

## Metro Vancouver Disposal Bans

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Metro Vancouver bans the disposal of materials that are readily recyclable or operationally hazardous. The region has a successful 20-year history of increasing waste diversion through bans at disposal facilities. A ban on corrugated cardboard was first introduced in 1997 and more recently, disposal bans on food scraps and clean wood were implemented in 2015. A disposal ban on expanded polystyrene packaging was introduced in July 2018.

A complete list of disposal ban materials is available at [www.metrovancover.org](http://www.metrovancover.org) by searching “banned materials”. Here is a partial list:

- Cardboard, mixed paper & newsprint
- Clean wood
- Creosote treated wood including railway ties
- Electronics
- Expanded polystyrene packaging
- Food scraps
- Household appliances
- Mattresses
- Motor oil, tires & batteries
- Recyclable containers
- Toxic plants
- Yard trimmings

Disposal bans are enforced at Metro Vancouver and City of Vancouver disposal facilities. When a waste hauler brings a load of garbage into a facility, the load is inspected for banned materials that shouldn't be in the garbage, and the hauler can be subject to a financial penalty. A \$66 minimum surcharge, plus potentially any costs incurred for removal, clean-up or remediation is applied to loads containing banned hazardous and operational impact materials or product stewardship materials. A surcharge of 50% of the tipping fee on the entire load is applied to loads containing banned recyclable materials such as corrugated cardboard, organics and clean wood. Loads containing over 20% expanded polystyrene are subject to a 100% surcharge due to its light weight.

It is important for residents and businesses to separate recyclables from garbage. For recycling and composting options, speak to your waste services provider or visit [www.metrovancoverrecycles.org](http://www.metrovancoverrecycles.org) for a list of recycling locations.

Yours truly,



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