

**Effective January 1, 2013**

# New Solid Waste Fees



*The new Bow Lake Recycling and Transfer Station is a fully enclosed, modern facility with improved recycling services.*



[www.kingcounty.gov/solidwaste](http://www.kingcounty.gov/solidwaste)



**King County**

Department of  
Natural Resources and Parks  
Solid Waste Division

# Solid Waste Fees

**Effective January 1, 2013**

These fees were approved for the two-year period of 2013 and 2014.

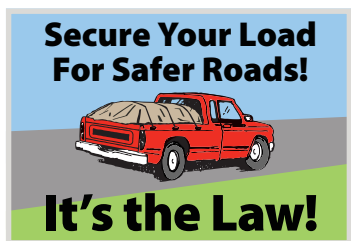
<b>Solid Waste Fees Effective January 1, 2013</b>	<b>King County Basic Fee</b>	<b>Moderate- Risk Waste Surcharge</b>	<b>WA State Refuse Tax (3.6%)</b>	<b>Total</b>
Minimum disposal fee	\$19.43	\$1.81	\$0.76	<b>\$22.00</b>
Per ton disposal fee	\$120.17	\$4.73	\$4.50	<b>\$129.40</b>
Yard waste/clean wood minimum recycling fee	\$12.00	NA	NA	<b>\$12.00</b>
Yard waste/clean wood per ton recycling fee	\$75.00	NA	NA	<b>\$75.00</b>
Appliances with regulated refrigerants recycling fee (ex: refrigerators & air conditioners)	\$30.00	NA	NA	<b>\$30.00</b>
Unsecured load fee	\$25.00	NA	NA	<b>\$25.00</b>

## Special Waste Fees

Some special waste fees have changed to more accurately reflect the cost of disposing these materials. If you currently have a special waste clearance, call 206-296-4466 to learn about the new special waste fees.

## Unsecured Load Fee

An increased fee for unsecured loads supports safe, clean communities. Vehicle-related road debris causes about 400 crashes and five million pounds of litter on Washington highways each year. Driving with an unsecured load is against Washington state law – penalties range from a \$216 ticket to a year in prison. In accordance with state law, since 1994 the Solid Waste Division has assessed a fee to drivers of vehicles with unsecured loads arriving at its transfer facilities or landfill. For more information about how to properly secure your load, visit our website,



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## Who does this fee increase affect?

Everyone who lives in King County\* who generates garbage and pays for curbside garbage collection service or who uses a county transfer station.

*\*Excludes residents of Seattle and Milton; those two cities are part of separate solid waste handling systems.*

## Will this fee increase affect my curbside garbage collection bill?

Yes. The average residential customer who puts out one container of garbage per week for curbside collection is likely to see an increase of about 57 cents per month in the garbage bill from their hauler. Contact your garbage hauler for more information about what your fee increase will be.



*Food scraps can be recycled in the yard waste cart to keep your garbage bill lower.*

## Why are the fees going up?

The fee increase will cover rising operating costs and help pay for modernizing the 1960s-era network of transfer stations operated by the King County Solid Waste Division. An in-depth analysis and evaluation of the county's solid waste transfer system revealed that it needs a major overhaul. Many stations are operating beyond their designed capacity, use outdated technology, and lack space for sufficient recycling services.

Rising operating costs are a result of increased fuel, equipment, labor, and maintenance costs. Due to the recession, there has also been a significant decline in revenue. This combination of rising costs and declining revenues necessitates a fee increase.

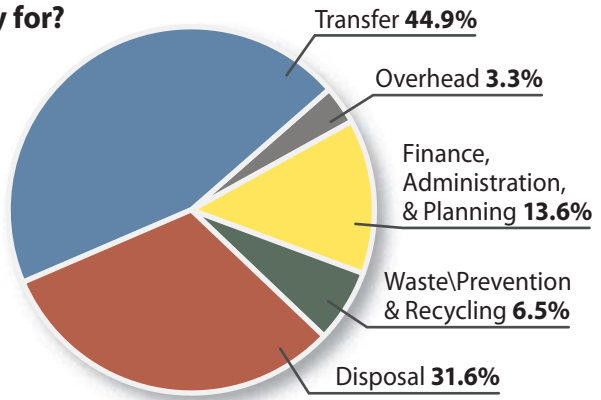


*About 800,000 tons of garbage is processed at King County transfer stations and disposed in the county's Cedar Hills Regional Landfill each year.*

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## What do disposal fees pay for?

Disposal fees pay for operation of King County's regional solid waste transfer and disposal system that includes 10 transfer facilities and the Cedar Hills Regional Landfill – the only operating landfill in King County. Disposal fees also pay for waste prevention and recycling education, promotion, and technical assistance; cleanup of illegal dumping and contaminated sites; and other environmental programs.



Note: Totals in the chart may vary slightly due to rounding.

## When will new solid waste facilities be built?

The Enumclaw, Shoreline, and Vashon transfer stations are up-to-date, and we are currently rebuilding Bow Lake in Tukwila. Next, the Factoria Transfer Station is scheduled for replacement by 2016. Then, the plan is to build two new stations – one in south King County and one in northeast King County – and close the Algona, Houghton, and Renton transfer stations by 2019.

## What can I do to keep my disposal fees low?

- Produce less garbage by practicing waste prevention – reuse or repair things instead of buying new, buy fewer disposable items, and avoid excessive packaging
- Donate reusable items to charitable organizations
- Recycle as much as possible, including putting your food scraps and food-soiled paper in your yard waste container – visit [www.kingcounty.gov/recyclemore](http://www.kingcounty.gov/recyclemore) for more information
- The larger your garbage container, the more you pay for curbside collection service. If you don't fill your garbage container every week or know you can recycle more, call your hauler and ask to switch to a smaller container

## For more information

King County Solid Waste Division

Website . . . . . [www.kingcounty.gov/solidwaste](http://www.kingcounty.gov/solidwaste)  
 General information . . . . . 206-296-4466  
 Toll free . . . . . 1-800-325-6165, ext 64466  
 24-hour recorded information . . . . . 206-296-6540



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Alternate formats  
 provided upon request  
 206-296-4466, TTY Relay: 711