



Town of High Level
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January 15, 2016

All Town of High Level Residents

RE: Changes to the Waste Collection Program- including physical waste drop-off

On December 14, 2015, Town of High Level Council amended the Fees Schedules A-K of Bylaw 889-09 regarding the Waste collection program, including physical waste drop-off at the Mackenzie Regional Landfill. These changes will take effect March 15, 2016.

In 2015 the Town of High Level commenced a review of their waste collection program. The intent of the review was to identify effective and efficient ways for the management of this service. While the program was being reviewed the Town was notified by the Mackenzie Regional Waste Management Commission that their tipping fees (i.e. the amount billed for each load of waste taken to the landfill) were increasing by approximately 20%, effective January 2016. This in turn will increase the costs incurred by the Town for tipping fees associated with the waste collection and residential drop off. Currently, the tipping fee charged on the monthly utility bills that are mailed to Town residents allow High Level residents to take loads to the landfill without paying a tipping fee. Due to this fee increase, as well as the high volume of landfill waste being billed to the Town, it was necessary to reduce the overall amount of tipping charges.

As such, beginning in March 2016, all Town residential utility bills will have a blue tear-off voucher with the utility account indicated on it. This blue voucher **must** be presented at the landfill by Town residents when dropping off waste at the landfill. These vouchers will expire at the end of the following month. For example, the vouchers included with the utility bills mailed in March 2016 will be valid until April 30, 2016. Please note that these vouchers are not transferrable and duplication is strictly prohibited.

By requiring Town residents who use the landfill to provide their monthly blue voucher, this new system aims to decrease the overall minimum tipping charges that are being paid for by the Town's taxpayers.

Additionally, in order for the Town of High Level to provide this service to the residents without an increase in fees, the following changes will be occurring on all residential Town utility bills:

- The Residential Garbage Charge and Residential Garbage Tipping charge will be combined into one flat fee, which will appear on the bill as Waste Collection. This flat fee will include the following:

Gateway to the South

- weekly curbside pickup and associated tipping of waste
- one monthly voucher that allows residents to bring one load of residential waste (maximum of 250 kilograms) to the landfill.

Please note that the new voucher will not include taking white goods (i.e. refrigerators, stoves, etc.) to the landfill. Town residents bringing white goods to the landfill must pay the required drop-off fee for white goods via cash, credit card or debit card. The Mackenzie Regional Waste Management's fee currently is \$25.00.

The Annual Spring Cleanup will still remain in effect. There are no changes to the weekly residential curbside pickup, which will continue to occur every Thursday. Please keep in mind that a maximum of four garbage bins per residence can be put at the curb for pickup every week. Garbage bins must have a secure cover and must be placed for collection only on the day of pickup. Disposal of waste must follow the provisions of the Garbage Bylaw No. 879-09, which can be found on the Town of High Level website at: www.highlevel.ca/bylaws-a-policies.

A copy of this letter will also be posted to our website. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this matter, please feel free to contact me at (780) 821-4002.

Sincerely,

Brittany Stahl
Director of Finance