



News Release

New Waste Disposal Regulations to Come into Effect November 1

Sechelt, BC—September 26, 2022—With the Sechelt landfill nearing capacity, the Sunshine Coast Regional District (SCRD) is bringing forward new waste disposal regulations to help prolong the life of the landfill.

Starting November 1, 2022, it will be mandatory to keep all food waste, compostable food soiled paper and recyclable paper out of your regular garbage. The SCRD has been communicating about these regulations since May to ensure that the community has had time to get systems in place to separate waste.

The disposal regulations apply to all individuals, businesses, and institutions in every municipality and electoral area on the Sunshine Coast.

So why are the new regulations being put in place?

- There are less than three-years of landfill life left. The new waste disposal regulations will help to ensure that the landfill can continue to fulfill the needs of our growing communities for the coming years.
- Throwing food waste in the garbage generates methane which is a contributing factor to climate change. Instead, food waste that is composted feeds the earth and not the landfill.
- Recycling paper means future packaging is made from existing resources instead of extracting fiber from trees.

“Most residents on the Sunshine Coast, with the exception of those living in the Pender Harbour area, already receive curbside food waste collection services and are therefore already keeping food waste out of their garbage,” says Rebecca Porte, Manager of Solid Waste Services. “We are happy to announce that residents in Pender Harbour and Egmont will have the option to drop off their food waste at the Pender Harbour transfer station at the beginning of November.”

The SCRD’s focus for the past few months has been to help educate the community to get their systems in place for separating materials in their garbage. Staff are committed to a measured approach to enforcement which will include educating first and enforcing as, and when, necessary.

Also!

The region’s food waste processor will be allowing compostable bags that are BPI certified to be used as a bin liner. It is really important that the bags are truly compostable and the only way to be certain is to use bags that have the BPI symbol (see right) on the bags. Bags with this certification are sold at many local retailers. This change only applies to bags and does not include other plastic items like cutlery, which cannot be included in food waste. Any questions about what is acceptable can be directed to Salish Soils Inc.



For more information, visit www.scrd.ca/reduce-waste. If you have any questions, please call 604-885-6806 or email infrastructure@scrd.ca.

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