

## Overview

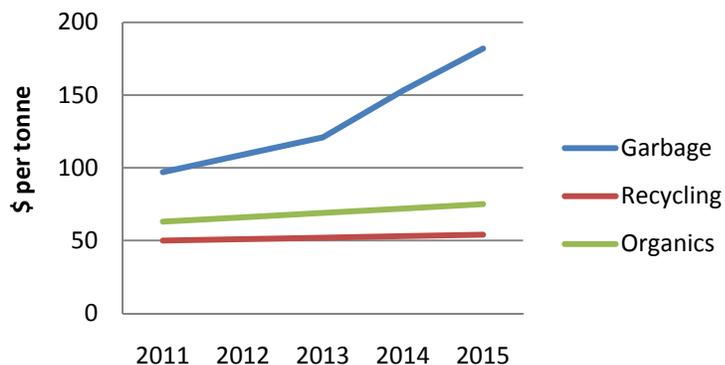
North Shore residents and businesses currently recycle just over half of the 200,000 tonnes of garbage, or solid waste, generated each year. Recycling programs, product stewardship (electronics and beverage container return programs) and composting currently divert 55% of the waste from disposal. The remaining 45% goes to the Cache Creek or Vancouver landfills or to the Burnaby waste to energy facility for disposal.

## Eco-Levy

### The Solid Waste Management Plan



### Projected Regional Disposal Costs: 2011-2015



Impending closure of the Cache Creek Landfill means garbage disposal costs will rise significantly. Costs can be mitigated by reducing the amount of garbage we throw away.

## The Solid Waste Management Plan

Metro Vancouver has recently submitted the region's **Integrated Solid Waste and Resource Management Plan** for approval by the BC Minister of Environment. The plan aims to increase the amount of recycling and waste diversion from the current 55% to **70% by 2015**.

- The City is obligated to manage waste in accordance with the Metro Vancouver plan.
- Regional costs for recycling and composting will be lower than garbage.
- There is a significant penalty for disposing of recyclable materials in the garbage. A 50% surcharge is charged at the North Shore Transfer Station for loads containing more than 5% recyclable materials.

On November 1, 2010, City Council endorsed the municipal actions in the regional Solid Waste Management Plan and directed staff to consult with key sectors on the gradual introduction of cost recovery for waste management through an eco-levy for all residents and businesses. The City is currently seeking feedback from the non-residential sector.

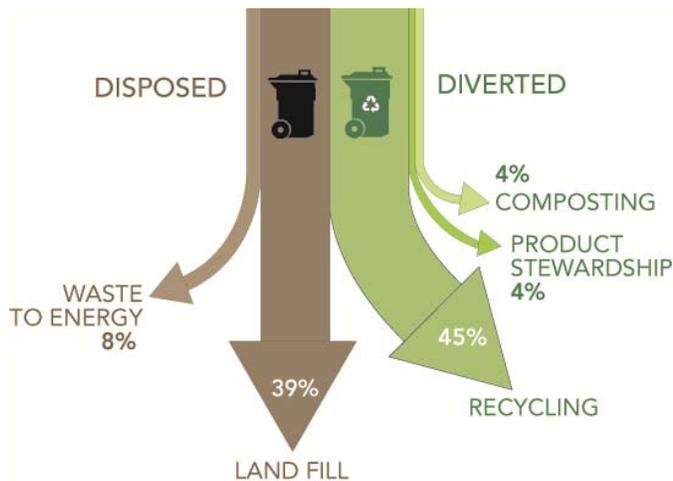
# Metro Vancouver's zero waste CHALLENGE

The Solid Waste Management Plan focuses on **reducing waste** and **managing the disposal of waste remaining after recycling**. A key part of the plan is the Zero Waste Challenge, which aims to dramatically reduce the amount of waste generated and to divert waste from the landfill.



## Eco-Levy

Reducing Garbage

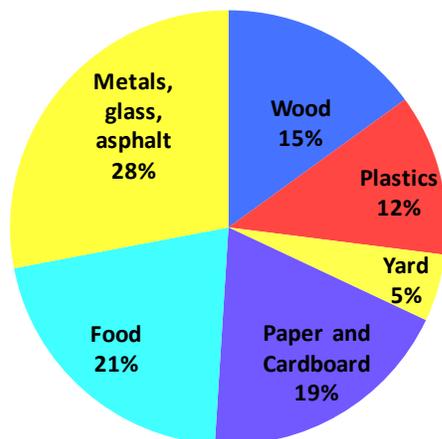


## What is diversion?

Anything to prevent items from ending up in the landfill. Diverting waste is achieved by any combination of:

- Reducing
- Reusing
- Recycling
- Composting

## What's in our Waste?



Wood, paper, cardboard, plastics, batteries and electronics are all items that can be recycled.

Keeping these items out of the garbage stream will reduce the amount of North Shore garbage going to the landfill or waste to energy facility by 30,000 tonnes.

Source: Zero Waste Challenge: Goals, Strategies and Actions. Zero Waste Challenge Management Plan, Metro Vancouver, 2009



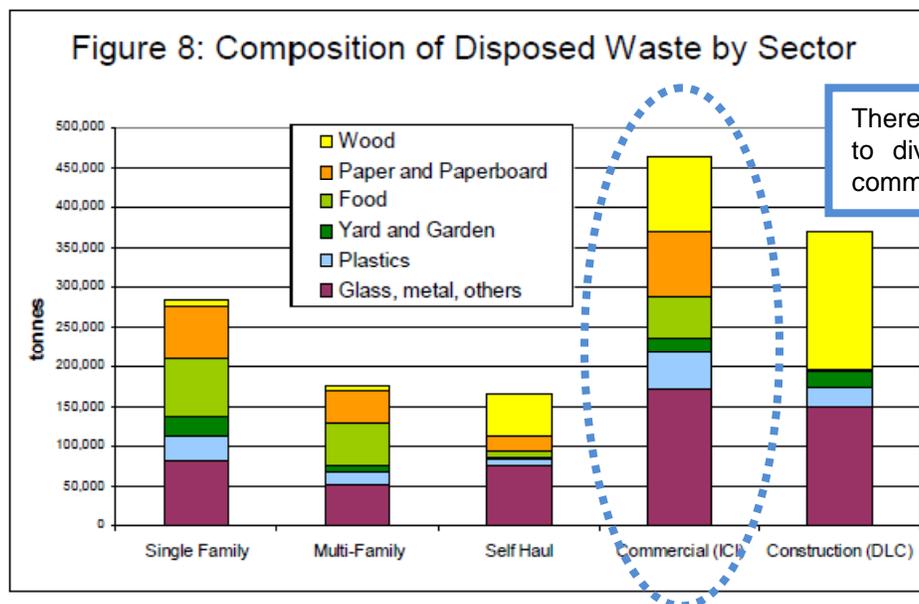
# Eco-Levy

Improving Waste Management



## Improving Waste Management

- Currently Metro Vancouver bans recyclable materials such as newspaper from garbage disposal, and other materials such as food scraps will be banned in the coming years.
- The City will increase services to assist the commercial sector in meeting the 70% waste diversion target. The City is improving management of street garbage, beginning to provide recycling for newspapers and beverage cans. With the eco-levy, on-street garbage container servicing is being integrated into the City's solid waste utility.
- In the future, the City will gather information on how various materials are disposed of by businesses and what services the City could provide to assist with waste reduction.



Source: Metro Vancouver Discussion Document, Strategy for Updating the Solid Waste Management Plan, February 2008 (Revised March 2008)

# Eco-Levy: Introduction

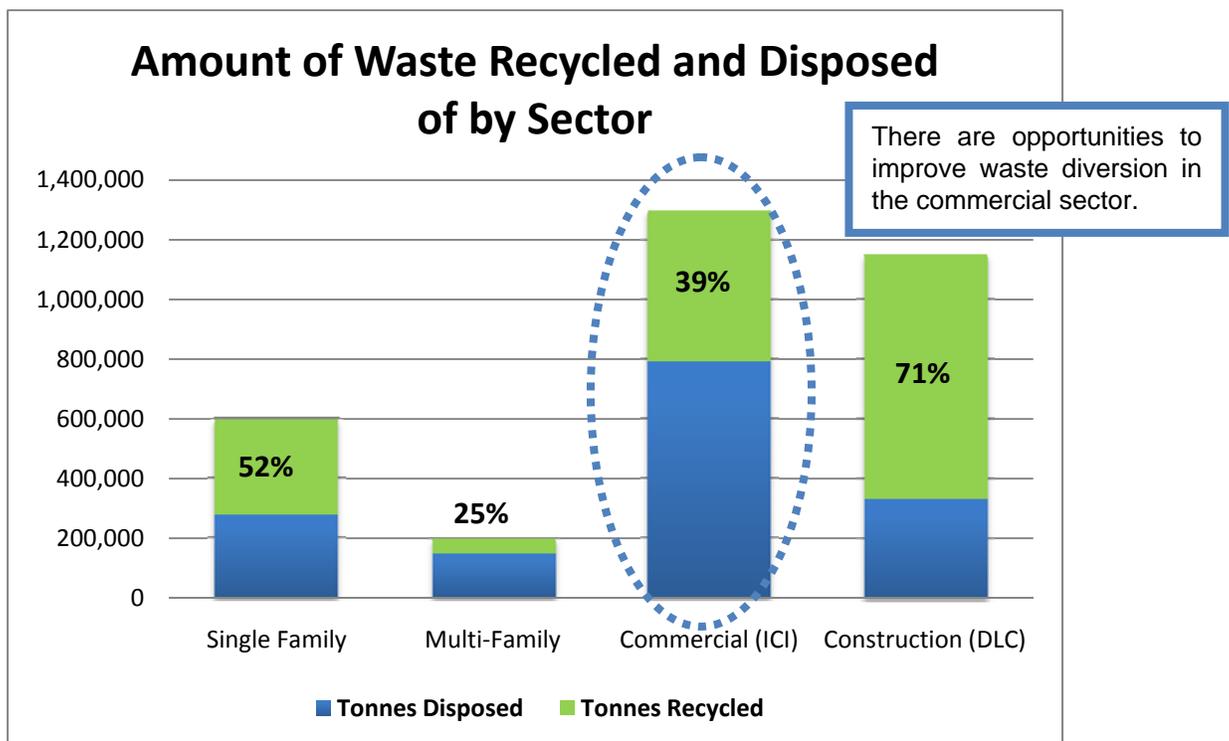
Currently, the solid waste utility is funded exclusively through residential levies although some waste diversion services (for example, the recycling depot) provide services to the non-residential sector. **The Solid Waste Management Plan emphasizes waste reduction and diversion in all sectors including the industrial, institutional and commercial sectors.**

## Eco-Levy

Eco-Levy  
Introduction



Public realm garbage collection and litter management is currently funded through the general property tax levy, but materials collected include significant recyclable materials such as paper and beverage containers. To achieve 70% waste diversion, the City will need to adjust its operations to recover these materials for recycling and the cost of this program will increase over the coming years. What is needed is a method of beginning to recover a portion of these costs concurrent with a move towards managing all solid waste costs within the solid waste utility.



Source: Figure 5, Metro Vancouver Discussion Document, Strategy for Updating the Solid Waste Management Plan, February 2008 (Revised March 2008)

# Eco-Levy Implementation

The eco-levy will be charged to both residential and non-residential property owners to ensure both sectors share costs associated with services that are available to them, such as the North Shore Recycling Drop-off Depot.



## Eco-Levy

### Eco-Levy Implementation



The eco-levy may be implemented all at once or through a phased approach over the next 5 years. The following chart illustrates the estimated annual eco-levy for these options based on an average property in the City of North Vancouver. Costs are based on current costs of service delivery and costs may change if services change over time.

Sector	Eco-levy Per Year (Implemented All at Once)	Eco-levy Per Year (Range First Year of 5 Year Phase In)
Residential Property	\$28	\$6
Major Industrial Property	\$367	\$76
Sample Large Commercial (\$20,000,000 assessed value)	\$1,978	\$408
Sample Small Commercial (\$500,000 assessed value)	\$49	\$10

## Feedback Requested

Paper copies of the questionnaire are available, and there is also an on-line questionnaire available:

<http://www.cnv.org/EcolevyImplementation>

The questionnaire is open until January 30, 2011.

## Eco-Levy Cost Overview

Implementing the eco-levy will shift the waste management functions for litter and garbage collection from the general property tax levy (currently funded by all taxpayers) to the solid waste utility. This will provide greater transparency and offset future property tax increases. Overall, the eco-levy will enable the City to consolidate all waste management functions within the solid waste utility.

## Eco-Levy

### Cost Breakdown



## Cost Breakdown

The costs for the eco-levy is based on costs for litter and garbage container service, as follows:

Street Litter and Container Collection	\$297,500
Park Litter and Container Collection	\$273,700
Random Dumping Cleanup	\$23,800
<hr/>	
Total	\$595,000

Up to 2010, these costs were funded by the general property tax levy charged to all residential and non-residential properties. These costs would now be funded by the solid waste utility through the new eco-levy.

The funding from the proposed eco-levy will be combined with funding from the solid waste utility residential recycling levy. Together, these monies will be used to pay for:

- the costs of litter and garbage collection service in the public realm
- improved garbage management in the public realm including on-street recycling
- waste reduction outreach programs for all sectors
- the operation of the North Shore Recycling Depot (a \$400,000 per year cost)

The Solid Waste and Recycling Utility budget for 2011 includes provision for public outreach and education programs to reduce waste and increase diversion. This budget also provides the City's share of funding for the operation of the North Shore Recycling Drop-Off Depot. Funding from the proposed eco-levy and the Solid Waste and Recycling utility would be blended in order to pay for these services as well as improved street waste management.

# Eco-Levy

## FAQs



## Frequently Asked Questions

### 1. Why is the City implementing the Eco-Levy?

Rising garbage volumes and dwindling disposal options are driving changes to waste management in the Metro Vancouver region, further emphasizing waste reduction and recycling. Implementing the eco-levy will shift some waste management functions (litter and garbage collection) from the general property tax levy to the solid waste utility, consolidating all waste management functions in the City's solid waste and recycling utility.

### 2. Why doesn't the City provide commercial recycling service collection?

There are already a number of private-sector recycling service providers who offer these services.

### 3. When will the City start collecting food waste?

The City is currently in the planning stages for food waste collection for single family residences, working with Metro Vancouver and the Districts of North and West Vancouver. Implementation is scheduled to occur later in 2011.

### 4. What is currently banned or prohibited from the garbage?

Banned items include paper, blue box recyclables and yard waste. Prohibited items include gypsum, pharmaceuticals, paints, and tires. Loads containing these materials are charged a 50% penalty over the regular disposal fee at the North Shore Transfer Station. For more info call Metro Vancouver at 604.432.6200.

### 5. If I already have a garbage removal contract am I exempt from the eco-levy?

No, the eco-levy does not cover garbage removal from individual properties. The eco-levy, together with the residential recycling levy charged to all residential properties will cover the cost of litter and on-street garbage collection throughout the City, the North Shore Recycling Drop-off Depot, and public education and outreach to all sectors to improve waste reduction and diversion.

### 6. What does the City provide for businesses?

The Recycling Depot on Riverside Drive operates with no user fees and accepts large amounts of recyclable materials from non-residential customers. The City is improving management of on-street garbage collection, providing additional on-street recycling opportunities in the public realm. The City will also be assisting businesses in accessing programs and services to recycle and reduce waste. Many businesses have realized substantial cost savings through increased waste management and recycling, and savings will increase over time as garbage disposal rates continue to rise.

## Benefits of Reducing Waste

Several businesses have already improved waste management and are seeing **significant savings**, **increased staff morale** and a **better company image** as a result.

- **London Drugs** implemented a comprehensive recycling program resulting in over 60% savings in tipping fees. One store reduced from **seven garbage bins per week to just two**.
- **Clark Wilson LLP** engaged employees in an office supply amnesty day, allowing them to redistribute and reuse 3 months worth of materials instead of buying new – and **saved \$2,000**.
- **Mountain Equipment Coop** pays \$154/tonne to send garbage to the landfill, but only \$39/tonne to recycle. By performing a waste audit, setting targets and educating staff, they were able to drastically reduce the amount of garbage they created, resulting in **\$63,000 annual savings**.

## Eco-Levy

Benefits of Reducing Waste



## Services Available

Several services are currently available to help businesses achieve their waste management goals:

- City-wide on-street garbage container service and recycling
- North Shore Recycling Drop-Off Depot
- North Shore Recycling information resources
- City-sponsored waste reduction programs including ClimateSmart for Businesses
- Metro Vancouver's SmartSteps program, including on-site walk-through assessments and business-specific how-to guides
- Metrovancouverrecycles.org – online map of recycling options throughout the region
- The Recycling Council of BC's staffed hotline: 604-RECYCLE

The City is committed to supporting commercial sector efforts for waste reduction and recycling.

