



SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN PUBLIC & TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

**Tuesday, April 25, 2023
1975 Field Road, Sechelt, B.C.**

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER 2:30 p.m.

AGENDA

1. Adoption of Agenda

MINUTES

2. Adoption of the Meeting Minutes from February 28, 2023 Annex A
pp. 2-3

PRESENTATIONS AND DELEGATIONS

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

REPORTS

3. Introduction (all) Verbal
4. Solid Waste Management Plan Update and Status Report Annex B
pp. 4-57
Veronica Bartlett and Carrie McIver, Morrison Hershfield
 - Plan update overview
 - How waste and recyclables are currently managed
 - Breakout sessions on vision, goals and Guiding Principles
 - Gap analysis findings and identified opportunities / issues
 - Breakout sessions on emerging opportunities / issues
5. Next steps Verbal
Manager, Solid Waste Services

COMMUNICATIONS

NEW BUSINESS

NEXT MEETING June 6, 2023

ADJOURNMENT

**SUNSHINE COAST REGIONAL DISTRICT
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN
PUBLIC AND TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Tuesday, February 28, 2023

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN PUBLIC
AND TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE CEDAR
ROOM, 1975 FIELD ROAD, SECHLT, BC

PRESENT:

(Voting Members)

Chair
Vice Chair
Director, Electoral Area E
Members

J. Sutherland
D. Reeve
D. McMahon
J. Walton
M. Ernst
N. Brenchley
P. Robson
S. Selzer

ALSO PRESENT:

(Non-Voting)

Director, Electoral Area A
Director, Electoral Area B
Director, Electoral Area D
Manager, Strategic Initiatives
Manager, Solid Waste Services
Solid Waste Operations Coordinator
Recorder

L. Lee
J. Gabias
K. Backs
M. Edbrooke
M. Sole
A. Patrao
R. Newland

CALL TO ORDER

3:32 p.m.

1. Welcome and Roundtable Introductions

Manager, Solid Waste Services, welcomed the Committee and provided an opportunity for introductions.

2. Election of Public and Technical Advisory Committee (PTAC) Chair and Vice Chair

- John Sutherland was elected Chair of PTAC.
- David Reeve was elected Vice Chair of PTAC.

AGENDA

The agenda was adopted as presented.

REPORTS

Committee Orientation

The Manager, Solid Waste Services, provided the Committee with a presentation which included the following:

- *role of the Public and Technical Advisory Committee;*
- *the process of updating/developing the Solid Waste Management Plan;*
- *an overview of Sunshine Coast Regional District and Solid Waste Services; and*
- *options for PTAC meeting schedule and location.*

Discussion included the following:

- residential versus commercial recycling options;
- enforcement for green waste disposal into garbage/landfill;
- importance of education and outreach;
- reports and more information requested from staff; and
- meeting location confirmed for future meetings at the Sunshine Coast Regional District office (1975 Field Road, Sechelt), in-person with an option for virtual attendance.

NEXT MEETING

April 25, 2023

ADJOURNMENT

4:42 p.m.

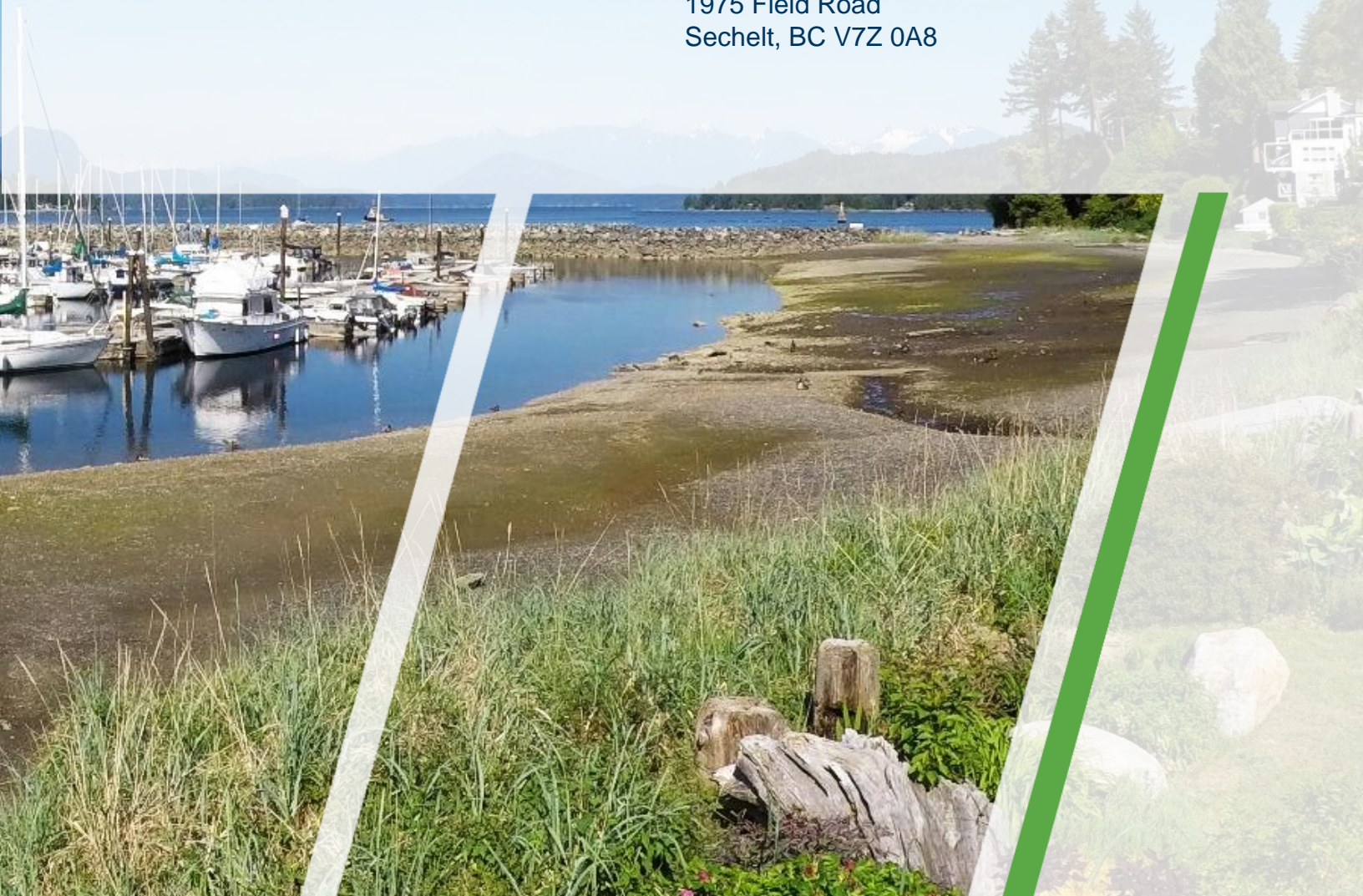


MORRISON HERSHFIELD

FINAL REPORT Current Waste Management System Review & 2011 SWMP Status Reporting

Presented to:

Marc Sole
Sunshine Coast Regional District
1975 Field Road
Sechelt, BC V7Z 0A8



Report No. 2022\220277800
April 18, 2023

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DEFINITIONS AND ACRONYMS

Acronym	Meaning
Circular Economy	A circular economy is one that is restorative and regenerative by design, and which aims to keep products, components and materials at their highest utility and value at all times, distinguishing between technical and biological cycles ¹ .
CDR	Construction, demolition, and renovation waste
CPPP	Curbside Printed and Paper Packaging
Disposal	Landfilling
Diversión	Activities that divert waste materials away from landfill disposal to alternatives such as recycling or composting.
DPPP	Depot Printed and Paper Packaging
EPR	Extended producer responsibility
Generation	The sum of all materials discarded that require management as solid waste, including garbage, recycling, and organic waste.
GHG	Greenhouse gas
HHW	Household hazardous waste
ICI	Industrial, commercial, and institutional
LFG	Landfill gas
MOE	BC Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy
MSW	Municipal solid waste
OMRR	Organic Matter Recycling Regulation
PPP	Residential packaging and printed paper
PMAC	Plan Monitoring Advisory Committee
PTAC	Public and Technical Advisory Committee
Residual Waste	The portion of the solid waste stream not managed through recycling, composting or recovery activities. It is commonly referred to as “garbage” or MSW. Residual waste typically requires disposal at a landfill.
sNGD	shíshálh Nation Government District

¹ From the Ellen MacArthur Foundation. More information via URL: <https://www.ellenmacarthurfoundation.org/circular-economy>

Acronym	Meaning
SWMP	Solid Waste Management Plan, also referred to as “the Plan”
TS	Transfer Station
WRIP	Waste Reduction Initiative Program
5R	5R pollution prevention hierarchy (or simply waste hierarchy): reduce and reuse, recycle, energy recovery and residual waste management

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

All regional districts in BC are required to have a solid waste management plan (SWMP, or the Plan), which describes how a region will manage garbage, recycling, and organic waste programs and services for a ten-year period. The Sunshine Coast Regional District (SCRD) last updated its SWMP in 2011 and the majority of the 24 initiatives outlined in the 2011 Plan have either been fully implemented (14 initiatives) or partially implemented (six initiatives).

The SCRD is now due to update its SWMP; a process that follows steps described by the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy (the MOE).

This report forms the basis for setting the Plan direction. It provides an overview of the region's current waste management system, summarizes how the actions of the 2011 Plan have been implemented, and identifies emerging issues and opportunities to consider during the Plan update.

The Public Technical Advisory Committee (PTAC) will have the opportunity to provide feedback on the report at a meeting on April 25, 2023. During this meeting, committee members will be asked to help establish guiding principles, goals, and targets, as well as complete the list of issues and opportunities to be explored in more detail as part of options evaluation. Through a series of meetings during 2023 and 2024, the PTAC will help to identify the most suitable options (preferred options), which will form the basis of a draft SWMP. Updating the Plan provides an opportunity to expand the region's goals, revisit priorities, and ensure the Plan reflects the whole region.

Solid Waste

As per the BC Environmental Management Act, municipal solid waste covers garbage, recycling, organic waste, as well as construction, demolition, and renovation waste.

It does not include agricultural, industrial, forestry, biosolids, liquid, or hazardous waste.

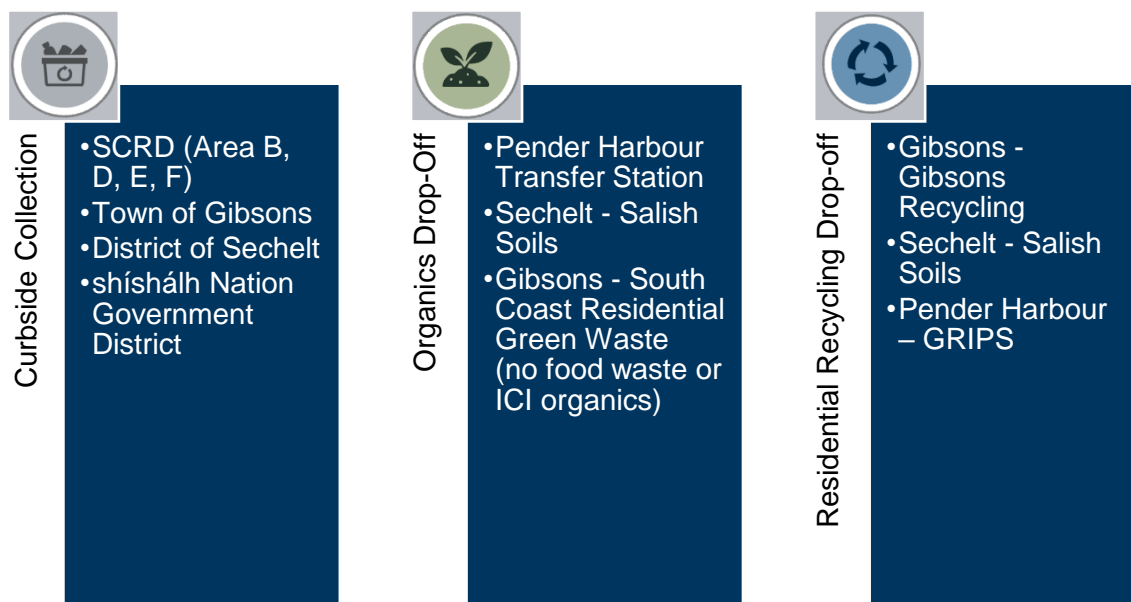
How is Solid Waste Managed Currently on the Sunshine Coast?

The regional district has a population of approximately 30,000 people and includes three member municipalities (District of Sechelt, shíshálh Nation Government District and the Town of Gibsons) and five electoral areas.

The SCRD and each member municipality have important roles in providing education and outreach relating to the region's waste prevention, recycling, and disposal services.

Many community programs are in place to support waste reduction and diversion, such as the Composter Rebate Program, the Islands Clean-Up Program, the Waste Reduction Initiatives Program, the Backroad Trash Bash, Good Samaritan Program, and more.

The solid waste management system is described in this report. The following is an overview of services relating to curbside collection, organics and residential recycling drop-off.



There is only one operational landfill for garbage disposal: the Sechelt Landfill. This facility accepts some recyclables and waste for landfill disposal. The Pender Harbour Transfer Station accepts waste for transfer to the Sechelt Landfill.

The landfill is expected to reach capacity by mid-2025. In 2022, SCR D requested provincial approval to amend the 2011 Plan to add the option to export waste off the Sunshine Coast. SCR D staff are working on options to extend the landfill life and develop new future waste disposal options.

How is the Region Performing?

Approximately half of the region's population lives between Gibsons and Sechelt, and most residents live in proximity to the highway corridor that runs between Port Mellon and Earls Cove. A large portion of residents are active users of the three SCR D-operated recycling depots in Gibsons, Sechelt, and Pender Harbour. Thanks to good access to these depots along the highway corridor, the SCR D is generally seeing high waste diversion rates.

Performance Metrics

The SCRD diversion rate has increased from 51% in 2011 to 57% in 2021.

The SCRD's 2022 disposal rate of 379 kg/capita is lower than many of the neighbouring regional districts and well below the BC-average (499 kg/capita in 2020).

Two waste composition studies have been completed since adoption of the 2011 Plan: one in 2014/15 and recently in 2022. The 2022 waste composition study showed that the overall landfill waste stream contained 23% organics, 11% curbside recyclables, 11% depot recyclables, and 1% other recyclable material covered by extended producer responsibility (EPR) programs.

Even though diversion and recycling programs are available for organics, curbside recyclables, depot recyclables and other EPR materials, more can be done to reduce the amount of waste currently being landfilled.

Identified Issues and Opportunities

MH has identified the following emerging issues and opportunities that may be considered when updating the SWMP. These are listed in the table below. Each of the listed issues and opportunities are described in more detail in this report. The list will be finalized based on PTAC feedback.

Table: Issues and Opportunities

Topic	Issues and Opportunities
Waste Prevention & Diversion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited curbside recycling collection in some areas Requirements for ICI waste diversion Improved bylaw enforcement Action to prevent plastics Opportunity for local recyclers More provincial product stewardship programs Explore alternative recycling options for landfilled waste
Residual Waste Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Siting of a potential new landfill Rising cost of landfill operations – system funding
CDR Sector & Non-Sector-Specific	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Diversion of CDR wastes Illegal dumping and marine debris Invasive species management

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APPENDIX A – SCRD's 2011 SWMP IMPLEMENTATION STATUS

1. BACKGROUND

Under the *BC Environmental Management Act*, regional districts are required to have a solid waste management plan (SWMP or simply Plan). The Plan describes how a region will manage garbage, recycling, organic waste programs and services for a ten-year period, while identifying long-term issues that need to be addressed.

The Sunshine Coast Regional District (SCRD) first developed a SWMP in 1995, which was updated in 2005 and again in 2011 after significant consultation with numerous stakeholders. The 2011 Plan, currently being updated, had zero waste as a central focus, with emphasis on the waste hierarchy and an aggressive annual disposal target of 315 to 279 kg per capita after five years of implementation. The SCRD's disposal rate in 2022 was 379 kg per capita.

The Sechelt Landfill, the primary waste disposal option approved in the 2011 SWMP, is expected to reach capacity by mid-2025.

The SCRD initiated a two-phase process in 2021 to amend and update its SWMP. The first phase involved a Plan amendment process with the purpose of adding the option to temporarily export waste outside the region for disposal. Engagement on the amendment ended on December 3, 2021, and the Plan amendment was finalized and submitted to the BC Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy (MOE) for approval in May 2022. The SWMP amendment was approved in March 2023 with the requirement that the SCRD will have an updated Stage 2 draft SWMP submitted to the MOE by January 31, 2025. The second stage of the process involves the review and update of the current SWMP.

Plan Review & Update Process

The Plan update follows the four-step process outlined in "A Guide to Solid Waste Management Planning" (the Guide), published by the MOE in 2016.

The SCRD initiated the planning process in early 2022 and issued a Request for Proposal in April 2022 for consulting services for the planning process. The SCRD commissioned Morrison Hershfield (MH) to review the current Plan and support the development of an updated SWMP to provide the direction for solid waste management for the next decade.

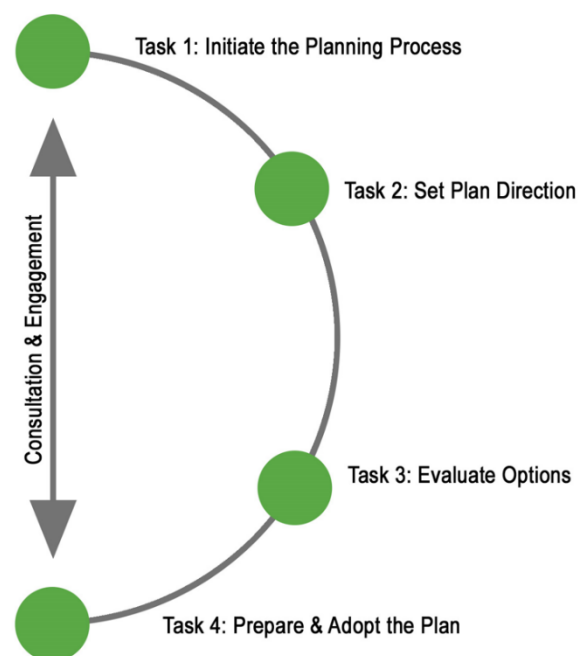


Figure 1: MOE Planning Steps

The purpose of this report is to review the region's current waste management system, confirm how the actions of the 2011 Zero Waste Plan have been implemented, and identify gaps, emerging issues, and opportunities to be considered during the Plan update. This report is based on a background information review and interviews with SCRD staff about current waste management facilities and services offered, disposal and diversion performance, and key challenges. This report will provide a baseline for the SWMP update.

The report identifies strengths and challenges with the existing system and identifies emerging issues and opportunities that should be considered in the development of an updated Plan. The report will be made available to the Public Technical Advisory Committee (PTAC) members so they can understand current waste practices in the SCRD. This report will also provide background needed to set the Plan direction, including establishing guiding principles, goals and targets that will support waste management decisions now and into the future. Through a series of meetings, PTAC will help to identify the most suitable options (preferred options) which will form the basis of the draft SWMP.

A proposed Communication and Engagement Plan has been developed as a separate document that outlines the methodology for ensuring adequate consultation with the public, Indigenous communities, a range of interested parties and affected stakeholders.

1.1 Plan Area

The Sunshine Coast Regional District (SCRD) is in the southwest of mainland British Columbia within the traditional territories of shíshálh Nation and Sk̓wx̓wú7mesh Úxwumixw. The SCRD has a total area of approximately 3,778 square kilometers that stretches 180 km along the shoreline from Howe Sound to Desolation Sound. It borders the qathet Regional District to the north, the Squamish-Lillooet Regional District to the east, and, across Howe Sound, the Metro Vancouver District to the south.

The regional district includes three member municipalities and five electoral areas (as illustrated in Figure 2):

- District of Sechelt
- shíshálh Nation Government District (sNGD)
- Town of Gibsons
- Egmont/Pender Harbour (Area A)
- Halfmoon Bay (Area B)
- Roberts Creek (Area D)
- Elphinstone (Area E)
- West Howe Sound (Area F)

The inland area of the SCRD consists of the Coast Mountains and, therefore, the population is concentrated along the coast. There is a peninsula separated from the inland area, midway up

the coast, starting from the town of Sechelt. The regional district is only accessible by boat or plane as there is no road network to connect it with the rest of the province.



Figure 2: Map of Member Municipalities and Electoral Areas within the SCRD

1.2 Population & Growth Estimates

The regional population was estimated to be 32,191 in 2021². Municipalities and sNGD account for approximately 51% of the population and the remaining 49% reside in the electoral areas. The table below provides a break-down of the region's population. Approximately half of the region's population lives between Gibsons and Sechelt, and most residents live in proximity to the highway corridor that runs between Port Mellon and Earls Cove.

Table 1: Populated Areas within the Region (per 2021 Census)

Area	2021 Population	% of Total SCRD Population
District of Sechelt	10,847	34%
shíshálh Nation Government District	765	2%
Town of Gibsons	4,758	15%
Egmont/Pender Harbour, Area A	3,039	9%
Halfmoon Bay, Area B	2,969	9%
Roberts Creek, Area D	3,523	11%
Elphinstone, Area E	3,883	12%
West Howe Sound, Area F	2,407	7%
Totals	32,191	100%

The SCRD's population increased by 7.3% between 2016 and 2021. The regional population is projected to increase to 39,454 by 2041, growing at an average rate of about 1.13% per year³. The SCRD has been assessing major capital improvements to address regional water supply needs and assumes 2% annual population growth for water demand projections.

The regional population density is 8.5 people per square kilometer, based on the 2021 census data. In 2021, the Region had 14,935 private dwellings occupied by permanent residents, with an average of 2.1 people per household⁴.

Regional population growth and seasonal population changes (i.e., influx of tourists during the summer months) can influence the amount of waste and recyclables managed and disposed of in the region.

² [Profile table, Census Profile, 2021 Census of Population - Sunshine Coast, Regional district \(RD\) \[Census division\], British Columbia \(statcan.gc.ca\)](#)

³ [BC Population Estimates & Projections produced by BC Stats](#)

⁴ [Profile table, Census Profile, 2021 Census of Population - Sunshine Coast B, Regional district electoral area \(RDA\) \[Census subdivision\], British Columbia](#)

2. ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

This section describes the roles and responsibilities of the SCRD, member municipalities and other stakeholders as they relate to the region's waste management system. The roles are summarized in Table 2.

The SCRD is governed by a Board of Directors of elected officials from each member jurisdiction. The SCRD owns some of the waste management facilities within its boundaries. Each of the member municipalities and sNGD are generally responsible for waste collection. The SCRD provides curbside collection within defined areas of Areas B, D, E and F. The SCRD is responsible for transfer, processing and/or disposal of the collected waste. Public education and outreach material and programs are provided by the SCRD and shared with different stakeholders. Some municipalities have developed their own material and information for their curbside collection programs.

Private industry plays an integral part in the solid waste management system in the region. Private industry provides contracted waste collection services to the SCRD, municipalities, sNGD, commercial businesses, and some residential customers. Private businesses operate recycling depots under contract to product stewardship agencies responsible for managing provincially regulated Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) programs. Local non-profit organizations support reuse and contribute to waste reduction by keeping usable goods and materials out of the disposal stream.

The table below provides an overview of the identified stakeholders and their role in managing solid waste and recyclables in the region.

Table 2: Identified Stakeholder and their Roles in Managing Waste and Recyclables in the SCRD

Stakeholder/System User	Role Description
Federal Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Regulate waste management facilities under federal jurisdiction
Provincial Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The MOE has regulatory authority related to waste management.Approves solid waste management plans.Authorizes landfill development, operations, closure, environmental monitoring.Mandates EPR through the Recycling Regulation.Establishes provincial waste related targets.

Stakeholder/System User	Role Description
SCRD Administration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develops solid waste management plan for the region. Develops bylaws, policies and plans within the framework established by the provincial government. Implements plan to meet goals and set targets. Provides solid waste services to residents and businesses, including collection, transfer and disposal. Operates and maintain Sechelt Landfill and Pender Harbour Transfer Station. Coordinates solid waste services and the collaboration between the SCRD and various stakeholders. Supports the 5R principal through system design, operations, community outreach, and management. Collaborates with product stewardship programs in the region, either directly or indirectly. Chairs solid waste planning committees. Collaborates with private solid waste management industry and supports non-profit organizations. Provides cost effective solutions to residents and businesses.
Member Municipalities and shíshálh Nation Government District	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides or contract curbside collection services. Promotes waste diversion and the 5R principal. Collaborates with and provides input to the SCRD. Participates in solid waste planning committees. Develops specific solid waste management strategies and applicable bylaws.
Electoral Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collaborate with and provide input to the SCRD. Participate in solid waste planning committees.
Product Stewardship Agencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide reasonable and accessible collection services and facilities. Provide and fund education and marketing. Track and report on collection data. Collect and process some products.
Private Sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide solid waste management services. Apply the 5R principal in its operations.
Non-Profit Organizations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accept reusable goods and materials and support reuse in the region. Apply the 5R principal in its operations.
Neighbouring Regional Districts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is currently no or limited collaboration between the SCRD and neighbouring regional districts.
Residents & Businesses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apply the 5R principal, including waste reduction and reuse. Responsibly use provided solid waste management services and facilities.

3. WASTE MANAGEMENT NETWORK OVERVIEW

The following section describes the waste management network with available services relating to waste prevention; recycling and disposal education; key waste reduction and recycling initiatives; and available facilities for recycling, other diversion, and waste disposal. The system is described following the pollution prevention hierarchy (Figure 3), which is often referred to as the waste hierarchy. All waste hierarchy levels are covered except recovery as there are no current energy recovery initiatives in the region.

This section also includes an overview of solid waste bylaws in place across the region, strategies for addressing illegal dumping and emergency debris management, and how the waste management system is financed. The information reflects the waste management system as of March 2023.



Figure 3: Pollution Prevention Hierarchy

3.1 Solid Waste Management System Facilities

Both regional and private facilities play an essential role in SCRD's solid waste management system. A summary of these facilities is provided in Table 3. Figure 4 shows the location of these facilities within the SCRD.

Table 3: SCRD Solid Waste Management System Facilities

SCRD's Solid Waste Management System Facilities	SCRD Owned Facility	Landfill	Garbage Drop off	Residential Recycling Depot (RecycleBC)	Organics Drop-off ⁵	Organics Processing Facility	Other Recycling Options (Product Stewardship Agencies)
Sechelt Landfill							
Pender Harbour Transfer Station							
Gibsons Recycling Depot							
Salish Soils Depot (Sechelt)							
GRIPS (Pender Harbour)							
South Coast Residential Green Waste Drop-off Depot (Gibsons)							
Sechelt Return-It Depot							
Gibsons Bottle Depot							

⁵ Organics, also referred to as organic waste, include food and/or yard waste. Yard waste may also be referred to as green waste.



Figure 4: Facilities Providing Solid Waste Services in the Region

3.2 Education & Promotion

3.2.1 Communications Tools

The SCRD, each member municipality and the shíshálh Nation Government District provide waste education and outreach programs mainly through their website.

The SCRD's website offers a range of information available for users to learn more about food waste prevention, curbside collection, recycling, and construction, demolition, and renovation (CDR) waste. Users accessing the website are provided simple, everyday actions that residents and businesses can take to help reduce waste. The SCRD website has frequently asked questions with answers, and promotion of waste reduction best practices.

Each member municipality and the shíshálh Nation Government District also provide information about the local collection and self-haul options for waste materials on their websites.

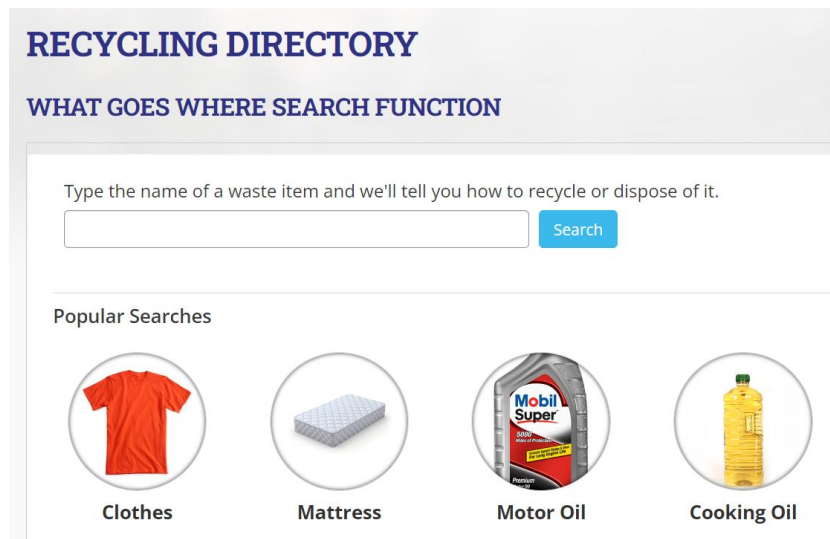
In addition to the websites, the following communication tools are currently used by the SCRD, sNGD, or municipalities:

- **Social Media Platforms:** Such as Facebook for updates on food waste and waste reduction tips, etc.

- **Radio Advertisements:** For specific events such as cleanup events, consultation opportunities, etc.
- **Newspaper Advertisements**
- **Engagement Platform:** “Let’s Talk SCRD” webpage, highlighting current projects.
- **Newsletters:** For example, **SCRD’s** monthly “Coast Current” newsletter.
- **Video Messaging:** Via YouTube and social media.
- **Brochures:** Distributed at transfer station and landfill.

3.2.2 SCRD’s Information Services

The SCRD provides information to the public on where to reuse, recycle or dispose of common waste materials/products through the SCRD website with the “What Goes Where” search function which is provided by ReCollect (Figure 5).



The screenshot displays the 'RECYCLING DIRECTORY' section of the SCRD website. Below the title is the 'WHAT GOES WHERE SEARCH FUNCTION'. It features a text input field with the placeholder text 'Type the name of a waste item and we'll tell you how to recycle or dispose of it.' and a blue 'Search' button. Below the search function, there is a 'Popular Searches' section with four circular icons representing different waste items: a red t-shirt for 'Clothes', a mattress for 'Mattress', a Mobil Super motor oil can for 'Motor Oil', and a yellow cooking oil bottle for 'Cooking Oil'.

Figure 5: The SCRD Recycling Directory Website

The SCRD provides users details on accessing the BC Recycling Hotline and visiting the online BC Recyclepedia for determining locations where items can be recycled on the Sunshine Coast or elsewhere in BC. Information is also provided about recycling depot locations, facility locations, operating hours, and tipping fees.

SCRD Collects, Gibsons Waste Collection, and the Sechelt Citizen App are apps available to cell phone users that provide access to recycling directories and curbside collection schedules. Users can receive updated collection schedules and set reminders for upcoming collections.

3.3 Reduction Initiatives

Waste prevention is the most effective way to reduce garbage and is at the top of the waste hierarchy as ‘reduce’ and ‘reuse’.

Waste reduction is encouraged by the member municipalities. Waste reduction is a central focus in the SCRD's messaging and the fact that the local landfill will run out of space by 2025 is emphasized.

Information is provided for residents "At Home" related to waste reduction and recycling relevant to different electoral areas and member municipalities. Food waste and seasonal waste reduction best practices are updated by the SCRD throughout the year for residents to learn new ways to reduce waste in everyday activities.

Where appropriate, information is provided for use "At Work" related to food services, general businesses, and institutions. Current information is focused on the new disposal regulations that mean food waste, food soiled paper and paper are no longer disposable as garbage.

WRIP Criteria and Guidelines

Projects must demonstrate how they address one or more of the following categories:

- Community reuse and repair
Composting and/or food waste reduction
- CDR waste reduction, reuse, and recycling
- Green waste reduction
- Organizational recycling and waste reduction

The "Waste Reduction Initiative Program" (WRIP) is offered by the SCRD to fund community groups, non-profit societies, registered charitable organizations and school groups for projects that contribute to waste reduction or that divert materials from the landfill. The WRIP funding is currently sourced from taxation although was established initially through eco fees⁶. In 2022, the maximum funding available for projects through the WRIP program is \$7,500 per project.

For projects to receive WRIP funding, they should serve one or more communities within the SCRD boundaries with the purpose of reducing and/or diverting waste from the landfill.

3.3.1 Reuse Initiatives

The Reuse Directory on the SCRD website provides information about a wide range of reuse options. The site highlights options for reusing unwanted goods (e.g., local thrift, consignment, antique shops, and flea markets), sharing of resources (e.g., renting, online sharing), repairing, and refilling containers, such as "bring your own mug" at a café or a growler at a brewery.

3.4 Recycling & Diversion Initiatives

Recycling and organics diversion (composting) are in the middle of the waste hierarchy under the 3rd R as 'recycle'. Management of wastes under the 3rd R is preferred over the 4th and 5th R's.

⁶ The Eco-Fee Reserve provides funding based on charging \$5 per tonne of the MSW tipping fees, as per resolution 440/11 adopted by the Board. The annual contributions to the reserve vary based on the MSW tonnages.

Recycling facilities and diversion services are provided to residents and businesses across the region. The recycling services available in the region include:

- Residential curbside collection programs provided by the District of Sechelt and shíshálh Nation Government District.
- Residential recycling drop-off at recycling depots.
- Recycling of ICI and non-EPR products (refer to section below) at the Pender Harbour Transfer Station.
- Subscription-based recycling collection by private companies offered to both residential and commercial customers not serviced by local governments.

This section below describes these recycling services and summarizes diversion efforts that target organic and CDR waste.

3.4.1 Extended Producer Responsibility

Since 2004, BC has regulated many products through Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) under the Recycling Regulation. EPR requires producers (manufacturers, distributors, and retailers) of designated products to take responsibility for the life cycle of their products, including collection and recycling. The Recycling Regulation aims to shift the responsibility from local and Indigenous governments, and taxpayers to the producers and consumers of products.

The SCRCD has partnerships with many stewardship organizations, including:

- Recycle BC registered depots for residential packaging and paper products (PPP) collection.
- Major Appliance Recycling Roundtable for major appliance recycling since 2022.
- Call2Recycle for household batteries.
- Product Care for paint and household hazardous waste (HHW).
- Tire Stewardship for tire recycling.

There are three registered Recycle BC depots, which accept residential PPP, located in Gibsons, Pender Harbour (Area A) and Sechelt. Residents in areas where curbside collection is not offered can self-haul to a Recycle BC drop-off location. Recycle BC collects material from these registered depots and does not service the remaining electoral areas.

The District of Sechelt and shíshálh Nation Government District have their own agreement with Recycle BC for curbside collection of recyclables.

Other stewardship organizations have a presence in the region mostly through partnerships with privately owned depots, examples include Return-It, Electronic Products Recycling Association (EPRA)/ Canadian Electrical Stewardship Association (CESA), BC Used Oil Management Association (BCUOMA), Product Care for Paint, Lights and HHW, Smoke Alarms, Thermostats, Call2Recycle.

3.4.2 Organics Reduction & Diversion

The SCRD adopted the Regional Organics Diversion Strategy in January 2018. The goal of the Strategy is to develop a financially sustainable roadmap that will lead to a robust, region-wide organics diversion program. It was developed with input from key stakeholders including waste collectors, organics processors and residents.

The diversion and processing of organic municipal waste materials, such as food and yard waste, through composting has been a growing focus throughout Canada and BC. Limited landfill space, challenges in developing new landfill capacity and, more recently, national, and regional goals to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions have all contributed to the adoption of policies and programs that have increased organic waste diversion⁷.

A new SCRD Disposal Regulation took effect on October 1, 2022. The regulation bans food waste, food soiled paper and paper from disposal. The SCRD provided education and outreach to inform the public about the new Disposal Regulation during Spring and Summer 2022.

Organic Waste Reduction Initiatives

The SCRD promotes food waste reduction initiatives through a series of awareness programs, such as “Waste Less with Kids”, “Love Food Hate Waste”, and “Just Eat It” film (Figure 6). The “Waste Less with Kids” and “Love Food Hate Waste” websites highlight best practices for caregivers to teach the younger generations how to avoid food waste and increase the shelf life of food products by sharing storage tips and much more. The “Just Eat It” film is also creates awareness about food waste reduction.



Figure 6: Love Food Hate Waste Campaign (Example)

In 2021, the SCRD initiated a “Home Composter Rebate Program” as part of the “Composting on the Coast Community Program”. This program allows homeowners in the SCRD to apply for a rebate (to use on residential property) of up to \$100 (from May 1 to September 1 or until the funding is exhausted) to compost their food and yard waste at home⁸. Compost users are

⁷ The State of Practice of Organic Waste Management and Collection in Canada State of the Art report, Environmental Research and Education Foundation of Canada (EREF-Canada) (2021) accessible via URL: <https://www.waste.ccacoalition.org/document/state-practice-organic-waste-management-and-collection-canada>

⁸ www.scrd.ca/composter-rebate

encouraged to use the curbside collection service or depot locations to manage any type of organic waste that attracts wildlife.

Organics Curbside Collection

District of Sechelt started a food waste collection pilot in Davis Bay in 2015. In response to the 2018 Organics Diversion Strategy, a food waste collection pilot was initiated in the Town of Gibsons in 2018. The District of Sechelt expanded food waste and yard waste collection to all its residents in early 2022. The sNGD started food waste collection the same year.

The SCRD expanded its curbside collection services to include food waste in 2020. The introduction of food waste collection reduced the need for weekly garbage collection. Garbage is now collected bi-weekly whereas food waste is collected weekly. The Town of Gibsons had its first full year of providing a food waste collection service in 2019.

Organics Processing Facilities

Salish Soils operates a covered aerated static pile compost facility. They are using a GORE Cover System to produce two types of Class A compost under the Organic Matter Recycling Regulation (OMRR). The facility is currently processing organics waste from curbside collection programs within the regional district, various commercial customers, and yard waste depots. The food waste compost is sold as natural compost and used to create Premium Garden blend⁹.

3.4.3 Curbside Collection Services Overview

Collection service levels for recyclables, food and yard waste vary depending on service area. An overview of the curbside collection services offered to residents in each member municipality and electoral area is shown in Table 4. Although section 3.4 is focused on recycling and diversion, the table also includes garbage collection. Residual waste management (including garbage collection services) is described further in section 3.5.

Table 4: Overview of Curbside Collection Services on the Sunshine Coast

Service Area	Total Household (Census 2021)	Service Provider	Recycling	Organics		Garbage
				Yard Waste	Food Waste	
District of Sechelt	5,738	District of Sechelt	Bi-weekly	Weekly	Weekly	Bi-weekly
shíshálh Nation Government District	377	sNGD	Bi-weekly	Weekly	Weekly	Bi-weekly
Town of Gibsons	2,482	Town of Gibsons	None	None	Weekly	Bi-weekly

⁹ [Food Waste - Salish Soils \(salishenvironmentalgroup.com\)](https://salishenvironmentalgroup.com/)

Service Area	Total Household (Census 2021)	Service Provider	Recycling	Organics		Garbage
				Yard Waste	Food Waste	
Area A	2,508	Some residents have a private arrangement with privately owned business.				
Area B	1,859	SCRD	None	None	Weekly	Bi-weekly
Area D	1,796	SCRD	None	None	Weekly	Bi-weekly
Area E	1,763	SCRD	None	None	Weekly	Bi-weekly
Area F	1,476	SCRD	None	None	Weekly	Bi-weekly

All municipalities provide garbage collection services to single-family households, townhouses, and duplexes. Multi-family apartment complexes must use private contractors for collection services.

The District of Sechelt and sNGD also provide curbside recycling collection. Curbside recycling collection is not provided in the Town of Gibsons or by the SCRd in the electoral areas. Residents are instead encouraged to drop-off recycling at one of three recycling depots located in Gibsons, Pender Harbour and Sechelt (refer to section 3.4.4).

The SCRd provides curbside collection of organics and garbage to all communities except for Area A. Residents in Pender Harbour and Egmont (Area A residents) can drop off garbage and, starting in November 2022, food waste at the Pender Harbour Transfer Station.

3.4.4 Recycling and Diversion Services at Depots and SCRd Facilities

The SCRd has three registered Recycle BC depots where residential PPP (refer to section 3.4.1) is accepted. These depots are located at the Gibsons Recycling Depot, GRIPS (Green Recycling in Pender Society) and Salish Soils in Sechelt (Figure 7). The SCRd contracts out recycling depot operation to third-party contractors at these depot locations. The ICI sector waste generators are responsible for maintaining compliance with the disposal regulations, which means the use of a Recycle BC residential depot is not allowed.

The SCRd offers recycling and diversion services at the Sechelt Landfill and the Pender Harbour Transfer Station. These two facilities accept a range of materials, such as some materials covered by EPR programs, certain CDR wastes and municipal solid waste.



Figure 7: Recycling Depot at Salish Soils in Sechelt.

Residential green (yard) waste can be dropped off at three locations: the South Coast Green Waste Drop-off Depot in Gibsons (Figure 8), Salish Soils in Sechelt and the Pender Harbour Transfer Station.



Figure 8: Green Waste Bays at South Coast Green Waste Drop-Off Depot in Gibsons

Table 5 provides an overview of materials accepted for recycling or recovery at different waste management facilities in the region. EPR products such as oil, oil filter and antifreeze, lead acid batteries and medication are accepted at private collection locations including retailers.

Table 5: Materials Accepted for Recycling or Recovery at Facilities in the Region

Facility	Electronics	Small Appliances	Beverage Deposit Containers	Lights and lighting fixtures	Smoke & CO Alarms	HHW ⁴	Household Batteries	MARR Appliances	Outdoor Power Equipment	Tires	PPP ¹	Used Books	Drywall ²	Scrap Metal	Mattresses	Propane Tanks	Yard & Garden Waste	Food Waste	Textiles/ Used Clothing	Dock Styrofoam
Sechelt Landfill						X	X	X		X			X	X	X	X			X	X
Pender Harbour Transfer Station							X	X		X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Gibsons Recycling Depot	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X							X	
Salish Soils Depot (Sechelt)	X	X		X			X		X		X						X	X		
GRIPS (Pender Harbour)	X	X	X	X		X (Paint)	X		X		X									
South Coast Residential Green Waste Drop-off Depot (Gibsons)																	X			
Sechelt Return-It Depot ³			X																	
Gibsons Bottle Depot ³			X																	
Return to retailer										X										
Private reuse businesses exist	X	X		X				X				X							X	

Explanatory Notes:

Materials covered by EPR programs are shown in green.

¹ PPP means residential packaging and paper products.

² The SCRD only accepts drywall for recycling that is clean, unused, or tested with negative results for asbestos.

³ Private Return-It depots for beverage deposit containers.

⁴ Household hazardous waste includes household paint, aerosol paint, flammable liquids, pesticides.



3.4.5 Construction, Demolition & Land-clearing Waste

Clean wood waste from the CDR projects that complies with landfill regulations is accepted at Salish Soils in Sechelt and at Pender Harbor Transfer Station. Land clearing debris is not accepted at other SCRD facilities.

Clean wood waste is chipped at Salish Soils and sent to the cogeneration facility at Howe Sound Pulp and Paper Ltd. Contaminated wood waste is chipped and used at the landfill for road base and cover material. Woodchips that are used on site are not included in SCRD diversion calculations.

Land-clearing waste often remains on the property of origin. The SCRD is encouraging residents to self-haul land-clearing materials to suitable facilities to discourage open burning of debris, which causes air pollution.

The SCRD promotes deconstruction and recycling of valuable material through a dedicated website¹⁰ that shares information on the Sunshine Coast Builder's Association, Metro Vancouver's Deconstruction and Demolition Toolkit, the Salvage Market, and Living Building Challenge (LBC) Red List for construction industry. In addition, the SCRD currently provides a gypsum recycling program at the Pender Harbour Transfer Station and the Sechelt Landfill. Gypsum (not containing asbestos) is collected from both sites and transported into the Vancouver area for recycling. Transportation and recycling are provided via contracted services.

Other CDR waste materials accepted at SCRD facilities are listed in Table 6.

Table 6: CDR Waste Materials Accepted SCRD Facilities

Controlled Waste	Facility	Tipping Fee
Clean Wood	Sechelt Salish Soils Depot Pender Harbour Transfer Station	\$170 per tonne
Treated Wood Waste (Except Creosote Wood)	Sechelt Salish Soils Depot Pender Harbour Transfer Station	\$265 per tonne
Dirt & Rocks	Sechelt Landfill Pender Harbour Transfer Station	\$105 per tonne
Roofing	Sechelt Landfill Pender Harbour Transfer Station	\$190 per tonne
Gypsum (Clean, Unused or Asbestos Free Gypsum/Drywall)	Sechelt Landfill Pender Harbour Transfer Station	\$1,000 per tonne
Asphalt, Concrete	Sechelt Landfill Pender Harbour Transfer Station	\$275 per tonne
Asbestos, Asbestos Cement	Sechelt Landfill	\$275 per tonne

Explanatory Notes:

Controlled waste - municipal solid waste requiring special handling at the landfill site.

¹⁰ <https://www.scrd.ca/construction-and-recycling>

3.5 Residual Management

The last level of the waste hierarchy is residual waste management, the least preferred method for managing wastes. This section describes how the remaining waste materials (garbage destined for landfill) is managed.

3.5.1 Residential Garbage Collection

Table 7 provides a breakdown of curbside garbage collection services for residents on the Sunshine Coast. Refer to section 3.4.3 for additional information about the curbside collection services in the regional district.

Table 7: Garbage Collection Services Provided in the SCRD

Service Area	Service Provider	Garbage
District of Sechelt	District of Sechelt	Bi-weekly
shíshálh Nation Government District	sNGD	Bi-weekly
Town of Gibsons	Town of Gibsons	Bi-weekly
Area A	N/A	-
Area B	SCRD	Bi-weekly
Area D	SCRD	Bi-weekly
Area E	SCRD	Bi-weekly
Area F	SCRD	Bi-weekly

3.5.2 Commercial Sector Garbage Collection

Commercial sector garbage collection is offered by local private companies offering bin rental and collection. Waste from the commercial sector makes up approximately half of the waste landfilled at Sechelt Landfill.

3.5.3 Drop-Off Services for Garbage

The SCRD currently operates the Sechelt Landfill and Pender Harbour Transfer Station where residual waste is accepted. Residual waste accepted at the Pender Harbour Transfer Station is transferred to the Sechelt Landfill for final disposal.

Residential and small commercial sector customers can self-haul and drop off garbage into roll-off bins at the Pender Harbour Transfer Station or at the Sechelt Landfill. There is a commercial tipping pad at the Pender Harbour Transfer Station for larger commercial loads. Larger ICI loads are directed to the active face at the Sechelt Landfill.

The SCRD provides an Islands Clean Up program for island residents, including islands within Areas A, B, and F: Gambier (and surrounding area) and Keats (and surrounding area, Nelson, Thormanby and Trail). The program is scheduled during summer months, between July to August.

The Islands Clean Up program involves providing waste collection service to residents. Each year, garbage, scrap metal, and cardboard are accepted. Special waste items (e.g., fridges, freezers, mattresses, paint, propane tanks, tires, and lead acid batteries) are accepted on a rotating two-year basis. A contractor is responsible for providing containers and hauling services via barge.

3.5.4 Operational Waste Disposal Facilities

There is one operational disposal facility in the SCRD: the Sechelt Landfill. The landfill is located northeast of the District of Sechelt and is operated under the Operational Certificate No. 106060 (the OC) issued by the MOE on July 8, 2014. Residential and commercial waste from the District of Sechelt, Town of Gibsons, shíshálh Nation Government District, and Areas A, B, D, E, and F is accepted for disposal at the landfill. Waste is also transferred to this facility from the Pender Harbour Transfer Station.

The landfill is expected to reach capacity in mid-2025 and the SCRD started to investigate disposal options in 2021. Four future disposal options were identified and assessed:

- Siting and construction of new landfill
- Siting and construction of new transfer station – waste export
- Siting and construction of waste-to-energy facility
- Expansion of Sechelt Landfill

The disposal study, authored by Tetra Tech, identified four potential disposal sites, with three located in Halfmoon Bay. The SCRD is revisiting the study findings and investigating other future disposal options.

In September 2022, the SCRD engaged XCG to assess options and provide recommendations for the relocation of the existing surface water contact pond within the landfill site to provide additional landfill operating capacity. The pond relocation has the potential to extend the landfill operating life by up to three years.

The Design, Operating and Closure Plan for the Sechelt Landfill requires that the landfill is closed progressively. A biocover feasibility pilot study is currently taking place at the Sechelt Landfill. The SCRD has identified a biocover as a potential final cover for the Sechelt Landfill when it closes in mid-2025. A biocover is a type of final cover system designed to oxidize methane emissions and reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. A feasibility study was undertaken in 2020 which concluded that a biocover would provide economic benefits to the SCRD and provide significant GHG emission reductions.

3.5.5 Closed Waste Disposal Sites

There are three landfills in the region that have been permanently closed. The following closed waste disposal sites are known to the SCRD:

Pender Harbour Landfill: The Pender Harbour Landfill was a “natural control landfill” historically used for the disposal of non-hazardous municipal solid waste (MSW) since the 1960s. Landfilling operations ceased at the site on July 20, 2015, and the closure works was completed the same year. The Pender Harbour Transfer Station is located at the site of the closed landfill.

The Pender Harbour Landfill is required to have the environmental monitoring plan continue. The annual environmental monitoring program results from 2016 – 2021 indicate that the site is in compliance with applicable criteria.

Halfmoon Bay Landfill: The disposal of domestic waste at Halfmoon Bay landfill was discontinued in 1983 and the landfill was permanently closed in 1987/1988. A Landfill Closure Plan was developed for this closed landfill¹¹.

The post-closure monitoring program for the Halfmoon Bay Landfill only includes annual visual inspections of the landfill site and surrounding area. Therefore, SCRD does not perform routine groundwater monitoring at the closed Halfmoon Bay Landfill.

Gibsons Landfill: The Gibsons Landfill began operations in the early 1970s and was used for the disposal of MSW from Areas D, E and F, and the Town of Gibsons. The landfill went through several changes, such as the discontinuation of burning waste in 1980. Disposal of only stumps / non-putrescibles waste and seasonal operation occurred between 1980 and 1986, before it was permanently closed in 1986. A Landfill Closure Plan was developed for this closed landfill.

Groundwater monitoring was undertaken at the Gibsons Landfill until 2020. The annual groundwater monitoring report authored by XCG in 2021 recommended that the SCRD discontinue the site’s on-going bi-annual sampling of surface water diversion ditch and unnamed drainage. The 2020 monitoring results have remained consistent with historic concentrations, and as such, the surface water sampling can be discontinued. The environmental monitoring program going forward will only include annual inspections of the closure and surrounding site.¹²

3.6 Illegal Dumping Prevention & Cleanup

The SCRD has several initiatives in place to discourage illegal dumping on the coast. Illegal dumping can also be reported to BC Conservation Services. The SCRD also collaborates with local agencies and Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities (AVICC) to implement initiatives and spread awareness about illegal dumping.

A number of supporting community initiatives to address illegal dumping include:

- Good Samaritan Program
- Backroad Trash Bash

¹¹ [SCRD Board Meeting Agenda Package September 8, 2022](#)

¹² [Letter from XCG dated March 3, 2021, regarding Monitoring Results at Gibsons Landfill](#)

- **Ocean Plastic Depot Pilot Program**

The **Good Samaritan Program** pays the landfill tipping fees for materials collected from illegal dump sites cleaned up by volunteers. Pre-approval is required to have the disposal fees of a clean-up funded by Good Samaritan.

The **Backroad Trash Bash** is a volunteering initiative rotated through 3 sections of the coast. In 2022, the Backroad Trash Bash was held in the areas along the coast of Elphinstone to West Howe Sound. Off-road capable vehicles are recommended for volunteers to participate, and cleanup locations are indicated before starting. In 2022, there were 61 volunteers with 5.3 tonnes of collected of illegally dumped garbage along the coasts of Elphinstone to West Howe Sound. There were no collections in years 2020 and 2021 due to COVID-19 restrictions.

The **Ocean Plastic Depot Pilot Program** is a program for managing foam and other ocean plastics originating from docks and beach cleanups, for which there has been no recycling options in the region. The SCRD is currently in the process of partnering with The Ocean Legacy Foundation, a registered non-profit organization and the only organization recycling ocean plastics in BC.

To participate in an Ocean Plastic Depot Pilot Program, the SCRD will need to establish infrastructure to accept ocean plastics at the Sechelt Landfill, operate the depot, and coordinate hauling to the recycling facility in Richmond, BC. If the Pilot Program is successful, the Board can consider continuing to fund the depot through the 2024 budget process.

3.7 Emergency Debris Management

As BC is experiencing more frequent extreme weather events leading to emergencies such as forest fires and flooding, the SCRD has identified the need to develop a debris management plan to manage unpredictable surges in waste materials. The SCRD has a joint program, the Sunshine Coast Emergency Program (SCEP), with all four local governments on the Sunshine Coast: The Sunshine Coast Regional District, the District of Sechelt, the Town of Gibsons, and SNGD. The purpose of this emergency response and recovery plan is to provide guidance to respond to and recover from emergencies and disasters on the Sunshine Coast. The “Initial Response” usually takes place within 72 hours of impact, includes debris removal and cleanup of area as one of the main activities¹³.

3.8 Solid Waste Bylaws

The following is a list of the bylaws in place that govern solid waste management activities within the Sunshine Coast region:

- Sunshine Coast Regional District Sanitary Landfill Site Bylaw No. 405
- Sunshine Coast Regional District Waste Collection Bylaw No. 431
- District of Sechelt Garbage Control, Collection and Disposal Bylaw No. 47

¹³ [Sunshine Coast Emergency Response & Recovery Plan \(3rd revision January 2017\)](#)

- District of Sechelt Backyard Burning Prohibition Bylaw No. 446
- District of Sechelt Open Air Burning Bylaw No. 486
- District of Sechelt Solid Waste Collection, Control, and Disposal Bylaw No. 548
- District of Sechelt Solid Waste Collection, Control, and Disposal Bylaw No. 598
- Town of Gibsons Garbage and Organics Collection and Disposal Bylaw No. 1252
- Town of Gibsons Rates, Fees, and Charges Bylaw No. 1196
- Town of Gibsons Residential Backyard Burning Bylaw No. 971

3.9 Solid Waste Management Budget

The SCRD's solid waste management services are funded through:

- Tax requisition,
- User fees and service charges (e.g., tipping fees at the landfill or curbside collection)
- Other revenues (e.g., financial incentives paid by stewardship organizations e.g., Recycle BC).

User fees and service charges funded 50% of the solid waste management services in 2022. The funding distribution for the regional solid waste services in 2022 was: 52% tax requisition, 41% user fees and services charges, and 7% through other revenue streams. The refuse collection service is funded by user fees and services charges only.

The 2022 operating cost for the regional solid waste management services was \$9.1M including capital expenditures and transfers to reserves. The corresponding 2023 operational budget for solid waste management is approximately \$8.9M.

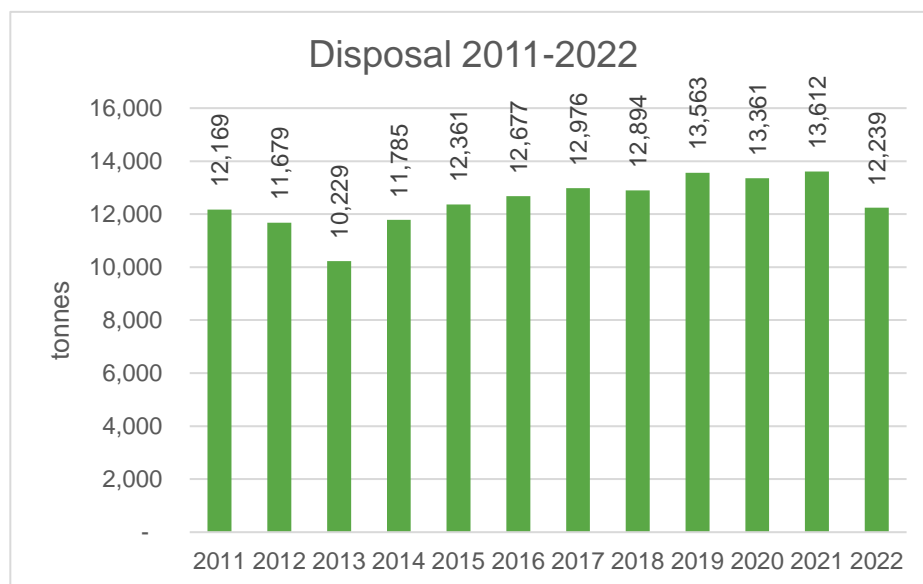
4. WASTE STREAM CHARACTERIZATION

This section provides a characterization of the solid waste generated in the SCRD, limited to what is managed and disposed of by the regional district. It presents an overview of the quantities disposed and diverted from landfilling in the region and summarizes the system performance over the last decade. An overview of the waste composition of disposed waste is provided to highlight what is left in the residual waste and how much is still divertible.

4.1 Current Waste Disposal

Waste accepted at SCRD facilities and disposed at Sechelt Landfill is originating from the residential, ICI and CDR sectors on the Sunshine Coast and surrounding islands. In 2021, 13,612 tonnes of waste were disposed at the Sechelt Landfill. Approximately 9% of the disposed waste was accepted at, and transferred from, Pender Harbour Transfer Station. The amount of waste disposed annually is shown in Figure 9. The waste disposal rate has increased slightly over the past 12 years, however the average increase in disposal aligns with that of population growth. The amount of waste disposed declined in 2022 compared to previous years. This is likely a result of the expansion of the organics curbside collection program in the District of Sechelt and shíshálh Nation Government District. The amount of residential waste disposed decreased almost 900 tonnes (14%) between 2021 and 2022.

Figure 9: Tonnes of Waste Disposed in The Sunshine Coast Regional District 2011-2022



As shown in Figure 10, half of the disposed waste was generated by the commercial sector in 2022. The residential sector was responsible for 44% of the disposed waste, whereas the CDR sector contributed 6% of the disposed waste. The distribution between waste sources was similar in 2021, however the CDR sector contributed to a slightly higher portion of the disposed waste in 2021 than in 2022.

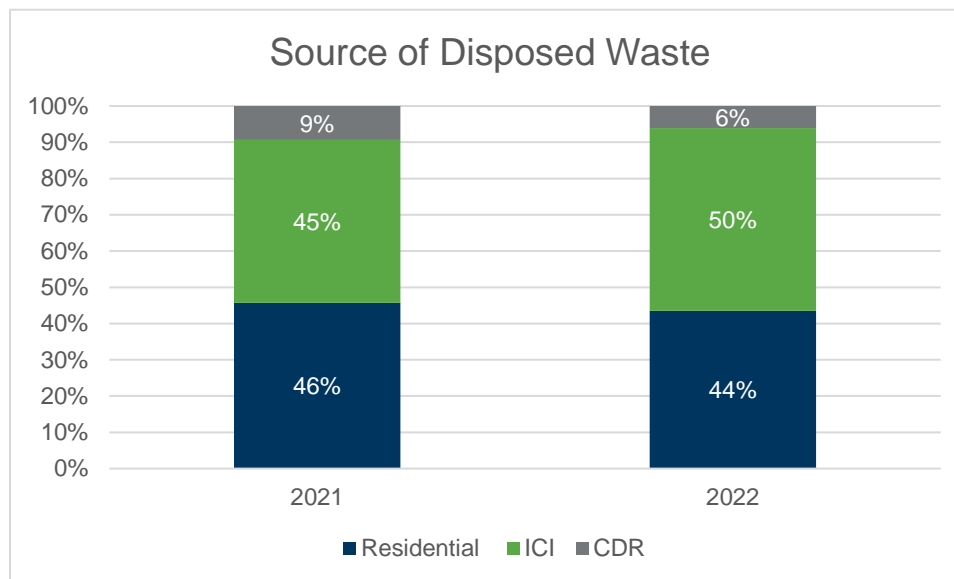


Figure 10: Source of Waste Disposed in 2022

4.2 Current Waste Diversion

Approximately half of the region's population lives between Gibsons and Sechelt, and most residents live in proximity to the highway corridor that runs between Port Mellon and Earls Cove. A large portion of residents are active users of the three SCRD-operated recycling depots in Gibsons, Sechelt, and Pender Harbour. Thanks to good access to the depots, which are located along the highway corridor, the SCRD is generally seeing good capture rates at the recycling depots.

Diversion data is compiled on an annual basis from the Sechelt Landfill, Pender Harbour Transfer Station, SCRD recycling depots, green waste program, EPR programs, and the curbside collection services. The annual diversion (tonnes of waste) and the diversion rate are presented in Figure 11. The diversion rate is the amount of diverted material divided by the sum of diverted and disposed waste. The amount of material diverted from landfilling has increased since 2011. The diversion rate has increased from 51% in 2011 to 57% in 2021. The SCRD reached an all-time high diversion rate of 61% in 2013.

Some of the previously diverted materials are no-longer diverted from disposal. For example, glass, toilets, rubble, and roofing were diverted between 2011 and 2017 and used in the landfill operations.

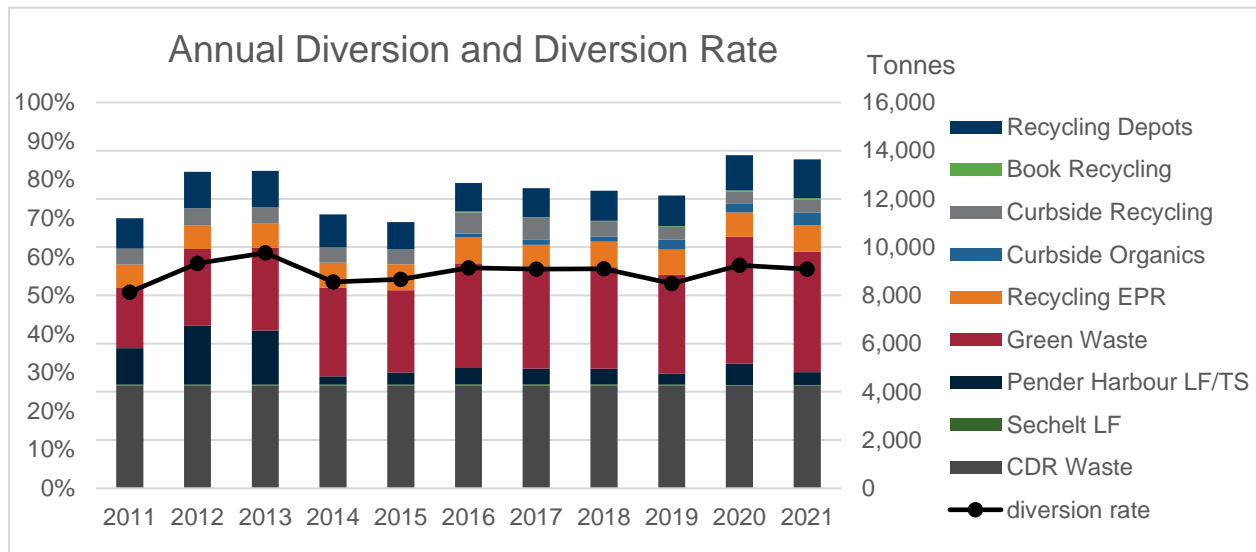


Figure 11: Annual Diversion and Diversion Rate in the Sunshine Coast Regional District 2011-2022

The SCRD's quarterly report provides an update on current projects, diversion programs, services, and monthly statistics. This allows the residents to see the results of their efforts and participation in waste reduction and diversion.

4.3 Waste Characterization of Landfilled Waste

Two waste composition studies have been conducted since the 2011 Plan was adapted, one in 2014/15 and recently in 2022.

The 2022 two-part waste composition study was conducted by XCG Consulting Limited (XCG) in May and October 2022 to capture seasonal variations in waste composition and to assess the progress of the SCRD's initiatives. Similar waste categorizations were used as in the 2014/15 waste composition studies to enable comparisons. The 2022 waste composition study entailed collecting samples from the landfill stream for:

- Residential garbage
 - Residential curbside garbage delivered to the Sechelt Landfill from: the SCRD's serviced electoral areas, District of Sechelt, sNGD and Town of Gibsons.
 - Area A
- Self-haul and commercial waste
 - Pender Harbour Transfer Station and Sechelt Landfill (self-haul from residential and small commercial sectors combined)
 - Commercial tipping pad at the Pender Harbour Transfer Station
 - ICI garbage delivered to the active face of the Sechelt Landfill

The 2022 waste composition study showed that the overall landfill waste stream contained 23% organics, 11% curbside recyclables (PPP), 11% Depot PPP, and 1% other EPR/ stewardship material. Even though diversion and recycling programs are available for organics, curbside

recyclables, depot recyclables and other stewardship materials, more can be done to reduce the amount of waste currently being landfilled.

Overall, the 2022 solid waste composition is similar to the that recorded in the 2014/15 studies, where most of the solid waste was organics. However, a 17% decrease of organics, and a 2% increase of recyclables was seen in the residential waste stream being landfilled compared to the 2014 composition. The decrease in organics found in the garbage stream is attributed to the organics waste diversions programs implemented for curbside collection. The program is in the early stages and additional diversion of organics from the residential garbage is expected as the program matures, and the residents continue to use the service.

The change in the waste composition of the self-haul and commercial stream was lower with a 4% increase in organics and a 1% decrease in recyclables.

In terms of wood and metal building materials, the overall waste composition of residential self-haul and commercial waste contains 4% of these materials, whereas the residential curbside waste stream contains 7% building materials. Building materials made up 12% of the curbside waste stream from Areas D, E, F (D & E north of Highway 101), which likely is a reflection of distance to Sechelt Landfill and Pender Harbour Transfer Station

Other key findings from the 2022 waste composition study are presented below.

Residential (Curbside)

- The residential landfill stream collected curbside contained 28% organics, 12% Curbside Printed and Paper Packaging (CPPP) Recyclables, and 14% Depot Printed and Paper Packaging (DPPP) and 1% Other Stewardship Material. Despite having separate streams for organics, curbside recyclables, depot recyclables and other stewardship materials, 55% of the materials in residential landfill stream can still be diverted. The residential curbside garbage stream has seen a 17% decrease in organics and a 2% increase in recyclables since 2014.

Commercial and Residential (Self-Haul)

- The commercial and residential self-haul waste streams contained 20% organics, 10% CPPP Recyclables, and 9% DPPP and 1% Other Stewardship Material, showing that 40% more material can still be diverted from the landfill stream. In addition, the residential self-haul and commercial waste stream has seen an increase of 4% in organics and decrease of 1% in recyclables since 2014.

ICI

- The main waste materials making up the ICI waste collected from the active face of Sechelt Landfill are: food scraps and kitchen waste (23%), food soiled paper (9%), refuse (6%), textiles (5%), other plastics (5%), and pet waste (5%). Other common items found in the waste streams included small gas cans and plastic kitchen items such as ice trays and kettles, saline bags, resuscitators, syringes (without needles) and various medical tubing.

An overview of the changes in waste composition between the 2022 and 2014/2015 are shown Figure 12.

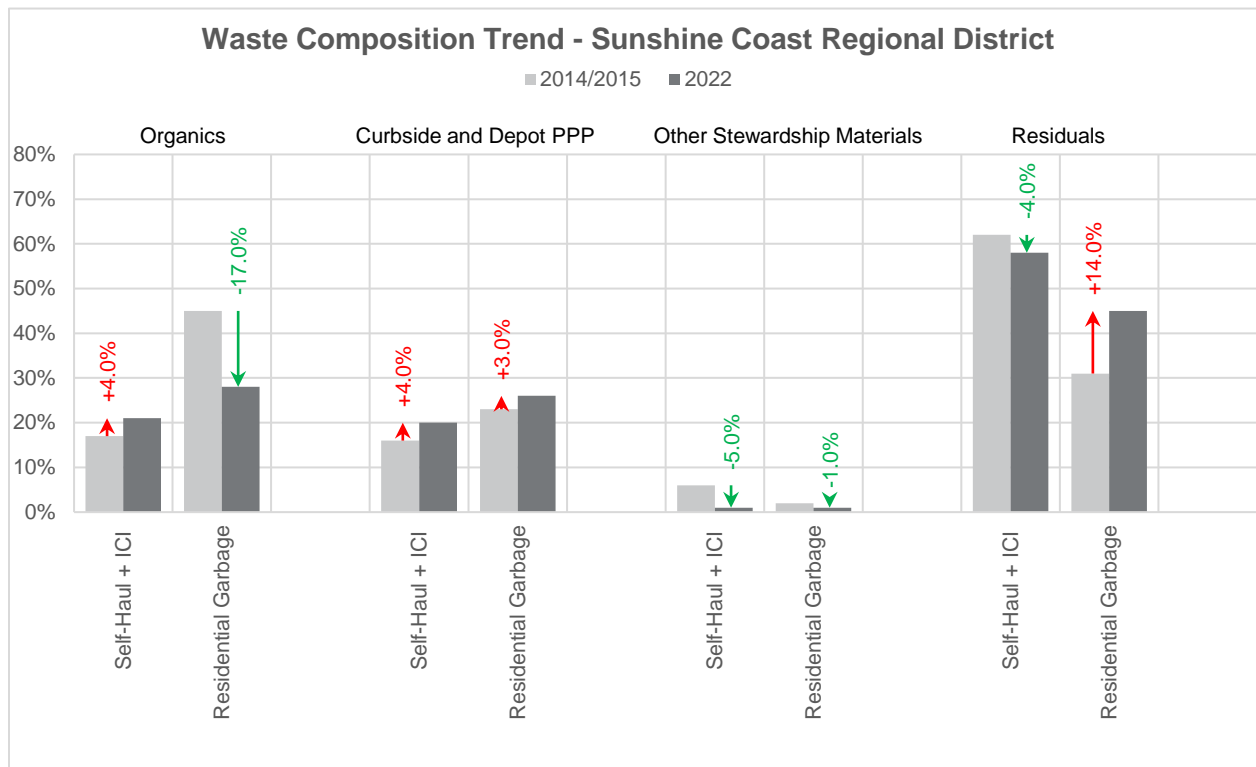


Figure 12: Comparison of the 2014/2015 and 2022 Waste Composition of Waste Landfilled in the Sunshine Coast Regional District

4.4 Per-Capita Disposal Performance

The disposal rate per capita has been fairly stable over the past 11 years as shown in

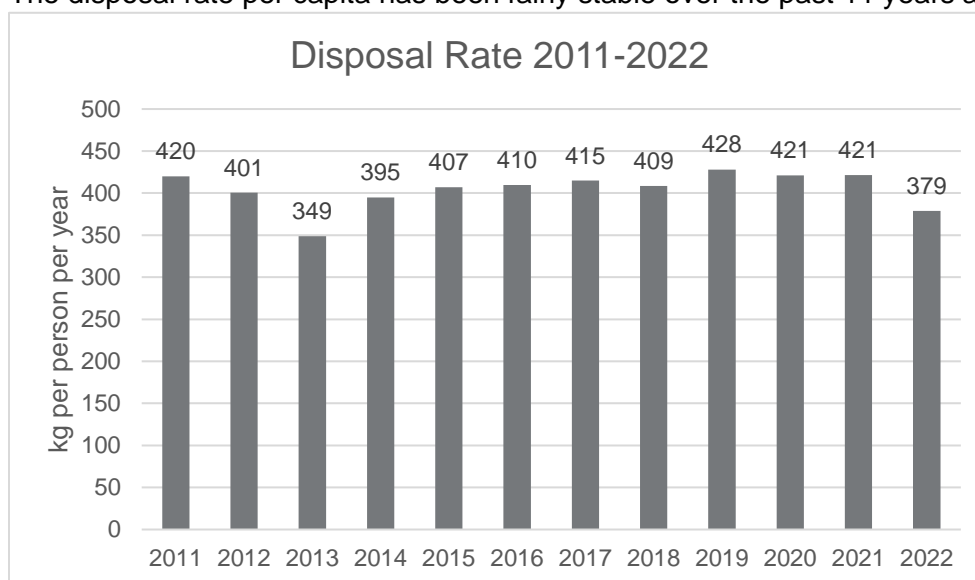


Figure 13. The disposal rate has fluctuated between 349 and 428 kg per capita per year, with an 11 year average of 405 kg per capita per year. The disposal rate dipped in 2022 to 379 kg per capita per year, which could be a result of the introduced organics diversion program through curbside collection.

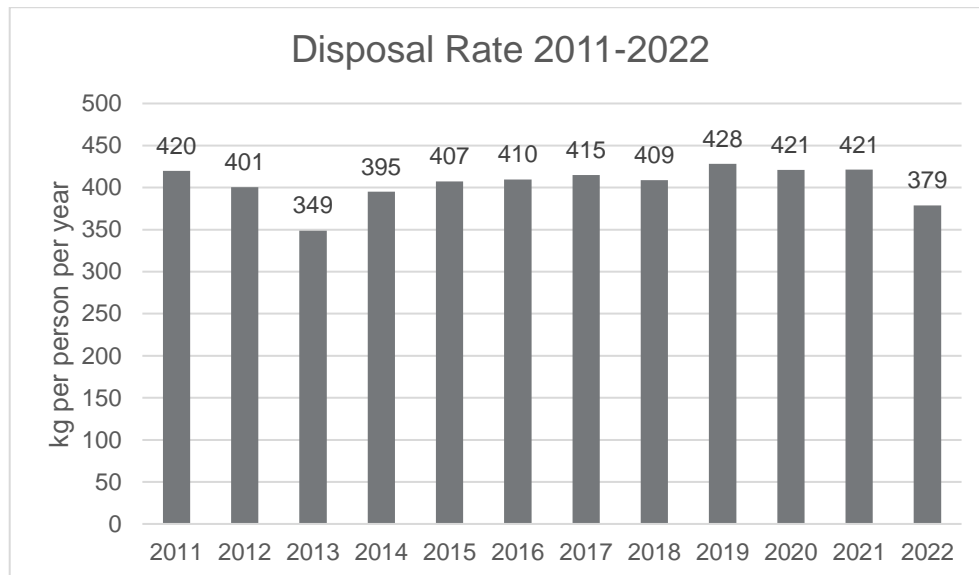


Figure 13: Per-Capita Disposal Rate in the Sunshine Coast Regional District 2011-2022

5. GAP ANALYSIS









5.1 Solid Waste Management Plan Implementation Status



The 2011 SWMP encompassed major reduction, reuse, recycle, and diversion initiatives that, if fully implemented, would increase diversion from 50% in 2011 to between 65% and 69% by 2016. The diversion target was 279-315 kg per capita. A total of 24 initiatives were identified in the 2011 SWMP. A summary of the status of these initiatives is presented in Table 8 below. Refer to Appendix A for a more detailed overview of the implementation status of each of the 2011 SWMP initiatives.



Table 8: Status of the 2011 SWMP Initiatives

Initiative	Status	Category
1. Incentive Based Tipping Fees	Completed	Reduce
2. Material Disposal Bans	Completed	Reduce
3. Residential Waste Reduction Education	Completed, In Progress	Reduce
4. Grass Cycling and Backyard Composting Education Program	Completed	Reduce

Initiative	Status	Category
5. Waste Control System to Access Data on Recyclables and Waste Leaving the Region		Reduce
6. Land Use Policies to Support Solid Waste Management Infrastructure (e.g., Compost Plants and Recycling Operations)		Reduce
7. Evaluation Process for Recycling Opportunities		Reduce
8. C&D Waste Diversion		Reduce
9. Business Waste Diversion		Reduce
10. Community Reuse & Repair Centres		Reuse
11. Reuse Facilities at Landfills		Reuse
12. Building Material Reuse Facilities		Reuse
13. Deconstruction and Salvaging		Reuse
14. Reuse Education		Reuse
15. Community Swap Day Pilot Program for household goods		Reuse
16. Enhanced Drop-Off/Resource Recovery Facilities		Recycling/Diversion
17. Curbside Collection of Recyclables in Electoral Areas		Recycling/Diversion
18. Curbside Collection of Food Scraps		Recycling/Diversion
19. Processing Capacity for Food Scraps and Yard Waste	 	Recycling/Diversion
20. EPR Management Programs		Recycling/Diversion
21. Sechelt Landfill Upgrades		Residuals Management
22. Pender Harbour Landfill Upgrades		Residuals Management

Initiative	Status	Category
23. Garbage Collection		Residuals Management
24. Illegal Dumping Program		Residuals Management

SCRD, member municipalities, and sNGD have improved and expanded waste management services - two thirds of the 2011 SWMP initiatives have been implemented. The two main achievements over the past years are the expansion of curbside collection services and organics diversion.

Nearly all residents receive curbside garbage collection (91% of the population). 36% of the population receive curbside collection services for recycling and 34% for yard waste. Most residents (91%), except for those living in the Pender Harbour area and Egmont, receive curbside food waste collection services. Residents in Pender Harbour and Egmont are required to drop off their food waste at the Pender Harbour Transfer Station.

Diverting organic waste from landfill disposal is a significant solid waste management initiative in BC. This is because organic waste, comprised primarily of yard and garden waste (green waste), food waste and food-soiled paper from businesses and households, not only represents the largest component of landfilled waste (35%-40%), but also generates methane, a potent greenhouse gas, during decomposition in a landfill. As noted in section 4.5, the portion of the disposed residential waste stream containing organic waste reduced from 45% in 2014/2015 to 28% in 2022, which shows the success of the 2011 SWMP initiatives related to organics diversion and processing (initiatives 18 and 19).

The SCRD has also made headway in terms of organics diversion at a corporate level in 2022. All SCRD facilities have waste diversion systems in place for the collection of mixed recycling, food waste, and food soiled paper.

5.2 Comparisons to Other Regional Districts

The SCRD's disposal rate was compared to the performance of neighbouring regional districts on Vancouver Island, as well as the provincial average. The figure below shows 2020 municipal solid waste disposal rates, which is the most recent regional district performance data available from the MOE¹⁴. The SCRD's rate of 421 kg/capita in 2020 (and 379 kg/capita in 2022) was lower than many of the neighbouring regional districts. The SCRD ranked fourth in the province and below the BC-average (499 kg/capita). The Regional District of Nanaimo's 2020 disposal rate of 355 kg per capita is the lowest disposal rate in BC.

¹⁴ Environmental Reporting BC. 2021. Municipal Solid Waste Disposal in B.C. (1990-2019). State of Environment Reporting, BC MOE. Available via URL: <https://www.env.gov.bc.ca/soe/indicators/sustainability/municipal-solid-waste.html>

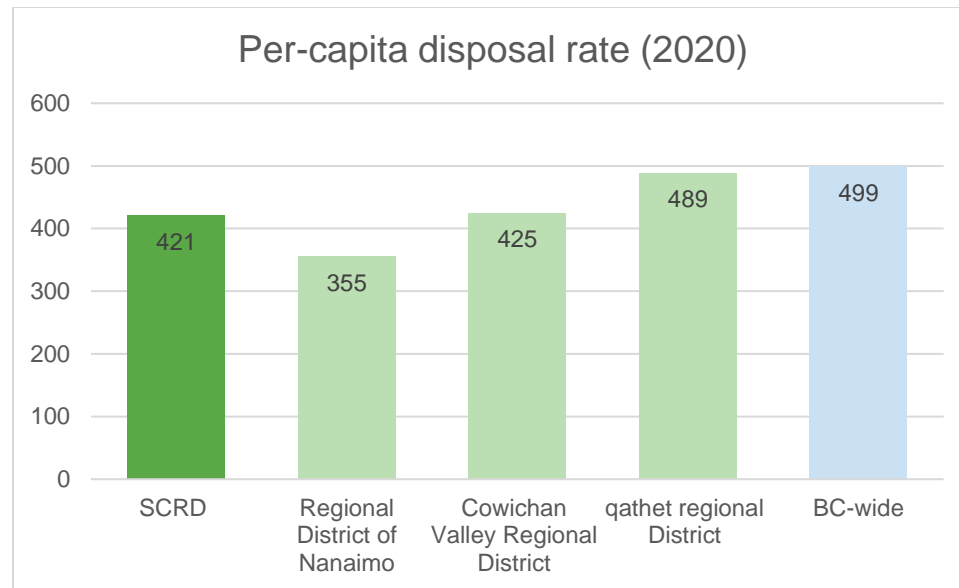


Figure 14: Comparison of the 2020 SCRD's Disposal Rate with Neighbouring Regional Districts and the Provincial Average

The MOE has established solid waste management goals as part of its Service Plan. This includes lowering the provincial MSW disposal rate to 440 kg/capita annually by 2025/26¹⁵. Significant waste reduction and diversion efforts are required for all regional districts to reach the provincial goal. The MOE is proposing that regional districts, as part of their solid waste management planning process, adopt “preventing organic waste including food waste from going into the garbage wherever practical” as a guiding principle. An organics diversion strategy has already been implemented in the SCRD and coming years will show if the disposal rate can be lowered further as result.

5.3 Identified Issues & Opportunities

MH has reviewed the SCRD's current waste management system and its performance. This section identifies some of the emerging issues and opportunities that can be considered when updating the SWMP.

Given the region's limited disposal capacity, this is an excellent opportunity to explore waste prevention and diversion strategies that can help with shifting to a more circular economy with a less reliance on landfills, in or out-of-region.

The table below shows a summary of the issues and opportunities that may be considered as part of the planning process. The table is followed by a brief discussion on each topic.

¹⁵ MOE's 2023/24 – 2025/26 Service Plan is available via URL: <https://www.bcbudget.gov.bc.ca/2023/sp/pdf/ministry/env.pdf>

The list is not all inclusive and should be considered together with feedback from PTAC and from the public based on the feedback form aimed to gather initial input on key priorities for the SWMP.

Table 9: Issues and Opportunities

Topic	Issues and Opportunities
Waste Prevention & Diversion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Limited curbside recycling collection in some areas ▪ Requirements for ICI Waste Diversion ▪ Improved bylaw enforcement ▪ Action to prevent plastics ▪ Opportunity for local recyclers ▪ More provincial product stewardship programs ▪ Explore alternative recycling options for landfilled waste
Residual Waste Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Siting of a potential new landfill ▪ Rising cost of landfill operations – system funding
CDR Sector & Non-Sector-Specific	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Diversion of CDR wastes ▪ Illegal dumping and marine debris ▪ Invasive species management

5.3.1 Identified Issues & Opportunities: Waste Prevention & Diversion

Limited Recycling Collection in Some Areas

Curbside recycling options are limited or not available in some areas of the region, such as:

- Area A: No curbside solid waste collection (recycling, organics, or garbage) and residents must self-haul to depots.
- Areas B, D, E, and F: These areas have weekly food waste and bi-weekly garbage collection, but no curbside recycling collection.
- Town of Gibsons: Has weekly food waste and bi-weekly garbage collection, but no curbside recycling collection.

The SCRD undertook a Curbside Recycling Survey (Questionnaire) in 2021 that was available to residents within SCRD Areas B, D, E and F for a 5-week period. The information gathered through the questionnaire helped to understand the public's interest in receiving a curbside recycling service through a manual blue bin collection. The SCRD received 1,704 responses from a total of 5,945 serviced homes (29% response rate, which is considered a great response rate). An average of 72% across Areas B, D, E and F were in favour of receiving the service. With Areas B and D in favour at 75%, Area E at 71% and Area F at 60%.

The questionnaire described that the cost impact to add a curbside recycling service would involve an annual increase of \$30-\$34 per household if the SCRD could obtain financial subsidies from Recycle BC for the program. Without Recycle BC subsidies, the service was estimated to result in a \$70 per year increase.

Approximately 70% of the respondents who expressed interest in receiving curbside recycling were willing to paying \$70 per year to receive curbside recycling, while 30% were not. Several comments from the public indicated a misunderstanding about the cost impacts. Some surveyed residents had misunderstood the annual costs as monthly. The Board did not support the introduction of a curbside recycling service and requested that it be a topic for consultation as part of the SWMP update process.

Requirements for ICI Waste Diversion

The 2022 waste composition study showed that 40% more material can still be diverted from the ICI landfill stream.

In March 2021 the Plan Monitoring Advisory Committee (PMAC) recommended that the SCRD make the issuance of building permits conditional on the applicant adopting the principles of zero waste and the waste hierarchy.

The Plan update provides a great opportunity to review options to mandate waste diversion of recyclable materials. These are requirements that can be adopted by businesses in addition to the organics disposal regulation.

New requirements will need to be developed with careful consideration of available recycling options. The ICI recycling sector will also be impacted if the Province decides to include the ICI sector as an EPR program for PPP (refer to the discussion below on Product Stewardship Programs).

Improved Bylaw Enforcement

Disposal bans only result in significant improvements to diversion and disposal rates if they are well enforced. Having a requirement for residents to use clear bags for curbside garbage collection would simplify inspection with less staff time needed for enforcement. However, additional staff capacity would also be required to increase bylaw enforcement beyond current levels.

The Board directed staff undertake a survey on the public support and concerns of implementing a clear bag requirement as an additional means to enforce the organics disposal regulation. The engagement on the clear bag requirements was postponed and can be considered as part of the Plan update.

Action to Prevent Plastics

The MOE is addressing plastic pollution through its CleanBC Plastics Action Plan. In 2021 local governments can institute bans on plastic bags and certain single-use plastics without provincial approval. More than 20 municipalities in BC are developing bylaws banning single-use plastics (e.g., Esquimalt, Nanaimo, Richmond, Rossland, Saanich, Surrey, Tofino, Ucluelet and Victoria)¹⁶. The Town of Gibsons (Bylaw No. 1274, 2019) regulates the distribution of single-use

¹⁶ Information available via URL: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/waste-management/zero-waste/municipal-plastics-bylaws>

plastic items and it prevents businesses from offering customers single-use plastic bags or drinking straws. The District of Sechelt is considering a single-use plastics ban.

Regional Districts cannot pursue a ban on single-use plastics and packaging as such action is outside of the SCRD's legislative authority. However, the SCRD can advocate for reduction in single-use plastics and packaging.

Opportunity for Local Recyclers

SCRD staff has highlighted concerns with the region's reliance on access to recycling markets outside of the region for determining if something is recyclable or not.

The SCRD is promoting collaboration between different levels of governments and is very keen to continue supporting the local private waste and recycling industry. The solid waste management system in the region relies on collaboration between identified stakeholders.

More Provincial Product Stewardship Programs

The SCRD (with support from PMAC) submitted comments in 2020 to MOE regarding Recycling Regulation Amendments to highlight the need for regulated product stewardship programs (EPR programs) for materials including mattresses and furniture, ICI PPP, fishing gear, single use fuel canisters and carpets.

In September 2021, the MOE announced that new products will be added to the Recycling Regulation and be covered by EPR programs. Electric-vehicle batteries and chargers, mattresses, single-use fuel canisters, fire extinguishers, electronic products (e.g., solar panels, and e-cigarettes) are among the products that will be eligible for province-wide recycling as part of a five-year action plan 2021-2026. The Province has also expanded the number of products to be recycled through residential recycling programs by adding milk and milk-alternative containers to the deposit-refund system (effective February 2022). In 2023 more single-use items have been added to the packaging part of the Recycling Regulation. By 2025, the MOE will evaluate options to ensure improved recovery and recycling of ICI packaging and paper¹⁷.

There are still many problematic materials not identified in the MOE's action plan, such as used furniture, textiles, and books, that the regional district is finding particularly challenging to manage.

Explore Alternative Recycling Options for Landfilled Waste

The PMAC has noted a need to explore alternative disposal and recycling options for material disposed in the landfill as there has been little improvement in SCRD's diversion rate. The SCRD may want to consider out-of-region waste recycling/disposal options for certain materials, such as roofing and bulky furniture.

¹⁷ Advancing Recycling in B.C.: EPR Five-Year Action Plan 2021-2026 available via URL: https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/environment/waste-management/recycling/recycle/extended_producer_five_year_action_plan.pdf

As sorting technologies improve and recycling markets change, it might be possible to segregate specific waste streams at the landfill prior to recycling (within or out-of the region).

5.3.2 Identified Issues & Opportunities: Residual Waste Management

Siting of a Potential New Landfill

In 2021 when the SCRD engaged the public during the consultation to amend its SWMP to allow for the temporary export of waste outside the region for disposal, a group of residents indicated significant opposition to siting a local landfill in Halfmoon Bay.

A new landfill or waste export will have a significant cost impact on residents and this cost should also be identified in the context of other large capital infrastructure upgrades in the region (e.g., costs from improving the SCRD's water supply).

There have not been many new landfills sited in BC recently and risks need to be considered and discussed. Alternative solutions, such as waste export, also need to be assessed.

The SCRD's Strategic Plan (2019-2023) commits to reducing GHG emissions in the face of a global climate emergency. This too might be a key consideration, depending on the importance placed on SCRD's climate-related actions for the Plan update.

Rising Cost of Landfill Operations – System Funding

The Sechelt Landfill operates as an active landfill site for commercial haulers and residents of the Sunshine Coast. Landfill operations costs have increased significantly in recent years. The tipping fee revenue is insufficient to fund additional operational costs and the SCRD may want to review the current tipping fees as part of the SWMP review and update. Tipping fees will be influenced by the remaining useful life of the current landfill and the selected long-term waste disposal option.

5.3.3 Identified Issues & Opportunities: CDR Sector & Non-Sector-Specific

Diversion of CDR Wastes

The SCRD promotes the deconstruction and recycling of construction materials through a dedicated webpage that shares information on the importance of deconstruction and shares resources to help salvage valuable resources. As part of the 2011 SWMP, the SCRD and member municipalities (who have jurisdiction for planning and permitting) intended to develop strategies and financial incentives to encourage deconstruction and CDR material salvaging. No action has been taken on implementing financial incentives and faster permit processing periods as outlined by the 2011 SWMP initiative (SWMP Initiative no. 13).

There is an opportunity for the SCRD, member municipalities, and the sNGD to address construction, demolition, and land clearing waste and issues together.

Illegal Dumping & Marine Debris

Environmental protection has been a key concern for PMAC in recent years and the issues of illegal dumping and marine debris have been frequently discussed.

The SCRD has several initiatives in place to discourage illegal dumping on the coast (refer to section 3.6). The Islands Clean Up program aims to provide waste management services to islands off the SCRD coast. This is a popular program but it comes at a significant costs to all tax payers. The program is not funded on a user-pay basis.

The PMAC members have often discussed the issue of illegal dumping in the region, highlighting the need to gather better illegal dumping data (i.e., type of material, tonnage, locations of dumping, etc.) and to review options to prevent and monitor illegal dumping. The PMAC has discussed the need for a disposal program for Boats and Residential Vehicles at the Sechelt Landfill to deter illegal dumping.

There may be more opportunities to support initiatives to prevent illegal dumping and marine debris. The qathet Regional District has installed fishing line recycling receptacles at some docks to prevent marine plastics pollution and protect marine life from being entangled.

Invasive Species Management

There are currently limited options for destroying invasive species. Howe Sound Pulp and Paper has been asked several times to destroy invasive plants, however, the MOE has not been able to give temporary approvals and the facility was unable to accept and process the materials. There is a need for disposal options for invasive species in the SCRD.

6. SUMMARY OF REVIEW FINDINGS

The 2011 Plan, which is now due to be updated, had zero waste as a central focus, with emphasis on the waste hierarchy and an aggressive annual disposal target of 315 to 279 kg per capita after five years of implementation. The SCRD's annual disposal rate in 2022 was 379 kg per capita. The region fares well against BC's average disposal rate of 501 kg/capita/year (2019) and is already below the provincial goal of 440 kilograms per capita per year by 2025/26.

In 2018, the SCRD developed a Regional Organics Diversion Strategy as a roadmap for a region-wide organics diversion program. Since 2018, curbside collection programs have started in the Town of Gibsons, Halfmoon Bay, Roberts Creek, Elphinstone, and West Howe Sound electoral areas, and in the District of Sechelt as a pilot.

The region has now reached a crossroad, with landfill capacity that is quickly running out. The SCRD needs to decide how residual waste should be managed over the long term and is currently undertaking reviewing future waste disposal options. Some of these options are likely to bring controversy. The SCRD is committed to listening to residents, businesses, and other interested parties for input on the plan review and update process.

The updated Plan will set the direction for how waste will be minimized and managed regionally over the next 10 years. Given the region's disposal capacity issue, the SCRD has an excellent opportunity to review the current system and explore waste prevention and diversion strategies that can help with shifting to a more circular economy.

6.1 Next Steps

The MOE has developed eight provincial guiding principles for regional districts to follow in developing their solid waste management plans (shown in Figure 15¹⁸). Regional districts should include additional locally relevant guiding principles in their solid waste management plans. The suitability of these principles and the need for any additional principles will be discussed with the PTAC at a meeting on April 25, 2023. The proposed principles will be shared with the public during the consultation process.



Figure 15: Provincial Guiding Principles for SWMP Developments

¹⁸ As per the solid waste management planning guide published by the MOE 2016.

7. CLOSURE

The Sunshine Coast Regional District retained Morrison Hershfield to conduct the work described in this report, and this report has been prepared solely for this purpose.

This document, the information it contains, the information and basis on which it relies, and factors associated with implementation of suggestions contained in this report are subject to changes that are beyond the control of the author. The information provided by others is believed to be accurate and may not have been verified.

Morrison Hershfield does not accept responsibility for the use of this report for any purpose other than that stated above and does not accept responsibility to any third party for the use, in whole or in part, of the contents of this document. This report should be understood in its entirety, since sections taken out of context could lead to misinterpretation.

We trust the information presented in this report meets the SCRD's requirements. If you have any questions or need addition details, please do not hesitate to contact one of the undersigned.

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APPENDIX A – SCRD’s 2011 SWMP IMPLEMENTATION STATUS

Table: Current Status of 2011 SWMP's Initiatives

Major Initiative	Status
Reduce Initiatives	
1. Incentive Based Tipping Fees (Raise the fees for items that can and should be recycled)	<p>Completed</p> <p>Tipping fees are the charges that are applied to discarded materials deposited in landfills. The 2011 SWMP outlined how incentive-based tipping fees are structured to provide financial incentives that discourage discarding waste into landfills, provided that there are more economical options to divert that material. The SCRD's current tipping fee structure provides a significant financial incentive to divert many waste materials from landfilling. Household garbage (excluding recyclable materials and controlled waste) is charged at \$150 per tonne. Once a material has an economical recycling option, the SCRD amends the Sanitary Landfill Site Bylaw No. 405 to define the materials as a separate recyclable material.</p> <p>The implementation of fees associated with the enforcement of the landfill disposal ban for food waste, food soiled paper and paper commenced on October 1, 2022.</p>
2. Material Disposal Bans (Consider banning materials from disposal where recycling options exist within a reasonable proximity)	<p>Completed</p> <p>The SCRD has made it mandatory to keep all food waste, compostable food soiled paper and recyclable paper out of your regular garbage starting November 1, 2022.</p>
3. Residential Waste Reduction Education (Education for residents)	<p>Completed/In Progress</p> <p>The SCRD committed to enhancing communication strategies to facilitate public uptake of waste diversion options and support a reduction of the waste discard limit by implementing bi-weekly garbage collection.</p> <p>SCRD has made good progress on the initiative with almost all serviced areas now receiving biweekly garbage collection, except for Sechelt Indian Government District.</p>
4. Grass Cycling and Backyard Composting education program	<p>Completed</p> <p>In 2021 the SCRD initiated a "Home Composter Rebate Program" as part of the "Composting on the Coast Community Program".</p>
5. Waste Control System (Obtain figures from the private sector on recyclables and waste leaving the region).	<p>Not Started</p> <p>The SCRD committed to implement voluntary reporting procedures, and if not successful, a mandatory reporting legislation for the residential, commercial (ICI) and construction and demolition (C&D) sectors to document their waste management practices. The intention behind the commitment was to understand the quantity of materials diverted and discarded to measure the performance of zero waste initiatives.</p> <p>The first phase planned by SCRD prior to engaging with commercial (ICI) and C&D sector on reporting was to do a comprehensive review of incentive-based tipping fees, planned for fiscal 2016/2017.</p>

Major Initiative	Status
6. Land Use Policies to Support Solid Waste Management Infrastructure (Make it easier for proponents to site compost plants, anaerobic digestion facilities and recycling operations).	Not started According to 2019 updates, this initiative was not started.
7. Evaluation Process for Recycling Opportunities (Provide education and information on new technologies).	Completed In 2011 SWMP, SCRD pledged to support development of new recycling opportunities and to develop a policy framework and procedure that will evaluate recycling opportunities. SCRD has been successful in introducing mattress recycling at the Sechelt Landfill in 2014 and amended tipping fees and Bylaw 405. SCRD currently provides a gypsum/drywall recycling program at the Pender Harbour Transfer Station and the Sechelt Landfill. Recently, SCRD started accepting, for free, major household/residential appliances in partnership with the Major Appliance Recycling Roundtable (MARR). In addition, SCRD has partnered with Call2Recycle, Product Care (paint and HHW), and Tire Stewardship programs.
8. C&D Waste Diversion (Education for the construction industry).	In Progress The SCRD promotes deconstruction and recycling of valuable material through a dedicated website that shares information on reuse and recycling in construction sector. In 2014, SCRD met with the Sunshine Coast Building Association to assess C&D recycling for new homes and renovations/demolitions. The meeting indicated cost barriers for tipping fees and labour to deconstruct/separate materials. In addition, site size typically is too small for multiple bins ¹⁹ . The Special Infrastructure Services Committee's meeting in 2019, identified C&D diversion as a long-term priority.
9. Business Waste Diversion (Education for businesses).	In Progress SCRD aimed to enable business waste diversion through education and incentive-based tipping fees. The Special Infrastructure Services Committee's meeting in 2019, identified business waste diversion as a long-term priority ²⁰ . The implementation of fees associated with the enforcement of the landfill disposal ban for food waste, food soiled paper and paper commenced on October 1, 2022. Prior to the disposal ban, the SCRD has developed specific information to businesses on the need for waste diversion. Businesses were targeted using mass mailouts, newspaper advertisements, social media, and website information.

¹⁹ [2015-JUL-02 ISC agenda package.pdf \(scrd.ca\)](#)

²⁰ [2019-JAN-25 ISC Agenda Package - Special.pdf \(scrd.ca\)](#)

Major Initiative	Status
Reuse Initiatives	
10. Community Reuse & Repair Centres (Support through education and advertising).	<p>Completed</p> <p>The SCRD delivers waste education and outreach programs mainly through the website. The site offers a range of information available for residents to learn more about food waste prevention and diversion, curbside collection, recycling, and Construction & Demolition (C&D) waste. The SCRD provides information on where to reuse, recycle or dispose of common waste materials/products through multiple sources, such as the Recycling Directory, the Reuse Directory and the SCRD Collects app.</p>
11. Reuse Facilities at Landfills (Share Sheds).	<p>Completed</p> <p>The SCRD operated the share sheds at Sechelt and Pender Harbour Transfer Station, but these were closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Pender Harbour Transfer Station Share Shed was reopened in 2023.</p> <p>The SCRD provides information for the public where to reuse common waste materials/products through multiple sources, such as the Recycling Directory, the Reuse Directory and the SCRD Collects app.</p>
12. Building Material Reuse Facilities (Education and promotion).	<p>Completed</p> <p>The SCRD promotes deconstruction and recycling of valuable material through a dedicated website that shares information on deconstruction and salvaging, with many resources including Sunshine Coast Builder's Association, Metro Vancouver's Deconstruction and Demolition Toolkit, Salvage Market, and Living Building Challenge (LBC) Red List for construction industry.</p>
13. Deconstruction and Salvaging (Education and promotion).	<p>In Progress</p> <p>The SCRD promotes deconstruction and recycling of valuable material through a dedicated website that shares information on importance of deconstruction and opportunity to salvage valuable resources. No action has been taken on implementing financial incentives and faster permit processing periods as outlined by this SWMP initiative. The SCRD and member municipalities (who have jurisdiction for planning and permitting) intended to develop strategies and financial incentives to encourage deconstruction and C&D material salvaging.</p>
14. Reuse Education (Using community based social marketing strategies).	<p>Completed</p> <p>The Reuse Directory in SCRD website provides information about a wide range of reuse. The site highlights options for reusing unwanted goods (e.g., local thrift, consignment, antique shops and flea markets), sharing of resources (e.g., renting, online sharing), repairing and refilling. The SCRD has considered aspects of community-based social marketing techniques in the development of reuse initiatives.</p>

Major Initiative	Status
15. Community Swap Day Pilot Program (One time trial of large swap initiative).	<p>Not Started</p> <p>SCRD planned to implement and evaluate the results of one pilot community swap day program that allows the community to reuse household goods.</p> <p>No progress has been made on this initiative by SCRD.</p>
Recycle & Diversion Initiatives	
16. Enhanced Drop-Off/Resource Recovery Facilities (Install and operate drop off depots in the major centres of Pender Harbour, Gibsons and Sechelt)	<p>Completed</p> <p>SCRD planned to develop enhanced recycling and resource recovery facilities in each of the distinct area i.e., Pender Harbour Area (Area A), Sechelt Area (incl. sNGD, Area B and part of Area D), and Gibsons Area (incl. Area E, F, and part of D). The main aim was to develop Sechelt and Gibsons resource recovery facilities as new pilot facilities and the completion of Pender Harbour Resource Recovery facility.</p> <p>SCRD now accepts materials covered by EPR programs, selective construction and demolition waste at Sechelt LF and Pender Harbour TS, additionally all three distinct areas now have depots that accept residential packaging and paper products.</p>
17. Curbside Collection of Recyclables (pilot collection services for recyclables and assess feasibility of expansion to households receiving waste pick-up).	<p>Not Started</p> <p>As part of this goal, SCRD and Town of Gibsons committed to examine curbside collection of recyclables with an added cost to solid waste utility charges.</p> <p>None of the electoral areas and Town of Gibsons have curbside recyclables collection.</p>
18. Curbside Collection of Food Scraps (pilot collection services for food scraps and assess feasibility of expansion to households receiving waste pickup).	<p>Completed</p> <p>The SCRD, Town of Gibsons and District of Sechelt planned to introduce curbside collection services for organic waste, including food waste at an added cost to the resident's solid waste utility charges.</p> <p>SCRD, Town of Gibsons and District of Sechelt all provide curbside collection of food waste.</p>
19. Processing Capacity for Food Scraps and Yard Waste (Contracts for the processing of regionally collected organic waste).	<p>Completed/In Progress</p> <p>SCRD aimed to divert the collected yard waste at Sechelt Landfill, Pender Harbour Landfill and Gibsons Public Works Yard (residential customers only) to composting facilities in future, instead of being used as a fuel at Howe Sound Pulp and Paper in Port Mellon.</p> <p>The SCRD has a green waste recycling program which provides three locations for residents to self-haul and drop-off yard and garden green waste, and two locations also accept commercial sector green waste. The collected green waste is hauled and processed in Sechelt (Salish Soils) into compost.</p>
20. EPR Management Programs (coordination with EPR stewards to work jointly where appropriate).	<p>Completed</p> <p>The SCRD goal was to actively support and encourage EPR programs in the region, and work jointly with EPR stewards to the extent possible and practical. This initiative involved staff</p>

Major Initiative	Status
	<p>working with EPR stewards to provide educational material on EPR programs, partner for collection of EPR materials at depots etc.</p> <p>SCRD now accepts materials covered by EPR programs at Sechelt LF, Pender Harbour TS, and three recycling depots.</p>
Residual Management Initiatives	
<p>21. Sechelt Landfill Upgrades (bringing the landfill to a higher environmental standard and capturing landfill gas).</p>	<p>In Progress</p> <p>The SCR D is looking at the feasibility to use a biocover as final closure at Sechelt Landfill, which will reduce GHGs.</p>
<p>22. Pender Harbour Landfill Upgrades (conversion of the landfill to a transfer station, while continuing to offer resource recovery services).</p>	<p>Completed</p> <p>SCR D's goal was to replace Pender Harbour Landfill, after it reaches it full capacity in 2012, to a transfer station for residual waste.</p> <p>The facility has been successfully replaced with a transfer station that not only accepts residual waste, but also some recyclables and materials accepted under EPR programs.</p>
<p>23. Garbage Collection ("Every-Other-Week" garbage collection service for residential waste).</p>	<p>Completed</p> <p>The SCR D committed to shift weekly garbage collection to biweekly collection for customers residing within rural areas (excludes municipalities, sNGD and Area A) once recycling and organics collection programs are implemented.</p> <p>SCR D has shifted to biweekly curbside garbage collection in the electoral areas where they have been providing weekly garbage collection.</p>
<p>24. Illegal Dumping Program (enhanced clean-up programs and education)</p>	<p>Completed</p> <p>Illegal dumping of waste is problematic in rural areas in the SCR D. In urban and suburban areas of the SCR D, illegal dumping of yard waste into empty lots, ditches and ravines is reportedly a common way to deal with an excess of organic waste.</p> <p>The SCR D has several initiatives in place to discourage illegal dumping on the coast. SCR D has placed a fine of up to \$1 million or six months in prison as the punishment for dumping garbage, green waste and hazardous waste. A number of supporting community initiatives to address illegal dumping includes the Good Samaritan Program and the Backroad Trash Bash program.</p>