

Heather Garland

From: King County SWD <kingcountyswd@subscriptions.kingcounty.gov>
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To: Heather Garland
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King County
Solid Waste News



King County

Department of
Natural Resources and Parks
Solid Waste Division

***New solid waste disposal rate to support facility
upgrades, service improvements***

New rate includes discount fee for qualified low-income customers

To continue investing in our operations and capital improvement programs, King County's Solid Waste Division will enact a modest rate increase for the first time in two years. The new rate, which was unanimously approved by the Metropolitan King County Council on Sept. 10, 2018, is in line with inflation and takes the basic disposal fee from \$134.59 per ton to \$140.82 per ton. The increase is less than 5 percent, or about \$0.34 per month for the average (one-can) single family curbside customer, and \$0.84 below the rate projected in the 2017-18 rate plan.

It also includes a discounted fee for qualifying low-income customers. The new rate takes effect on Jan. 1, 2019. The text of adopted ordinance 18784 is hyperlinked below.

The 2019-20 rate is comparable to other solid waste providers in the region, and lower

than rates for comparable services in Pierce County and Seattle.

Beyond preserving our current services for recycling, transfer and disposal, the revenue from the 2019-20 rate will:

- Support free recycling of non-refrigerant type major appliances like stoves, washers, and dryers at facilities where scrap metal is collected.
- Advance major projects outlined in the [Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan](#), including long term disposal and initial steps for improved service in northeast King County.
- Invest in new equipment and modernized infrastructure, which includes replacing the 50-year old Algona Transfer Station with a new South County Recycling and Transfer Station.
- Improve our customer service and ability to meet growing demand at our facilities.
- Offer a low-income discount at solid waste facilities, consistent with County equity and social justice goals.

The minimum fee for self-haulers visiting a King County recycling and solid waste transfer facility will increase from \$24.25 to \$25.25. The adopted ordinance defines new terms that clarify the types of vehicles subject to the minimum fee and the per ton fee without changing how customers are charged.

Also beginning in January 2019, King County will offer a discounted fee for qualifying low-income residents who haul their own garbage, recyclables and compostable materials to a King County recycling and solid waste transfer facility. Self-haul customers who show their ORCA LIFT, EBT, or Medicaid (ProviderOne) card when entering a King County facility will receive a \$12 discount off their total fee per visit. The Solid Waste Division is working with community agencies to get the word out about this discount, which is consistent with King County's equity and social justice goals to ensure all customers have access to essential facilities regardless of income.

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.

We value our relationship with you. If you have any questions or comments about the newly adopted rates and our future service plans, please contact the [King County Solid Waste Division](#) at 206-477-4466.

Read the King County Ordinance #18784 here: [KingCounty-Ordinance+18784-SolidWasteRates-2019-2020.pdf](#)

Solid Waste Disposal Fee Type	King County Basic Fee ¹	Moderate Risk Waste Surcharge ²	WA State Refuse Tax (3.6%)	TOTAL
Minimum Fee ³	\$22.53	\$1.91	\$0.88	\$25.25
Per Ton Fee	\$140.82	\$4.99	\$5.25	\$151.06
Charitable Organizations				
Minimum Fee	\$17.35	\$1.91	\$0.69	\$19.95
Per Ton Fee	\$108.43	\$4.99	\$4.08	\$117.50
Special Waste				
Minimum Fee	\$27.04	NA	\$0.97	\$ 28.01
Per Ton Fee	\$169.00	NA	\$6.08	\$175.08
Minimum Extra Handling Charge	\$31.54	NA	\$1.14	\$32.68
Per Ton Extra Handling Charge	\$197.00	NA	\$7.09	\$204.09
Cedar Hills Regional Direct	\$120.00	NA	NA	\$120.00

¹ Solid waste commercial collection companies pay only the basic fee at King County solid waste disposal facilities.

² The King County Board of Health approved increases in the surcharge that funds hazardous waste programs throughout the county that take effect on Jan. 1, 2019 and Jan. 1, 2020.

³ The total minimum fee is rounded to the nearest twenty-five cents per King County Code 10.12.030.

Please do not reply to this email. For more information about King County's solid waste disposal rates, contact the King County Solid Waste Division by calling 206-477-4466.



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