



Frequently Asked Questions: Tipping Fee Updates for 2026

Q1. Why are the tipping fees being updated?

Tipping fees are reviewed annually to ensure they reflect current service costs and support diversion goals.

- **Food Waste:** Current revenue (\$6,000–\$7,500/year) doesn't cover costs. New fees and small commercial use will improve sustainability.
- **Wood Waste:** Recycling costs have increased — fees adjusted to recover costs.
- **Scrap Metal:** New agreement lowered costs—no fee hikes needed.
- **Furniture pilot program:** Diverting bulky items saves landfill space (about 15 days of landfill life in 2025). Fees keep the pilot affordable; broader funding options will be reviewed in 2026.

Q2. What are the new tipping fees?

Food Waste at Pender Harbour Transfer Station

- Create one "Food Waste" category at \$180 per tonne (minimum \$5 charge still applies).
- Remove the 45 kg limit and separate charges for loads under 30 kg to include small commercial use

Wood Waste at Pender Harbour Transfer Station

- Clean Wood Waste: \$170 → \$240 per tonne
- Treated/Dirty Wood Waste: \$265 → \$340 per tonne

Scrap Metal

- Planned fee increases for 2026 and 2027 cancelled.
(Current fees remain due to lower service costs.)

Furniture Recycling – Pilot Program

- This initiative is included as part of a proposed 2026 budget item. If the program is not approved, the associated new tipping fees will not apply.

Proposed per-item fees:

Item	2026	2027
Couch, armchair, loveseat	\$15	\$25
Couch (3+ seats)	\$20	\$30
Child car seat	\$10	\$15
Small upholstered furniture	\$10	\$15
Sofa bed / pullout couch incl. mattress; reclining couch/loveseat; massage chair	\$40	\$50
Foam pads / mattress toppers	\$10	\$15
Medical bed	\$50	\$60

Q3. I'm new to separating food waste, how do I use the food waste drop off service at the Pender Harbour Transfer Station?

Food waste and garbage will need to be brought in separated to the Pender Harbour Transfer Station. This means you will need separate bags or containers for garbage and food waste and NOT mixed together in one bag or container.

Food waste will be deposited by customers into the designated container on site. Customers may use paper bags, certified compostable plastic bags or deposit the food waste loose directly into the container.

Visit www.scrd.ca/transfer-station and click on menu item called "Food waste accepted" for a link to information about what's accepted.

Q4. What if I don't separate out my food waste from my garbage?

We may not accept your material or as per *SCRD Sanitary Landfill Bylaw 405* non-separated loads are charged for the entire load at a rate of two times the regular/separated fee of the most expensive material in the load.

Q5. Why are we considering furniture recycling pilot?

We want to reduce waste and save valuable space in our landfill. We assessed the feasibility of implementing a two-year Furniture Recycling Pilot Program at SCR D Solid Waste Facilities. From January to October 2025, the SCR D received 1,122 pieces of furniture. That's about 1,431 pieces per year, equal to 68 tonnes of material that could be recycled instead of buried. Diverting this furniture would save about 875 cubic meters of landfill space each year, which adds up to nearly 15 extra days of landfill life.

Q6. What happens after the pilot is over?

The findings of the pilot will be shared for a future decision on whether to continue the program or not. Staff will track tonnage, landfill airspace saved, costs and revenue of the program.

Q7. How did we determine new tipping fee for furniture?

Currently upholstered furniture is buried in the landfill and is charged the regular garbage rate, the table below shows what it would cost to landfill at the 2026 rate. Recycling costs more because we need to transport furniture to the only recycling facility in BC, located in Hope, Canadian Mattress Recycling, (where we already send mattresses) and pay a fee per item. Like how mattresses are recycled, furniture is dismantled into the separate components, such as, wood, metal, foam and textiles, and these are recycled. If you're interested to learn more visit Canadian Mattress Recycling's website at <https://canadianmattressrecycling.com/how-to-recycle-a-couch/>.

Item	2026 Fee as MSW (\$180/t) Average cost based on weight	New Tipping Fee
Couch, Armchair, loveseat, reclining chair, swivel chair, chaise lounge		
Couch	\$10	\$15
Loveseat, Armchair, Chaise lounge, Swivel or Reclining Chair	\$8.75	\$15
Couch (3 seater +)	\$11.25	\$20
Child Car Seat	\$5	\$10
Small Upholstered Furniture (wood or metal dining chairs, ottomans/stools/poufs/headboards)		
Wood or metal chairs	\$5	\$10
Ottomans/stools/poufs/headboards	\$5	\$10
Sofa bed/pullout couch with mattress, reclining couch or loveseat, massage chair		
Sofa bed / pullout couch with mattress	\$42.75 (\$12.75 + \$30 mattress fee)	\$40
Reclining couch	\$13.25	\$40
Reclining loveseat	\$8.25	\$40
Foam pad any size and thickness including mattress toppers, upholstery foam or camping foam	\$5	\$10
Medical Bed	\$20	\$50