

## Sort it Out: New recycling rule starts January 2 at Factoria Recycling & Transfer Station

### Increased recycling will cut waste, fight climate change, save landfill space

To help cut waste and reduce the amount of recyclable and compostable materials brought to the landfill, the King County Solid Waste Division beginning Jan. 2 will ask self-haul transfer station and drop box customers to place selected materials in designated recycling bins or areas at facilities that accept those materials for recycling.

The selected materials are **cardboard**, **scrap metal**, **yard waste** and **clean wood** (unpainted, untreated lumber, pallets and crates). These materials were selected because they comprise about one third of the total garbage brought to SWD facilities by self-haul customers, and because they are easy to keep separate from garbage.

Starting Jan. 2, self-haul customers at [Factoria Recycling & Transfer Station](#) will be asked to recycle **cardboard**, **scrap metal**, **yard waste** and **clean wood** at the facility.

The new rule applies to residents and businesses that haul their own garbage, recyclable and compostable materials to King County transfer stations or drop boxes. Self-haul customers use the public lanes at transfer stations.

“When recyclable materials are put back into the economy, they help create local jobs while conserving natural resources by reducing the need to create new products from virgin materials,” said Pat D. McLaughlin, SWD director. “Recycling conserves precious natural resources, including trees, energy and water.”

Customers will save time by keeping recyclable and compostable materials separate from garbage before arriving at the facility. When customers have both garbage and recyclable materials, they find it helpful to load their vehicles with recyclables first and garbage last. Then, at the facility, customers have their vehicles weighed, unload garbage, pay the garbage fee, and then drop off recyclable materials.

There will be no change in garbage disposal fees as a result of this recycling requirement, and there is no fee charged to recycle cardboard and scrap metal. While there is a fee to recycle yard waste and clean wood (unpainted, untreated lumber and pallets), that fee is 52 percent lower than the garbage disposal fee.

At Factoria Recycling & Transfer Station, other items such as paper, glass bottles and jars, aluminum and steel cans, plastic bottles, jugs and tubs, and textiles can be recycled at no cost. Cans, bottles and other containers should be empty and clean (no liquids or food).

To learn more about what is accepted at Factoria Recycling & Transfer Station, [visit the website](#) or call King County Solid Waste Division at 206-477-4466.