

Village of Salmo

Changes to the Recycling Depot

Recycle BC is making changes to the way recycling is handled around the province. For the Village this means that:

- The current recycling dumpsters will be removed.
- There will be a new and improved recycling depot at the same address, but in front of the old recycling building.
- The new location will be fully fenced and gated, staffed, and only open six (6) hours a day, four (4) days a week, including Wednesday and Saturday. The other two days are yet to be determined.
- Instead of bins, the depot will use mega bags, and there will be a container for fibre material and cardboard.

- The front privacy fence will feature an 'art wall' consisting of three fantastic murals on concrete. It will screen the depot from the road and block off the view of the lower section of the recycling building.



The centre panel will feature Salmo's first new rock mural

in two decades, and the other two murals will have painted scenes for the present, with the hopes of eventually converting them to rock murals as well. The theme is salmon and mining, with the first stone mural depicting a scene with salmon in the Salmo River designed by Salmo artist Tia Reyden.

- The Village will be fixing and refinishing the exterior building walls to make the building structurally sound and improve its appearance.
- There will also be some landscaping done along the front of the fence with either flowerbeds or large flowerpots and shrubs to add some color and beauty.
- In addition, a public bathroom, assessable from the outside, is being built for people walking around the mountain, playing baseball, skating, and depot staff.

Advantages of the new arrangement include:

- No more unsightly view from the road for neighbours or passersby.
- No more 24-hour drop off, so no noises in the night.
- No more big truck doing loud dumping over head – the mega bins can be wheeled onto a transport truck during the day.
- Security cameras are planned to capture late night droppers off and anyone trying to leave garbage and/or furniture items.
- Provides an opportunity for depot staff to educate people about recyclables.

Facts about the site:

The property is Village-owned and is zoned Parks, Open Spaces and Institutional. Permitted uses include public utility buildings and structures, and accessory buildings and structures. Recycling is considered a public utility (as is garbage collection).

There is no garbage or hazardous material collected on site, only clean recyclable materials, except every other year when a half-day household hazardous materials round-up is held by the RDCK. Materials collected at the hazardous materials round-up are not kept on site and are immediately loaded into the transport vehicles as they are collected. All necessary safety precautions are taken during their collection. There is no short or long-term danger to the aquifer or public health.

The current site is an eyesore for neighbours, park users and passersby. It also creates a dust and/or mud problem, needs more snow removal and allows for less parking during ball games. The new site will be mainly hidden behind a fence and the fence, artwork, and landscaping will provide an attractive view for neighbours and park users.

Limiting operating hours will also reduce noise and perceived neighbourhood disruption, while security measures should reduce illicit drop-offs.

If the decision had been to not have recycling in Salmo, but rather at the current transfer station, it would have been a much further distance for Villagers to travel. Therefore, less recycling is apt to happen and quite likely the materials would end up in our land fill or local forests. Curbside recycling was looked into by the Village, but would more than double the cost of everyone's annual garbage utility pick-up costs.

The Lions Park site is and remains the most cost-effective and accessible site for the Village to use for this purpose.