



REGIONAL DISTRICT OF CENTRAL KOOTENAY

MEDIA RELEASE

April 17, 2020
For immediate release

Free yard and garden tipping to begin at RDCK waste facilities

Nelson, BC: The Regional District of Central Kootenay (RDCK) will be implementing free yard and garden (Y&G) tipping at all Resource Recovery facilities beginning Saturday, April 18, 2020. The Y&G program has been fast-tracked to start earlier this year to accommodate the growing need to dispose of residential Y&G waste.

“We have implemented many changes to our Resource Recovery facilities in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and we appreciate our residents’ patience and understanding as we navigate these unprecedented times,” said Uli Wolf, General Manager of Environmental Services. “We are offering this program earlier than usual to allow residents to remove excess debris from their properties to prepare for the upcoming wildfire season.”

Delays can be expected at all sites with increased Y&G traffic. To mitigate this issue, there is a limit of one load of Y&G waste per week. Please be patient and follow instructions to ensure proper distancing measures can be maintained.

The free Y&G tipping programs in the West and Central sub-regions have the following guidelines:

- Residential loads equivalent to one pick-up truck bed (less than 2.5m³) can be deposited at transfer stations.
- Free tipping of commercial loads of Y&G waste and loads larger than one pick-up truck bed is only available at landfills.
- All Y&G waste must be secured while being transported, must be tipped as loose material, and any bags must be emptied and removed by customers.
- Y&G Waste means biodegradable, organic materials, substances or objects including, but not limited to: hedge clippings, weeds, shrubs, and shrub and tree branches less than 15 centimeters (6”) in diameter, chipped.

“The COVID-19 situation has placed multiple constraints on the RDCK waste system that the public may not be aware of,” said Mr. Wolf. “Our team is diligently working within these constraints to come up with innovative ideas to ensure we can maintain our levels of service.”

.../2

In order to serve residents better, the RDCK is gearing up to accept more material types. Using a phased approach, some transfer stations will be able to accept materials such as wood, metal, construction and demo materials. More information on this will be coming out in the following weeks.

Details on the free Y&G tipping program can be found on our website here:

<https://rdck.ca/EN/main/services/waste-recycling/household-hazardous-waste-round-up/yard-garden-waste-free-tipping.html>.

Incorporated in 1965, the Regional District of Central Kootenay (RDCK) is a local government that serves 60,000 residents in 11 electoral areas and nine member municipalities. The RDCK provides more than 160 services, including community facilities, fire protection and emergency services, grants, planning and land use, regional parks, resource recovery and handling, transit, water services and much more. For more information about the RDCK, visit www.rdck.ca.

-30-

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