

Office of the Chief Administrative Officer

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August 20, 2025

Sent via email only

Geoff Garbutt
Chief Administrative Officer
City of Courtenay
830 Cliffe Ave
Courtenay, BC V9N 2J7

Re: Solid Waste Management Plan: Strategies and Actions Available for Input

The Comox Strathcona Waste Management (CSWM) service is updating its Solid Waste Management Plan (SWMP) to meet provincial requirements and better address the region's evolving waste needs.

After extensive engagement with community members, staff and experts over the past year, we are reaching out to you today to share a key milestone. Eight strategies and 33 actions have now been shortlisted based on community benefit, cost, diversion potential, and operational impact.

These strategies and actions will be available for public feedback from September 5 to October 16, 2025.

To support these efforts, CSWM representatives will host open houses and information booths from Zeballos across to Quadra Island and down to Union Bay, presenting the strategies and gathering public feedback. As we are hosting events in your community, please encourage your residents to come out and participate in the conversation.

- Comox Valley Regional District (CVRD) Electoral Area Open House at the CVRD Main Office on Thursday, October 2, from 5 pm to 7 pm
- Comox Valley Waste Management Centre Open House in Cumberland on Saturday, October 4, from 10 am to 2 pm
- Driftwood Mall Open House on Wednesday, October 15, from 10 am to 2 pm

The Comox Strathcona Waste Management service area is located in the Coast Salish, Kwakwaka'wakw, and Nuu-chah-nulth territories.

Comox Strathcona Waste Management manages over 100,000 tonnes of waste and recycled material annually and oversees a number of diversion and education programs for the Strathcona and Comox Valley Regional Districts.

Council Presentation Opportunity

We would also be pleased to present the shortlisted strategies and actions to your Council this fall and answer any questions. Please contact Bridget Meagher, CSWM@comoxvalleyrd.ca and let us know if your Council is interested, and we will coordinate a date and time for an online or in-person presentation.

Your feedback is essential to shaping a plan that meets the needs and priorities of residents across the Comox Valley and Strathcona regions.

Background

The Solid Waste Management Plan will guide how waste, recycling, and organics are managed from our community over the next decade.

The SWMP renewal is required by the Province and provides an opportunity to adapt to the diverse and evolving needs across the region.

Next Steps

We are currently in Step 3 of a four-step planning process, to evaluate options before a draft plan is developed.

The draft plan will be reviewed by the Comox Strathcona Waste Management Board and shared with the public again before it is submitted to the Province. We expect that it will be submitted to the Ministry of Environment and Parks by June 2026.

Questions?

For more information on the SWMP background and planning process visit engagecomoxvalley.ca/swmp.

Sincerely,

M. Rutten

Marc Rutten, P.Eng.

Acting Chief Administrative Officer

cc: Adriana Proton, Manager of Legislative Services, City of Courtenay
Vivian Schau, Senior Manager of CSWM Services
Sarah Willie, Manager of Solid Waste Planning and Policy Development

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