

Background - Our Garbage

Up until 1892 Victoria's garbage was disposed of in James Bay and east of the Empress Hotel.

From 1892 until 1955, garbage was loaded onto barges at the foot of Herald Street and dumped into the sea, about two miles out from the entrance to Victoria Harbour.

From 1955 until the early 1970's, most of the local garbage was sent to a number of dump sites along Millstream Road and the present Hartland landfill site. Burning was used to reduce the volume of the garbage.

Concern over health hazards associated with open dumps resulted in the CRD acquiring the Hartland site and assuming responsibility for solid waste disposal in the Region.

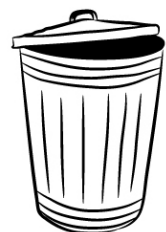
For more information or to book a school program and/or tour of Hartland landfill and recycling facility, please contact the CRD Hotline at 250.360.3030, 1.800.663.4425, hotline@crd.bc.ca, or visit www.crd.bc.ca/teacher

Before we had landfills and before we had dumps, even before we thought we had to manage garbage, garbage was produced. For most of the last two and a half million years, people left garbage where it fell. This worked well for hunter and gatherer societies because people would regularly leave their temporary shelter or campsite in search of food. During this phase of history, garbage was neither a problem nor an issue. People had moved away long before too much garbage had accumulated. Once plant and animal domestication became commonplace, and farmers and herders began to replace hunters and gatherers, garbage became an issue. The method of leaving garbage where it was produced began to cause problems as the garbage pile grew. Instead of the people moving, they began to move the garbage. Some garbage was simply thrown out of windows, into the streets. Free-roaming animals would eat the food scraps while human scavengers would move the rest of the garbage to vacant plots of land, take the valuables out and leave the rest.

Over the past 100 years, waste management has evolved into a highly scientific, well-managed process. The biggest change occurred during the 1960's when health, safety and environmental concerns surfaced. The way garbage was managed was greatly altered. Dumps were replaced by sanitary landfills*, managed by engineers and highly trained staff.

*Sanitary landfills refer to an engineered method of disposing of wastes on land by spreading it in layers, compacting it, and covering it, taking regard for environmental impact through leachate collection systems, ground water protection and gas control.

Our garbage over the last century has changed and now includes many man-made materials and non-biodegradable items. Our society consumes an excessive amount of materials and convenience products, many with short shelf lives and long term impacts. A lot of these materials do not decompose, even when landfilled. Before landfills reach capacity, action needs to be taken. The great news is that the people of the CRD have been working hard to reduce garbage entering Hartland landfill for many years. Since 1989, approximately 40 per cent of the total waste has been diverted from Hartland landfill through recycling programs, composting and other 3R (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle) programs. Hartland landfill is the only disposal facility in the CRD for municipal solid waste. In order to continue to extend the life of this facility, 3R programs must flourish and succeed.

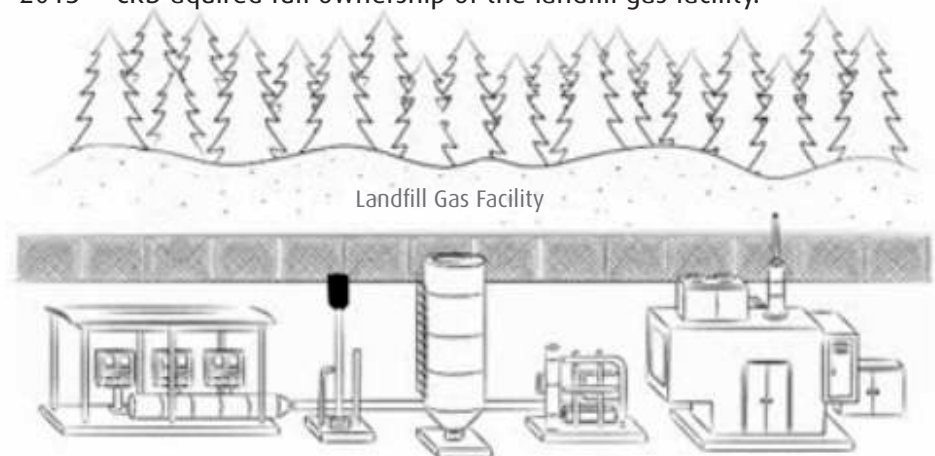




Overview

- 1973 CRD became responsible for solid waste management after the Province of British Columbia directed all regional districts to take control of solid waste disposal within their borders.
- 1975 CRD acquired ownership of Hartland landfill.
- 1982 The Province's Waste Management Act required all municipal and regional districts to adopt and implement solid waste management plans.
- 1985 CRD took over management and operation of Hartland landfill.
- 1990 First Waste Stream Composition Study conducted to understand what was being landfilled and by whom.
- 1992 Hartland Multi-Material Recycling facility opened.
Hartland Yard and Garden Waste facility opened (until 2006).
- 1994 Waste paint collection and exchange added to Hartland recycling.
- 1996 Hartland landfill Phase 1 was completed and closed.
Second Waste Stream Composition Study was conducted.
- 1997 Hartland landfill Phase 2 opened.
- 2001 Recycling facility was redesigned and an expanded facility opened at Hartland landfill.
Third Waste Stream Composition Study was conducted.
- 2002 Household batteries and mercury were added to the list of materials accepted at the Hartland recycling facility.
- 2003 Solvents, flammables and pesticides were added at Hartland recycling.
- 2004 Landfill gas utilization facility began.
Completed Phase 1 of the site rehabilitation plan by planting native trees and shrubs.
Fourth Waste Stream Composition Study conducted.
Household Hazardous Waste collection was added to Hartland recycling.
Purchased Killarney lake to add to site buffer.
- 2006 Large rigid plastics collection was added to Hartland recycling and a clean wood waste pilot collection was added to the Public Bin Area.
Bi-annual mobile Household Hazardous Waste collection events begin on Salt Spring Island, the Southern Gulf Islands and in Port Renfrew.

- 2007 Large rigid plastic goods and wood waste recycling pilots were converted to permanent diversion programs.
Electronic waste collection pilot program started at the Hartland recycling depot.
- 2008 Hartland landfill receives Trees for Tomorrow grant to plant thousands of native trees, seedlings and bushes on Phase 1.
Residents pledged to reduce their use of plastic bags.
- 2009 Waste Stream Composition Study analysis begins.
Pilot programs for film plastics and mattresses start at Hartland recycling.
- 2010 Hartland Learning Centre installed by reusing and renovating a house.
Electronic waste collection expanded (telecommunications, audio/visual equipment), and fluorescent lamps and thermostats accepted.
Myrecyclopedia.ca is launched.
Pender Island woody debris, yard brush and invasive plant drop-off pilot event.
- 2011 Collection of bicycle tires and tubes begins at Hartland recycling facility.
Hartland Learning Centre opens.
Hartland landfill Phase 2, Cell 1 is closed and a sedimentation pond installed.
- 2012 Outdoor power equipment, exercise equipment, power tools, light fixtures, video gaming equipment, musical instruments and medical devices were added at Hartland recycling facility.
Mattresses, box springs, asphalt shingles and polycoated cartons collection and recycling became permanent programs at Hartland recycling facility.
- 2013 CRD acquired full ownership of the landfill gas facility.



Recognition and Awards



- 2005 Hartland receives the Silver Landfill Management Excellence Award from the Solid Waste Management Association of North America and awards for leadership and innovation in gas utilization and best practices for household hazardous waste collection.
- 2010 CRD received four awards for safety initiatives.
- 2011 Hartland recognized with the Leader in Sustainability, Top 100 Participants in Canada Award from Call2Recycle.

Plans and Diversion Goals

The CRD Solid Waste Management Plan is a legally binding document mandated by the Province of British Columbia. It must be approved by the Minister of Environment and outlines waste diversion goals.

- 1987 First Solid Waste Management Plan
- 1989 First CRD Solid Waste Management Plan (10% diversion goal by 1993)
- 1991 Solid Waste Management Plan Revision 1 (50% diversion goal by 1995)
- 1995 Solid Waste Management Plan Revision 2 (50% diversion goal by 2000)
- 2012 New Integrated Solid Waste and Resource Management Plan started (anticipated completion by 2015)
- 2013 CRD reaches 52% diversion.



Tipping Fee Increases

Tipping fees (for landfilling garbage) are charged per tonne.

1985	\$8.50	1990	\$22.00	2006	\$85.00
1986	\$10.00	1991	\$55.00	2008	\$90.00
1987	\$11.00	1992	\$70.00	2009	\$95.00
1988	\$12.00	1993	\$75.00	2010	\$100.00
1989	\$16.00	2005	\$82.00	2011	\$107.00

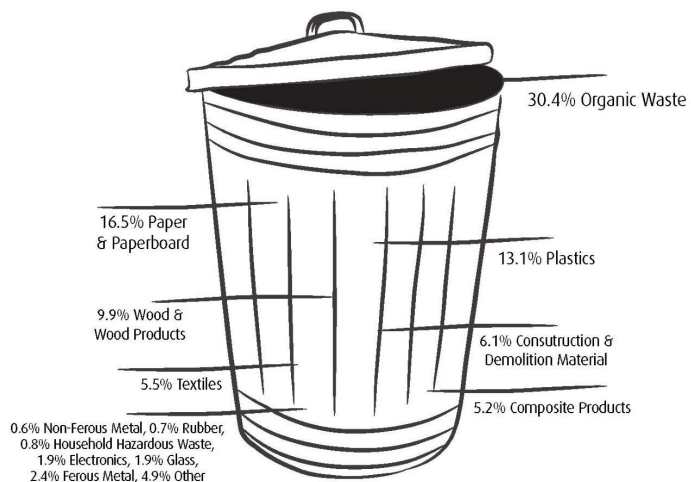
Background - Banned Items



Landfill bans are put in place when recycling alternatives exist.

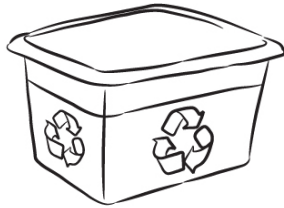
- 1991 Drywall
- 1993 Corrugated cardboard, white goods (e.g. refrigerators), tires and directories (e.g. telephone books)
- 1995 Scrap metals, asphalt paving, concrete, aggregate, clean soil and rubble
- 1998 Paper
- 2006 Yard and garden waste
- 2011 Product Stewardship materials (refundable beverage containers, electronics, cell phones, batteries, paint, solvents, pesticides, gasoline, smoke and CO alarms, thermostats, and medication)
- 2014 Printed paper and plastic packaging (May 19, these became a Product Stewardship Program as required by the BC Provincial Government).
- 2015 Kitchen Scraps (fruit and vegetable scraps, food leftovers, meat, fish, bones, dairy products, grain products, baked goods, soiled paper food products, soiled paper towels and tissues, solidified fats and grease, baking ingredients, houseplant clippings, nuts, pits, seeds and shells)

Can you find what was put into the garbage but could have been recycled?



2009 Harltand Landfill Waste Composition Study

Background - Blue Box Recycling



- 1989 Blue Box recycling collection began in Oak Bay, Saanich, Victoria and Esquimalt and apartment recycling program began.
Glass bottles and jars, tin and aluminum cans and newspaper are collected.
- 1990 Blue Box recycling collection began in the Saanich Peninsula, Western Communities, Sooke & Salt Spring Island.
- 1994 District of Oak Bay took over collection of recyclables in their municipality.
- 1995 Mixed paper (such as magazines, junk mail, cereal boxes and scrap paper) was added.
- 2000 Corrugated cardboard and rigid plastic containers (excluding styrofoam and lids) added.
Blue bags were distributed and almost complete region-wide service was reached.
- 2005 Pizza boxes and rigid plastic packaging (includes lids) added.
- 2006 Expanded the apartment recycling program and delivered an apartment tote bag and educational brochure to each multi-family unit in the region.
- 2011 The Province adds packaging and printed paper to the BC Recycling Regulation.
- 2012 Polycoat containers (soup and milk cartons, drinking boxes and gable top containers) added.
- 2014 Paper cups added to items accepted in the Blue Bag.
Glass collected separately from other containers.
Launch of Recycle CRD Smartphone app.



Background - Composting



- 1992 Beginning of subsidized backyard composter distribution.
Victoria Compost Education Centre opened.
- 1993 Second backyard composter distribution event.
Worm composter distribution event.
- 2005 Composting Bylaw was approved by the Ministry.
- 2006 Subsidized backyard composter distribution event.
Oak Bay kitchen scrap pilot program starts.
- 2007 View Royal kitchen scraps pilot program starts.
- 2012 CRD Board voted to implement the Regional Kitchen Scraps Strategy.
The ban is scheduled for January 2015.
- 2013 Waste haulers who deliver kitchen scraps loads to CRD approved transfer stations and composting facilities receive a financial incentive (until 2013 & 2014).
- 2015 Starting January 1st, Kitchen Scraps are restricted from disposal as garbage at Hartland landfill.

