

Kenloch Waste Management Facility Construction and Demolition (C&D) Disposal

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Why isn't the Municipality establishing another C&D disposal cell?

The establishment of another C&D disposal cell is not feasible due to a combination of regulatory requirements, environmental considerations, and rising operational costs.

All solid waste activities in Nova Scotia are regulated under the Environmental Act and governed by Nova Scotia Environment & Climate Change (NSECC). The Kenloch Waste Management Facility operates under an Approval to Operate, which had allowed C&D landfilling activities. However, this approval for the current C&D disposal cell expired on March 28, 2025. Additionally, there is insufficient space at the facility to develop another disposal cell.

The transition to a C&D transfer station ensures continued service for county residents and businesses while aligning with provincial regulations, improving waste management efficiency, and supporting environmental sustainability.

What will happen to C&D waste now that there will be no new disposal cell?

Instead of a new disposal cell, the Kenloch Waste Management Facility will become a C&D transfer station. This means that C&D waste will be sorted, and waste that can't be disposed of at Kenloch will be transferred to other facilities that are able to handle the waste. This transition will allow for better waste diversion and regulatory compliance.

Can I still drop off C&D waste and treated wood at Kenloch Waste Management Facility, or do I need to go to GFL Guysborough?

Yes, C&D waste is still accepted at the Kenloch Waste Management Facility. However, the tipping fee structure has changed, and depending on your volume and type of material, it may be more cost-effective for your business to haul directly to GFL Guysborough.

As of July 5, 2023, the disposal of treated wood at Kenloch is restricted due to new provincial regulations. Treated wood must now be sorted and transferred to GFL Guysborough for disposal. Sorted treated wood will still be accepted at Kenloch for transfer, but it will not be processed or disposed of on-site. The updated tipping fees reflect the additional transportation and handling costs associated with these changes.

Will this decision result in higher costs for C&D waste disposal?

Yes, the transition to a C&D transfer station will result in higher costs, as materials must now be sorted and transported to another facility for disposal. These additional costs will be reflected in the updated tipping fees. However, the transition is necessary to align with regulatory requirements, environmental best practices, and the increasing operational costs of managing C&D waste.

Why not continue to allow C&D waste in the current landfill cell?

The existing landfill cell at Kenloch is at capacity and is subject to strict regulations from the Nova Scotia Department of Environment & Climate Change. Additionally, there is no available space to expand the site or continue using the current cell for C&D waste. Transitioning to a transfer station helps mitigate these risks while ensuring compliance with evolving regulations.

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What alternatives are being explored for managing C&D waste more effectively?

The municipality is exploring several strategies for effective C&D waste management, *including*:

Increased waste diversion efforts, such as encouraging recycling and reusing materials.

Partnerships with industry to develop better waste separation technologies and promote the diversion of materials like wood, metals, and drywall.

Better sorting infrastructure at the Kenloch facility to ensure that materials can be efficiently transferred to the appropriate disposal sites.

Exploring new partnerships for waste disposal and diversion, such as working with other municipalities or private companies.

What impact will this have on local jobs and the economy?

The transition to a C&D transfer station may require some operational adjustments, but it is anticipated that it will not significantly impact employment at the Kenloch Waste Management Facility. Moreover, better waste management can have a positive impact on local businesses, especially those involved in construction and demolition.

Definitions:

Unsorted C&D (Residential & Commercial):

Construction & Demolition (C&D) materials that have not been separated by type, but do not contain garbage, recyclables (e.g., cardboard), organics, or other banned landfill materials. These loads are made up solely of construction-related materials but are mixed together.

Mixed C&D/RSW (Residential & Commercial):

Construction and demolition (C&D) materials that are unsorted and contaminated with garbage, recyclables, organics, or banned items. These loads require more handling and will incur the highest tipping fees.

Sorted C&D (Residential & Commercial):

Source-separated C&D materials, such as shingles, drywall, clean wood, treated wood, metal, concrete, and masonry.