

SCRD Solid Waste Management Plan BACKGROUND

SPRING 2025



The Sunshine Coast Regional District (SCRD) is working to update the region's Solid Waste Management Plan (the Plan). The Plan guides how the SCRD will manage solid waste services in the region over the next 10 years, including strategies and actions on waste management and reduction, recycling, composting, disposal options and service costs to the community. This Backgrounder gives an overview of the key pieces of the Plan, and the timeline to come.

PROCESS TO DATE

The Solid Waste Management Plan Update has achieved these key milestones:

Established an Advisory Committee: The SCRD Board appointed technical experts and expert residents to develop a "made on the Sunshine Coast" Plan.

Guiding Principles: The advisory committee created meaningful guiding principles that are specific to our region, and we engaged with the community on them.

Development of Strategies: 14 strategies have been identified, and could be included in the Draft Plan.

Future Waste Disposal Feasibility Studies: SCRD continues to assess waste disposal options that will be included in the updated Plan, once directed by the Board.

NEXT STEPS

- A long-term disposal option needs to be included in the draft Plan. SCRD continues to work on feasibility studies, and will present findings to the Board for decision later this year.
- A draft Solid Waste Management Plan will be presented to the advisory committee, the SCRD Board, and the Community for their feedback.
- The final Plan needs to be approved by the Ministry of Environment and Parks before being implemented.

TIMELINE

SPRING 2023

INITIATION OF THE UPDATE

- Established advisory committee
- Shared information and received feedback on current services with community

SUMMER 2023

PLAN DIRECTION

- Reviewed feedback on current services
- Developed proposed objectives for the Plan
- Ongoing advisory committee meetings

2024-2025

EVALUATE OPTIONS

- Generate strategies to achieve objectives
- Share strategies with the community
- Evaluate long-term waste disposal options

2025

PLAN DEVELOPMENT

- Draft updated Plan
- Seek community feedback
- Finalize Plan, submit to the Province for approval

MAIN COMPONENTS OF THE PLAN

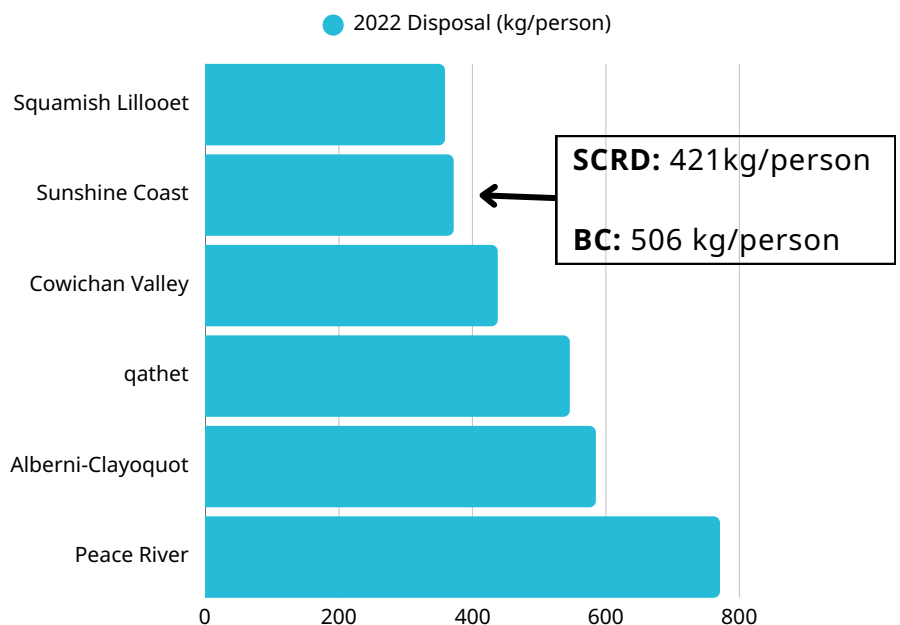
GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Six SCRD guiding principles were developed with feedback from both the community and the advisory committee. These principles are the basis for which the Strategies and Actions were created.

- 1. Focus on the first 3 Rs (Reduce, Reuse and Recycle)
- 2. Prevent organics and recyclables from going in the garbage
- 3. Maximize beneficial use of waste materials, such as turning food waste into compost
- 4. Explore options that promote cost-effective waste management
- 5. Develop collaborative partnerships with interested parties to achieve waste diversion targets
- 6. Support polluter-pay approaches for fees instead of tax increases
- 7. Minimize environmental impacts through reducing GHG emissions from the landfill and promoting proper disposal
- 8. Engage with the community about waste reduction through education and outreach
- 9. Maintain an equitable playing field for waste disposal across the region

GOAL AND TARGET

The region is already performing well compared to BC's average and wants to continue to reduce the disposal rate down to 290 kg/capita by 2035.



PROPOSED STRATEGIES

14 strategies have been identified, each one with a set of new actions to implement. The SCRD is currently gathering feedback on these strategies to ensure the Plan reflects the current needs and desires of the community. Below are summarized proposed strategies.

Reduction, Reuse and Repair

1. Provide More Waste Reduction, Reuse, and Repair Opportunities



Recycling and Diversion

2. Improve Circular Economy and Recycling Opportunities for Local Businesses
3. Lobby for Better and More Provincial Product Stewardship Programs
4. Improve Recycling and Organics Diversion for Residents
5. Improve Compliance and Regulatory Requirements to Enhance Diversion
6. Encourage CDR Waste Prevention and Diversion
7. Encourage Tourist, Seasonal Resident and Event Waste Reduction and Diversion
8. Improve Wildlife Management related to Waste Management



Energy Recovery

9. Assess Potential for Recovery of Energy from Residual Waste



Residual Waste Management

10. Secure Short- and Long-term Disposal Options for the Region
11. Prevent and Address Littering, Illegal Dumping and Marine Debris
12. Improve Invasive Species Management
13. Improve Debris Waste Management



Cost Recovery, System Efficiency and Financial Sustainability

14. Ensure Cost-Effective Waste Management and Long-Term Cost Recovery

