



REPORT

To: Solid Waste Committee

Report Number: ENV-SWC-149

From: Gerritt Lacey, Solid Waste Manager

Date: April 5, 2024

Subject: 24 Hour Pilot Expansion Update at Rolla and Cecil Lake Transfer Stations

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Solid Waste Committee recommend that the Regional Board develop an “Illegal Dumping Policy” to inform decision making objectives around re-occurring illegal dumping at PRRD solid waste sites.

BACKGROUND/RATIONALE:

Pilot Expansion Update:

On August 10, 2022 the Regional Board passed the following resolution:

MOVED, SECONDED, and CARRIED

That the Regional Board initiate a new 24-hour access pilot for no-charge disposal of bagged household waste outside of operating hours at the Rolla and Cecil Lake transfer stations.

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the first quarter of operating the 24-hour access pilot at the Rolla and Cecil Lake Transfer Stations (TS). The after-hour bins became operational December 1, 2023 for the Cecil Lake TS and December 4, 2023 for the Rolla Transfer Station.

Table 1 below outlines the bag counts received and any illegally dumped incidents for the first three months of operation.

Table 1: Compactor tonnage and Bag Counts

	Rolla Transfer Station	Cecil Lake Transfer Station
Compactor Tonnage	6.39	7.1
Bags of waste disposed during operating hours	1,011	490
Bags of waste disposed during after hours	318	93
Illegal dumping incidents	1	1

Illegal Dumping Policy

Occurrences of illegal dumping are not new to the PRRD. Unattended sites are more difficult to monitor and when bins are full, or items are too large, the public often leaves waste outside the collection bins thus leaving the trucking contractor to clean-up the inappropriately disposed waste.

With the attended sites allowing 24-hour access for bagged waste during unattended time periods, there are again instances where non-household waste is being disposed of and items are being left outside of the fence due to the large size of the items. In 2022, at the Moberly Lake 24-hour access bins, a resident disposed of a whole deer carcass in the after-hour access bins. For the new pilot sites at Rolla and Cecil Lake, the 24-hour bins received instances of illegal dumping activities within two weeks of the bins being brought to each site. At Cecil Lake two armchairs were left in front of the bins outside of business hours, and at Rolla, a small business brought many large garbage bins to site and emptied all the contents into the bins causing them to be overfilled with loose waste. Both occurrences were caught on camera thanks to the newly installed CCTV system at the sites, and to date no further instances have been reported.

With the development of an illegal dumping policy, staff would be better equipped to make operational decisions on how to respond to the occurrences. Public educational materials have been developed and displayed to help inform the public on acceptable disposal of bagged household waste at both attended and unattended sites. However, there are no consequences for re-occurring misuse of services through illegal dumping activities.

Some suggested items to be investigated and potentially included within the illegal dumping policy are:

1. Addition of a strike board that allows for photos of unacceptable disposal methods to be displayed at each site.
2. Ability to suspend services due to re-occurrences of unacceptable disposal methods.
3. How the PRRD responds to reports of illegal dumping occurrences outside of PRRD's jurisdiction.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

1. That the Solid Waste Committee provide further direction.

STRATEGIC PLAN RELEVANCE:

☒ Not Applicable to Strategic Plan

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATION(S):

Instances of illegal dumping at unattended transfer stations come at a cost of \$185.00/hour for the hauling contractor to remove items from the site, in 2023 the estimated cost in extra cleanup at unattended transfer stations was \$42,000.

Instances of illegal dumping at attended transfer stations are handled in two ways. At tier 1 stations, most of the items seen in instances of illegal dumping can be taken into the transfer station and disposed of in the correct bin. At tier 2 stations, all waste items, other than household waste, need to be transported to the nearest tier 1 facility or landfill.

COMMUNICATIONS CONSIDERATION(S):

Staff will continue to educate residents on the proper use of the 24-hour access program through social media post and flyers at the site.

There are numerous messaging signs on the after-hours bins that display what types of waste materials are accepted. Figure 1 below shows what messaging is placed on the bins.



Figure 1. After-Hours Bin and Signage

Handouts were also developed outlining the purpose of the bins, how they work, what materials are accepted, and what materials are not accepted, figures 2-4 below. Attendants began handing these out to residents a week prior to the bins being installed.

AFTER HOURS BAGGED WASTE BIN

Opening December 4, 2023



REMEMBER!

- Place bagged waste inside the bins after hours, ensuring all waste is contained into a bag
- Please **do not** overfill the bins, or leave any waste on the ground as this will result in the bins being removed

Figure 2. Residential Handout - Front Page

What can you bring?



*Recycling or share shed items are only accepted during business hours

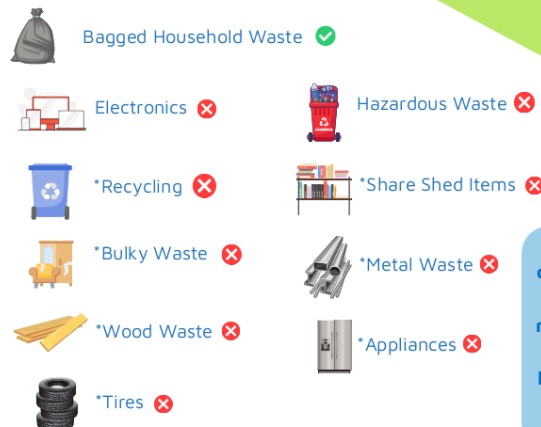
These new disposal bins will be available for residents to drop off bagged household waste when the site is closed.

Environmental Services
P: 250.784.3200
E: prrd.dc@prrd.bc.ca



Figure 3. Residential Handout - Back Page for Rolla and Moberly TS

What can you bring?



*Recycling, share shed items, bulky waste, wood waste, metal waste, appliances, and tires are only **accepted** during business hours

These new disposal bins will be available for residents to drop off bagged household waste when the site is closed.

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Figure 4. Residential Handout - Back Page for Cecil Lake and Prespatou TS

OTHER CONSIDERATION(S):

Piloting 24-hour access programs at PRRD Solid Waste Sites is in accordance with the Regional Solid Waste Management Plan Strategy 11: Improve accessibility and efficiency of the solid waste network.