



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**West Coast compost facility opens doors to all commercial organics**

Beginning Dec. 1, 2023, the compost facility at the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District's (ACRD) West Coast Landfill will accept organic waste from all commercial properties in the region. This includes businesses and multi-family residences.

The expanded service offers the opportunity for commercial properties to divert food and yard/garden for reuse. It is the next step in the ACRD's continued work towards removing organics waste from the landfill.

"We've heard interest over the past year from a number of businesses interested in participating in organics diversion," said Paulo Eichelberger, Solid Waste Manager for the ACRD. "This is a first step towards that expanded participation, and we look forward to seeing people participate."

Commercial properties in the Region that are interested in diverting organics will need to make plans for hauling to the landfill organics facility, as the ACRD is unable to provide collection for commercial organics. Options include hauling on their own, contacting a local private hauling company or working with others.

The ACRD is working to continuously improve diversion rates for organics from the landfill entirely, to extend the facility's lifespan and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. In November 2022, residential organics collection was introduced on the West Coast, and since then, more than 300 tonnes of organic waste have been diverted to the landfill.

Recent upgrades to the facility led to the increased capacity necessary to be able to process additional organic waste. The facility is run by Berry & Vale Contracting Ltd., which operates the landfill site.

"While there's more work to do, we know the West Coast community is eager to participate and find ways to reduce our footprint. We look forward to seeing how much more can be directed away from the landfill with this new opportunity," Eichelberger said.

For more information about commercial organics at the compost facility, including information about containers and sorting, visit [letsconnectacrd.ca/sortngo-west-coast](https://letsconnectacrd.ca/sortngo-west-coast).

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