

Trucked Liquid Waste Program

2019 Report

Capital Regional District | Parks & Environmental Services, Environmental Protection



Capital Regional District

625 Fisgard Street, Victoria, BC V8W 2S6

T: 250.360.3000 F: 250.360.3079

www.crd.bc.ca

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PROGRAM PURPOSE

The Capital Regional District (CRD) has a program that coordinates the collection and disposal of trucked liquid waste under Section 19 of the Core Area Liquid Waste Management Plan. This type of waste includes non-domestic liquid waste that is prohibited from discharge to sanitary sewer or stormwater systems and must be transported by truck to a disposal facility. Examples include liquid waste from catch basins, grease interceptors and oil/water separators.

The purpose of the program is to ensure that this waste is handled and disposed of in an appropriate and responsible manner to protect the environment and public health. The goals are to:

- promote pollution prevention
- promote informed decisions by the industrial, commercial and institutional sector on liquid waste disposal
- encourage the development of appropriate and cost-effective facilities
- encourage and increase compliance with regulations

The annual budget is approximately \$57,000, with allocations for outreach and education (55%), labour (40%), and special project/consultants (5%).

PROJECTS AND DELIVERABLES

The program goals are achieved primarily through outreach and education. Each year, advertisements are run to promote regular catch basin maintenance. This year, the campaign was run in both the spring and fall months, in advance of seasonally wet weather. A web-based service provider directory is maintained by staff to allow waste generators to find hauling and disposal options for many different types of trucked liquid waste.

In addition to annual advertisements, a septage service delivery risk assessment and engineering review was completed by a consultant. The project assessed both septage and trucked liquid waste trends and long-term treatment options.

Additional details on each project/deliverable are provided below.

Advertisements – Spring and Fall Catch Basin Ads

Advertising messaging focused on catch basin maintenance and clean outs. Advertising runs October through November prior to the start of the fall rains. In 2019, the program was expanded to run in the spring from March through April. Communications and media plans were updated to identify proper platforms to effectively target the intended audience (businesses and business associations). The following platforms were used to promote catch basin cleaning:

- paper and digital news publications (see Figure 1)
- magazines
- radio
- social media



Figure 1 Catch Basin Ad, 2019

Service Provider Directory

The CRD's trucked liquid waste website content includes a service provider directory, information on proper management and disposal of wastes, catch basin maintenance, technical reports and tools for waste management. The service provider directory helps connect waste generators with service providers to ensure responsible waste management. The web content is a unique regional resource for individuals and businesses looking for information on catch basin maintenance.

Additional Outreach and Education

Staff routinely liaise with waste haulers and treatment facilities to inform or enhance future outreach objectives. Industry liaison includes periodic consultation with stakeholders (regulators, haulers, etc.) and annual tours and/or meetings with service providers, disposal facilities, or waste generators. Staff continually work with stakeholders to promote a fair and transparent service across the region.

Additionally, program information and outreach is provided in collaboration with other CRD program areas at events. A catch basin maintenance pamphlet is provided at events as part of the CRD's watershed-wise pamphlet series, which is delivered through many outreach programs.

Septage Service Assessment and Engineering Review

In 2019, staff completed a review of the current septage/trucked liquid waste treatment facility and the overall CRD service delivery. As both of these types of waste share the same disposal facility, the services share many of the same risks, including absence of alternate emergency options, equal access for haulers, and escalating disposal costs. The review included a detailed waste stream analysis, an engineering review of the facility, and a risk assessment and options analysis to support continued and efficient long-term service delivery.

Findings

A review of current and future waste streams identified a long-term decrease in septage and a corresponding increase of trucked liquid waste influent, due to development and increasing municipal sewer connections (e.g., Langford). This waste currently comprises approximately 40% to 50% of the influent waste stream at the facility. By 2038, trucked liquid waste is expected to comprise more than 60%. This waste is usually high in biochemical oxygen demand, requires significant aeration, and results in treatment and discharge quality challenges at the facility. Discharge quality has been an ongoing issue at the treatment facility under the CRD Sewer Discharge Bylaw (Bylaw No. 2922).

In cooperation with the facility, a third-party engineering review was completed. The project looked at the current treatment system in the context of ongoing discharge quality challenges, as well as future waste stream projections. Recommendations included improved maintenance, increased aeration and/or possible pre-treatment for high-strength waste.

In addition, a number of risk and mitigation measures were identified for the continued operation of the facility and shared with the facility staff. This included a review of robustness and redundancies within the current treatment system. As the CRD has only one provider for this service, system redundancy and emergency planning is critical to ensuring uninterrupted service within the CRD. Results were shared with the facility operators to incorporate into their maintenance and planning. CRD staff will continue to work with the facility to ensure effective treatment and continued service for all regional haulers.

The review also evaluated short-term, long-term and emergency disposal options for the CRD to maintain reliable and cost-effective disposal options for both trucked liquid waste and septage within the region. Staff will continue to investigate and consider short-term and long-term options for effective disposal, and to ensure the CRD meets the program objectives.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

Performance of trucked liquid waste programs is assessed through annual waste disposal trends, and website traffic during ad campaigns.

Waste Disposal Trends

Data available from public and private trucked liquid waste disposal facilities are assessed annually. However, an unknown volume of waste is disposed of at out-of-region facilities and those volumes are not available for assessment. Waste received at the Hartland landfill and a local septage/trucked liquid waste disposal facility were reviewed in 2019 for trends, and this data contributes to regional planning efforts and outreach activities.

Increasing trends in trucked liquid waste quantities deposited at regional facilities are used as a key performance indicator of the program's success, as well as industry responsibility and service levels. In 2019, total quantities received at regional facilities have increased over the last four years. From 2014 to 2019, vehicle wash sump and catch basin waste quantities disposed at the facilities more than tripled (Figure 2). Note that vehicle wash totals and catch basin totals in 2016 and 2017 are aggregated and cannot be individually reported, due to facility tracking errors.

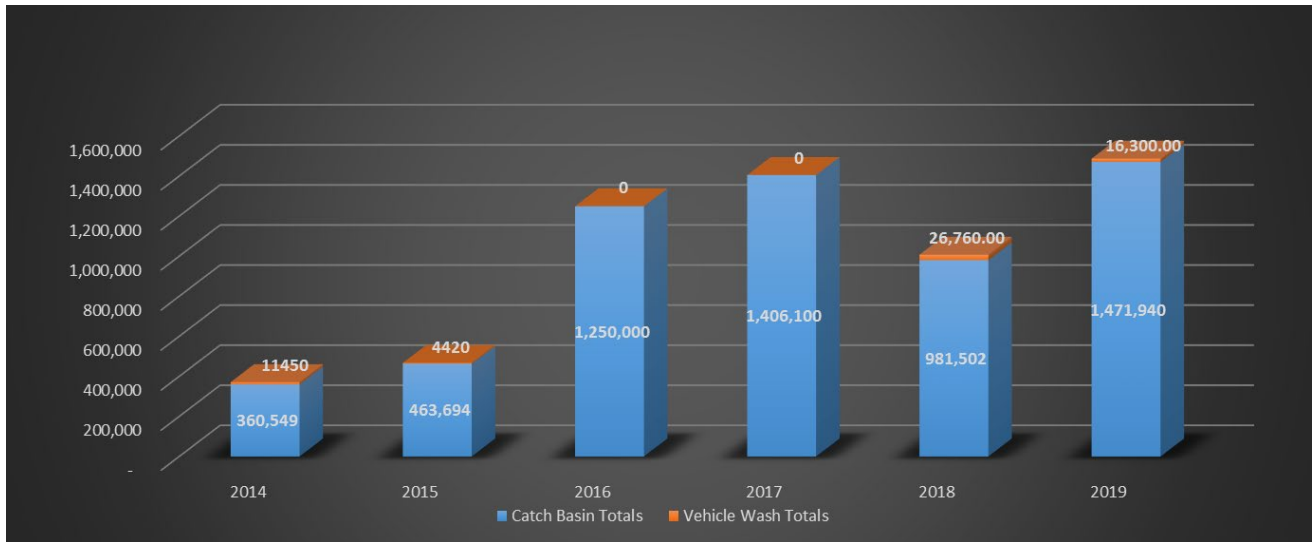


Figure 2 Catch Basin and Vehicle Wash Sump Waste Totals 2014-2019

Website Traffic

Advertisements are run during finite periods across various online platforms. Website hits, and ad clicks are used to assess the effectiveness and reach of an ad series. For 2019, website metrics show an increase in traffic to relevant webpages throughout the duration of both the fall and spring advertisement series.

CONCLUSION

In 2019, the program continued to successfully deliver outreach and education programs and promote responsible waste management. Performance measures (waste trends and website metrics) demonstrate that the CRD effectively reaches waste generators, and outreach and education activities continue to promote proper maintenance practices for catch basins. Staff continue to work with waste generators, haulers and other stakeholders to achieve program goals and to meet requirements under the Core Area Liquid Waste Management program.