Rates are increasing from \$120/tonne to \$130/tonne. For those who self-haul, it is increasing from \$2 per bag to \$3 per bag with a \$6 minimum charge. Charges are per bag up to 4 bags (\$12). Over 4 bags is charged by weight. There is no site fee to use the recycling services.

When are they in effect?

The new rates come into effect on November 1, 2019.

Why are the rates increasing?

Requirements for environmental monitoring and protection have increased in recent years which costs the ACRD more to operate the landfill properly. Annual inflation also requires that we adjust the rates on a regular basis. The rate per bag has not increased since 1995. These rates are low compared to neighboring landfills (\$8-\$10 minimum charges). We need to keep our rates in line with neighboring regional districts to avoid importing of waste to our landfill.

What are other regional districts charging?

The Regional District of Nanaimo rate is \$130/tonne with an \$8 minimum site fee. The Comox Valley Regional District is \$130/tonne with a \$6 minimum plus \$4 site fee.

What is a site fee?

A site fee is a flat rate to come to the landfill. It applies whether you are recycling or dropping off waste. The ACRD has chosen not to implement a site fee because we want to encourage use of the recycling services.

Why is there a minimum charge now?

High traffic volumes at the landfill creates line-ups and we are encouraging those who take frequent trips to combine their loads. This will reduce wait times for everyone in the landfill line-up. We do not want to encourage use of landfilling services, so we have instead implemented a minimum charge for waste disposal. Residents may still bring any volume of yard waste or recyclables for free at any time.

Won't this encourage illegal dumping or burning?

Approximately 70% of all household waste is recyclable and these materials are accepted free of charge at the landfill or 3rd Avenue recycling center. Research has shown that those who illegal dump or burn their waste are seldom influenced by small changes in garbage rates. The biggest factor for those who may choose to illegally dump or burn is the likelihood of consequence for their actions. Please report any instance of illegal dumping or burning to 250-720-2700.

How do I keep my garbage from becoming an attractant for bears, rats or raccoons?

Store your garbage in a location inaccessible to bears and other animals. If you do not have secure garbage storage, you can freeze the smelly food items, until the garbage is ready for disposal. Bear-resistant bins secure the waste from not only bears but also rats, raccoons and other animals.

I need to dispose of one bag of garbage at a time, will I have to pay for 2 bags?

Yes, the minimum charge is \$6 even if you only have one bag. Consider partnering with your neighbor in order to make each trip with at least 2 bags to share the minimum costs. There are also private collection services available.