

News Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Recycling centres experiencing long wait times, non-essential visits discouraged

DUNCAN, BC – Regional recycling centres operated by the Cowichan Valley Regional District (CVRD) are overwhelmed with high traffic volumes and extended wait times as a result of COVID-19 service limitations.

The CVRD continues to assess and respond to availability of staff, as well as closures and slowdowns of external processing facilities such as garbage disposal in the United States, composting and recycling depots, and the availability of hauling contractors. At this time, it is anticipated that CVRD recycling centres will need to continue operating on winter hours until June 1.

“Once again, we are urging residents to hold-off on dumping yard waste and spring cleaning items this weekend if at all possible,” said Aaron Stone, Chair of the Cowichan Valley Regional District. “Those that must should expect long waits to access our sites, and we ask for your patience as we continue to provide this essential service during this ongoing public health emergency.”

Access to CVRD recycling centres is currently limited to 10 vehicles on site at a time, in order to ensure physical distance requirements for the health and safety of the public and CVRD staff. Cash is not being accepted, and all payments must be debit or credit. Free stores are also closed until further notice. Both Meade Creek and Peerless Recycling Centres are open from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. on Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday. Bings Creek Recycling Centre is open daily from 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

“As with all facets of society today, these are unprecedented circumstances for the CVRD’s solid waste system and we are asking for the public’s patience and cooperation as we attempt to meet the needs of our residents while keeping staff and the public safe.” states Brian Carruthers, Chief Administrative Officer.

Anyone experiencing COVID-19 like symptoms are asked to refrain from visiting recycling centres and isolate at home. Those who do visit are asked to ensure they maintain a physical distance of 2-metres from staff and other users all times.

The CVRD will continue to monitor this public health emergency and take direction from the Provincial Health Officer when making decisions about public access to recycling centres. Residents should check the [Garbage & Recycling](#) section of the CVRD website for up-to-date information.

More information on our regional response can be found on [COVID-19 Information](#) page of the CVRD website, and a list of announcements and resources is available through our [COVID-19 Reference Guide](#).

For media inquiries, please contact:

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