

Vashon Recycling and Transfer Station



Fact Sheet

Overview: Vashon Recycling and Transfer Station was constructed in 1999 on 9.4 acres at the north end of the closed Vashon Landfill. It is bordered on the other sides by Island Center Forest. The facility includes a scalehouse, recycling area and transfer building. The station serves residents and businesses on Vashon Island.

Location: 18900 Westside Hwy SW, Vashon, WA 98070

Hours of Operation

Mon, Wed, Fri, Sat & Sun: 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Tues & Thurs: closed

Closed on Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day

Vehicle length limits: 30 feet. Max combined length limit for vehicles and trailers from bumper to bumper.

What happens to the waste? The waste is transported in covered trailers by county employees from Vashon to the Cedar Hills Regional Landfill, 45 miles away.

What happens to recyclable materials? Recyclable materials are separated by type and distributed to local, national or international markets for processing into recycled content products. Reusable materials (textiles) are donated to local non-profits.

Notable features

- Because of its remote island location, the facility accepts some special wastes for disposal that the other King County transfer stations do not accept, such as sharps, and construction and demolition debris (C&D).
- Funded by the 1% for Art Program, artist Deborah Mersky integrated artwork in two station locations: the scalehouse and "Echo Wall" in the recycling area. Both refer to the life of plants, animals, and refuse.
- Compaction of waste and of recyclable materials reduces the number truck trips off the island, lowering carbon emissions and transportation costs.



Customers place cardboard and mixed recyclable materials in compactor



Artist Deborah Mersky's scale house panels, "Bird News," present fragments of ecological news culled from the local paper.



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2018 at a glance

- **Who are the customers?** 97 percent of visits were made by self-haul customers, who contributed 65 percent of the total solid waste received at the station. Commercial customers contributed 35 percent of the total solid waste with 3 percent of the visits.
- **Tons of solid waste disposed:** 7,953. This constitutes 1 percent of solid waste at all King County transfer stations.
- **Total customer visits:** 20,002
- **Recycling services**
 - Appliances
 - Cardboard*
 - Mercury-containing light bulbs and tubes
 - Scrap metal*
 - Textiles
 - Yard and Food Waste*
 - The following can be combined in the large blue “Recyclable Materials” containers, must be empty, clean and dry:
 - o Paper, including office paper, junk mail, envelopes, newspapers, magazines, catalogs, paper food boxes, cartons such as milk, juice and broth cartons, paper cups if securely tied in clear plastic bags, and hard and paperback books
 - o Cans (aluminum, tin, steel)
 - o Glass bottles and jars
 - o Plastic bottles, cups, jugs, tubs, pots, food containers, clamshells, trays
 - o Lids (3 inches or more)

* These materials must be recycled at facilities that accept these materials for recycling.

2018 Recycling Tonnage

Cardboard	Mixed Paper	Mixed Container	Glass	Metal	Yard Waste	CFC Appliances	Misc.	Total
285	423	104	243	253	852	16	11	2,186



Mersky’s “Echo Wall” frames the portals for sorting recyclable materials with imagery from the Vashon Island environment.



Deer graze on the closed landfill

Alternative Formats On Request
206-477-4466 • TTY Relay: 711

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<https://kingcounty.gov/vashon>