



Where Does My Garbage Go?

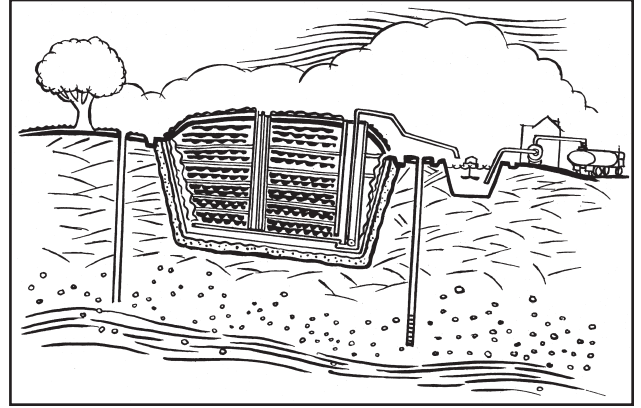
Why is waste prevention and recycling so important in Kitsap County?
Let's look at what it takes to deal with all the garbage.

Here is the story of garbage in Kitsap County – that stuff in the trash can that just “goes away!”

History

Prior to the mid 1970s, it was common practice everywhere for residents and businesses to throw their garbage into unlined dumps, gravel pits, wetlands, and waterways. But in the mid-1970s, heightened awareness of the environment resulted in specially designed sanitary landfills to reduce potential impacts of garbage on human health and the environment.

A sanitary landfill is lined with compacted clay and a multi-layered composite liner system to prevent leachate from contaminating the groundwater. Leachate is made when rainwater soaks through the garbage, capturing pollutants as it goes. The leachate is collected through a plumbing system installed throughout the landfill. Methane gas, produced by decomposing garbage, is also collected in a similar system.



Old landfills throughout Kitsap County stopped accepting waste during the mid 1970s, and were closed following rigorous closure requirements. Most landfills were capped with either plastic high-density polyethylene or a clay cover. This “cap” was then covered with about two feet of soil including a layer of topsoil that was then hydroseeded.



Operations at the Barney White Landfill, which opened in the 1960's, were updated in 1975 to comply with new environmental regulations. In 1995, the name of the landfill was changed to Olympic View Sanitary Landfill (OVSL); this facility became the disposal site for all garbage generated by Kitsap County residents and businesses and some surrounding areas. OVSL was the last operating landfill in the county.

On July 26, 2002, the Olympic View Sanitary Landfill stopped accepting garbage. The landfill had grown from a hole in the ground to a carefully-designed landfill with lined multi-cells containing over 7 million cubic yards of garbage. The landfill was capped and the closure process completed in 2004.

Olympic View Transfer Station

The Olympic View Transfer Station (OVTS) opened July 27, 2002, to handle the solid waste disposal needs of the residents and businesses of Kitsap County. As owner, Kitsap County entered into a 20-year contract with Waste Management, Inc. to operate the facility, in a successful public-private partnership to provide essential services. It is estimated that OVTS will receive approximately 750 – 1,000 tons every day.

OVTS was built on an 11-acre site located in the Port of Bremerton's Olympic View Industrial Park, across Highway 3 from the Bremerton Airport, on Barney White Road.

Disposal fees are charged on a “per ton” basis. Scales record inbound and outbound vehicle weights; the difference between these weights is the weight of waste disposed. Separate fees are charged for tires, appliances, monitors, and TVs .



The Waste Transfer System

Beginning at your home or business, your garbage now goes through seven steps before reaching a landfill:

1. In most cases, your garbage company takes waste



from your trash can or dumpster and loads it into a garbage truck. Some people take their own garbage to one of several self-haul facilities located throughout the county.

2. After the garbage is collected, it is taken to the Olympic View Transfer Station (OVTS). A contracted waste hauler also brings the large containers used by residents at the self-haul facilities to OVTS.



3. At OVTS, the garbage is tipped out of the trucks onto the transfer station floor, compacted into a 30-ton "brick," and pushed into a shipping container. Approximately 30 containers are filled each day!



4. The shipping container of garbage is then carried across the lot and double-stacked on a railcar for transport.



5. The Puget Sound and Pacific Railroad hauls the railcars twice a week to Centralia where they join other "garbage trains" to build a 100-150 car train. The train continues to the Columbia Ridge Landfill, a regional landfill in Arlington, Oregon. The 300 mile one-way trip takes about 24 hours.



6. The shipping containers are removed from the train at the landfill and loaded onto trucks. The empty containers are then returned to Kitsap County for re-use.



7. The garbage is then trucked to the working part of the landfill called "cells" and unloaded. Every day the garbage is covered with soil to eliminate odors and to help keep seagulls, rodents, and other scavengers from scattering the garbage outside of the landfill.



In an average year, OVTS processes over 215,000 tons of garbage!

Columbia Ridge Landfill

The Columbia Ridge Landfill is located near the town of Arlington, an arid area of northeastern Oregon. The landfill is owned and operated by Waste Management, Inc., as part of their landfill network.

The landfill was designed and operates under highly regulated and defined procedures to protect surface and groundwater through environmental controls, and meets or exceeds all federal, state, and local regulations.

The Columbia Ridge Landfill property covers 687 acres (20 times larger than Kitsap Mall), with an additional 11,000-acre buffer. As of December 2006, there was capacity for an additional 280 million tons (100 years worth of garbage) under the current permit.



Self-haul Recycling and Garbage Facilities

The Kitsap County self-haul system provides convenient disposal options for solid waste generated by residents and small businesses in rural areas. Approximately 15% of the garbage disposed in Kitsap County is handled through self-haul facilities, where garbage from customers is put into larger containers then hauled to Olympic View Transfer Station (OVTS).

Customers are charged by volume (cubic yards) of waste. Disposal fees at rural facilities include the cost to operate the facilities, plus the transportation to and disposal at the OVTS. Separate fees are charged for disposal/recycling of tires and appliances.

The Bainbridge Island Recycling and Garbage Facility located on Don Palmer Avenue, accepts garbage and a wide range of recyclable materials. The City of Bainbridge Island owns this property and Bainbridge Disposal operates the facility.

The Hansville Recycling and Garbage Facility located on Ecology Road, accepts garbage and a wide range of recyclable materials. The facility is owned and operated by Kitsap County Public Works.

The Poulsbo Recycle Center located on the corner of Viking Way and Highway 305, accepts recyclable materials ONLY. The facility is owned and operated by Kitsap County Public Works.

The Silverdale Recycling and Garbage Facility located on Dickey Road, accepts garbage and a wide range of recyclable materials. The property is owned by Kitsap County Public Works and operated by Waste Management, Inc.

Recycling & Garbage Facilities

- ◆ **Dropoff Garbage & Recycling**
- ◆ **Recycling ONLY**
- ◆ **Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facility**

Hansville Recycling and Garbage Facility
7791 NE Ecology Road
360-638-2710
Open 8am-3:30pm Wed to Mon.
Closed Tuesday

Poulsbo Recycle Center
21868 Viking Way NW
360-779-1044
Open 8am-3:30pm Tues. to Sat.
Closed Sunday and Monday

Silverdale Recycling and Garbage Facility
8843 NW Dickey Road
60-692-5900
Open 9am-5pm every day

Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facility
5551 SW Imperial Way
360-337-5777
Open 10am-4pm Thurs. to Sat.
(Residential Only)
Closed Sunday to Wednesday
Business by appointment ONLY

Bainbridge Island Recycling and Garbage Facility
7215 Don Palmer Ave.
206-842-0962
Open 10am-4pm Wed. to Sun.
Closed Monday and Tuesday

Olympic View Transfer Station
9300 SW Barney White Rd.
360-674-2297
Open 8am-5pm every day

Olalla Recycling and Garbage Facility
2850 SE Burley-Olalla Road
253-857-5034
Open 9am-5pm Fri. to Tues.
Closed Wednesday and Thursday

Questions?

Kitsap County Public Works
The Open Line
(360) 337-5777
solidwaste@co.kitsap.wa.us
www.kitsapgov.com/sw

The Olalla Recycling and Garbage Facility located on Burley-Olalla Road off Highway 16, accepts garbage and a wide range of recyclable materials. The property is owned by Kitsap County Public Works and operated by Waste Management, Inc.

Recycle, Reuse, and Prevent Waste

With all the labor, materials, fuel, and other natural and financial resources that go into transporting our garbage from Kitsap County to its final disposal site in eastern Oregon, it's apparent that we need to really think before we just throw something into the trash can!

First, ask yourself if your used items can be reused by you or someone else instead of throwing them away. Items such as bicycles, clothing, books, furniture, and many household items can be donated to thrift stores or non-profit organizations or sold at garage sales or on-line. Reuse keeps perfectly good items out of the landfill, helps others, and extends the life of items. This is a much better use of natural resources. Kitsap County Public Works sponsors the 2Good2Toss website so our residents and businesses can list unwanted or surplus items they have. This on-line, 24-hour garage sale is free! Residents and businesses are not charged a listing or selling fee. Just visit the website at www.2good2toss.com and select the Kitsap County logo. Once you are a registered user of the site, you can list your items as long as they will be sold for less than \$99 – you can even list items as FREE.



Shopping Smart (“pre-cycling”) is also a way to reduce garbage and save resources. Avoid excess packaging or poor quality items that break easily. Use sturdy durables instead of disposables. Filling up landfills with “convenience” items or unnecessary packaging is truly a waste.

How Can You Get Involved?

You can help keep the environment healthy and save money by learning the basics about solid waste and encouraging your family, your co-worker, and your employer to consider issues and solutions. The choices you make will affect the quality of our environment and quality of life in Kitsap County.

Here are some good questions to ask:

- What can I do at home, school, and/or work to prevent waste?
- What more could I recycle?
- Can I use a smaller trash can or reduce my number of garbage pickups?
- What gets in the way of taking these actions and how can I solve it?

All residents are welcome to attend a meeting of the Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC). The SWAC assists in the development of programs and policies concerning solid waste management. If you are interested in participating on the SWAC, please contact us at The Open Line (360) 337-5777 or email solidwaste@co.kitsap.wa.us