



Westside Landfill Newsletter

November 2008

Welcome to the November update on the operations of the Westside Landfill.

- **Landfill Operation** – We anticipate during November, the recycler will be bailing and removing collected materials from the white goods/metals area of the landfill. We also expect that the lower berm area behind the metals area will be resloped and built up along the Southeast corner of the landfill, adjacent to the Alexandria Way cul-de-sac. The landfill contractor will continue to fill and build up elevations along the centre section of the landfill where the old access road was located.

Please note that these are anticipated plans for operations at the landfill and are subject to change.

News and Information

Public Consultation on Future Services at Westside Landfill

Work continues as the consulting team (CH2M Hill) contracted by the Regional District to complete a Final Closure Plan for the landfill and Conceptual Plan for a possible convenience transfer facility. This process is taking slightly longer than anticipated several months ago. As a result, public information meetings that were expected for early November have been postponed until the Closure Plan and Conceptual Plan are ready for presentation. We apologize for this temporary delay and remain committed to hosting public sessions that will be scheduled and advertised.

Consulting Team Presentation

The representative for CH2M Hill has provided an update on the preparation of the two plans to both the Regional Board and Westside District Municipal Council. A link to the presentation has been established for anyone wishing to view it on the Westside Landfill Closure webpage on the Regional District website:

www.regionaldistrict.com/docs/waste/LandfillClose/GSReport_Westside_Landfill_Closure_Oct08.pdf

Some of the highlights include suggestions for the passive park that could be created after the work is completed in closing the landfill site. It's expected that this would result in a natural grassland type environment on the slopes and upper areas as part of the reclamation process, with native shrubs and other vegetation placed in pockets to break up the open spaces and provide visual screens to any post-closure infrastructure. There could be a network of gravel walking trails that lead to viewpoints overlooking Shannon Lake and Okanagan Lake with non-obtrusive interpretative displays to highlight the reclamation of the former landfill and activities associated with habitat restoration. As well, there are requirements from the Ministry of Environment that must be in the Closure Plan including provisions for ongoing monitoring of the site for a period of at least 25 years.

The consulting team presentation also points out that with the landfill closure businesses on the Westside could face higher disposal costs from private haulers as those materials will be taken to the City of Kelowna Glenmore Landfill for disposal. The Regional District Waste Reduction Office is working to keep businesses and commercial haulers informed and aware of the plans for closing the Westside Landfill.

Later this fall, once the consulting team has drafted a Closure Plan for the landfill and Conceptual Design of a possible transfer station, the information will be presented for public and stakeholder comment. It's anticipated that during the winter of 2009, the Closure Plan will be finalized and presented to the Regional Board for approval. With the start of the Curbside Automated Waste Collection Program in the Westside District Municipality and District of Peachland during the spring of 2009, curbside solid waste materials will be hauled directly to the City of Kelowna Glenmore Landfill and diverted from the Westside Landfill. Further phases of diversion to the City landfill will take place through 2009 in preparation for final closure of the Westside Landfill during 2010.

We encourage community participation in the upcoming sessions providing you and opportunity to present your views, comments and thoughts through the public consultation process.

Here is the link to the webpage set up on the Regional District website for information regarding the closure of the landfill and plans for any future transfer station facility:

www.regionaldistrict.com/departments/engineering/engineering_wslandfill_yardwastecom.aspx

Closure Reserve Fund Spending Approved

At its October 27th meeting the Regional Board approved spending some of the estimated \$2 million in reserve funds set aside for closing the Westside Landfill. With the closing moved up to 2010, the Board authorized that \$100,000 previously earmarked for spending during 2011, be made available now, for initial work associated with starting the closure process. Some of these funds will be used to provide the final clay cap in areas in the eastern and northern sections of the landfill which are nearing final elevation and slope. The Board agrees that is easier and more cost effective to complete the work now, while the contractor is in these areas, than delaying the work and returning in 2011.

Automated Waste Collection Program

Work continues as the Regional District plans to roll out the automated curbside waste collection program. In advance of a public information campaign slated to start late this year, here's how the program will work. Each single-family property will receive three wheeled carts: one each for garbage, recycling and yard waste. Garbage will continue to be collected each week, while recycling and yard waste will be picked up on alternate weeks. For information on this program and an informative Question and Answer sheet and details on cart sizes please visit the Automated Waste Collection Program webpage:

www.regionaldistrict.com/departments/waste/waste_other_progrep.aspx

Should you have any questions or comments please forward them to Bruce Smith, RDCO Communications Coordinator and we'll do our best to provide answers for you.

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