

New solid waste disposal rate supports essential services for King County

Beginning January 1, 2026, King County's Solid Waste Division will enact the following rate adjustments, approved by the King County Council on September 16.

New minimum fees will change to \$40.25 per vehicle and \$243.38 per ton for self-haul customers. Contract haulers will pay \$191.47 per ton, in addition to their fixed annual charge. Yard and wood waste fees will increase to \$20.70 for sedans and two-door hatchbacks, with a weighted rate of \$129.38 per ton for all other customers. Discounts for qualifying low-income customers will also change, increasing from \$18 to \$20.

Revenue from the 2026 rate will allow the Solid Waste Division to continue essential services and avoid cuts to vital programs and services, while supporting capital projects and programs crucial to environmental progress on climate change mitigation, recycling and waste reduction efforts.

KING COUNTY 2026 SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL FEE RATES

SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL FEE TYPE	KING COUNTY ¹ PER-TON FEE	MODERATE RISK ² WASTE SURCHARGE	WA STATE REFUSE TAX (3.6%)	TOTAL
Minimum Fee ³	\$36.39	\$2.23	\$1.32	\$40.25
Per-ton Fee (Self-Haul)	\$229.29	\$5.84	\$8.25	\$243.38
Per-ton Fee (Contract)	\$179.18	\$5.84	\$6.45	\$191.47
Charitable Organizations				
Minimum Fee ³	\$28.25	\$2.23	\$1.02	\$31.50
Per-ton Fee	\$176.55	\$5.84	\$6.36	\$188.75
Special Waste				
Minimum Fee ³	\$44.02	N/A	\$1.58	\$45.60
Per-ton Fee	\$275.14	N/A	\$9.91	\$285.05
Min. Extra Handling Charge	\$51.36	N/A	\$1.85	\$53.21
Per-ton Extra Handling Charge	\$321.01	N/A	\$11.56	\$332.57
Cedar Hills Regional Direct	\$194.89	N/A	N/A	\$194.89
Yard Waste & Clean Wood				
Minimum Fee ³	\$20.70	N/A	N/A	\$20.70
Per-ton Fee	\$129.38	N/A	N/A	\$129.38
Cleanup LIFT Discount	\$20.00	N/A	N/A	\$20.00

¹ Solid waste contract collection companies pay only per-ton-fee at King County solid waste disposal facilities.

² The King County Board of Health has approved increases in the surcharge that funds hazardous waste programs.

³ The standard minimum fee may be rounded to the nearest quarter per King County Code 10.12.030.

Additional messaging about the new rate to the general public and solid waste facility customers will begin in mid-October and continue through the end of the year.