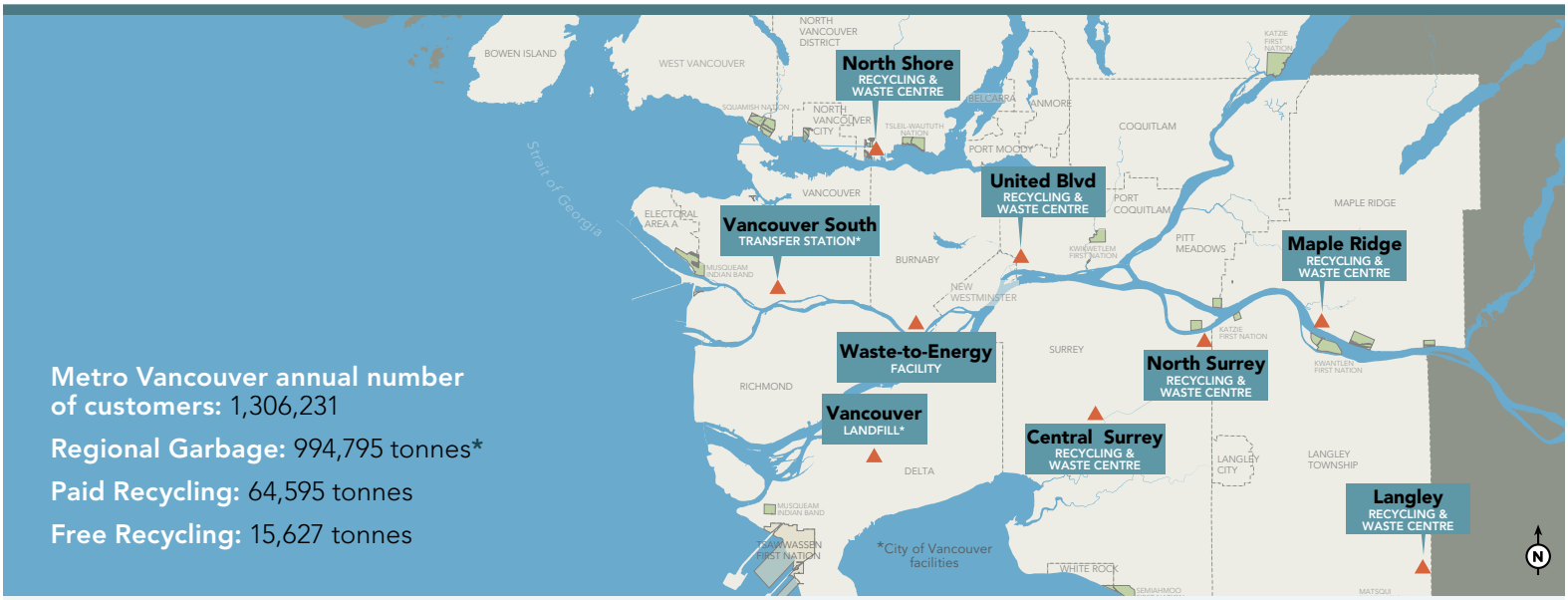


Metro Vancouver annual number of customers: 1,306,231

Regional Garbage: 994,795 tonnes*

Paid Recycling: 64,595 tonnes

Free Recycling: 15,627 tonnes

2024 Metro Vancouver

Solid Waste System

System Description

Metro Vancouver is responsible for waste reduction and recycling, planning, and operating a series of solid waste facilities in the region. Planning for less waste, improving reuse and recycling systems, and managing the remaining waste reflects the public's expectation of strong environmental stewardship and the desire to keep waste management affordable.

Metro Vancouver operates six recycling and waste centres where residents and businesses drop off garbage, yard trimmings, and a variety of other recyclable materials. Planning is currently underway to develop full-scale recycling depots at the North Surrey and Langley recycling and waste centres. Both recycling depots are expected to be operational in 2028.

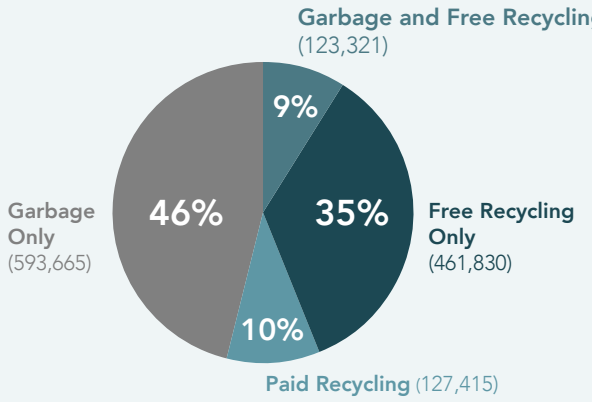
In addition to the Metro Vancouver facilities, Burnaby, Richmond, Coquitlam, Bowen Island, and the Ridge Meadows Recycling Society (in partnership with Maple Ridge) operate their own recycling depots funded in part by Metro Vancouver. The Vancouver Landfill, Vancouver South Transfer Station and Zero Waste Centre are owned and operated by the City of Vancouver. Recycling information from those facilities is included as part of the regional solid waste recycling statistics but not included as part of this summary of Metro Vancouver solid waste facility data.

Garbage left over after all efforts to reduce, reuse, and recycle is managed at the Metro Vancouver Waste-to-Energy Facility and the Vancouver Landfill. Garbage in excess of what can be managed at these local facilities is sent to remote landfills for disposal.

Metro Vancouver Facilities

MATERIAL(S)	CUSTOMERS	TONNES
Garbage	716,986	792,789
Clean Wood, Organics & Other Paid Recycling	124,804	59,979
New Gypsum	2,611	778
Mattresses	90,573 units	2,420
Free Recycling	585,151	15,627

2024 Overall Customer Use of Solid Waste Facilities



* Regional garbage received at Metro Vancouver and City of Vancouver facilities (from residential and commercial/institutional sources) totaled 994,795 tonnes in 2024. In addition, the Waste-to-Energy Facility received 15,791 tonnes of residuals from liquid waste and water treatment facilities, and international waste. Also, the Vancouver Landfill received 21,069 tonnes of construction and demotion waste, 58,526 tonnes of construction and demolition processing residual waste, 6,589 tonnes of residuals liquid waste and water treatment facilities, and 39,347 tonnes of bottom ash.

30 Riverside Drive, North Vancouver

North Shore

Recycling and Waste Centre

Facility Description

The North Shore Recycling and Waste Centre accepts garbage and a wide range of recyclables from both small and large vehicles. The facility is equipped with both attended and automated scales; the automated scales are primarily intended for account customers with mechanically unloaded vehicles. Garbage is unloaded onto a tipping floor in the main building, then a front-end loader pushes the waste into a below ground compactor for shipment to disposal. Yard trimmings, clean wood, gypsum, and mattresses are accepted for recycling for a fee. A recycling depot where customers can drop off materials for free is located ahead of the scales. Accepted materials include batteries, electronics, cardboard, metal, expanded polystyrene, plastic containers and bags, light fixtures, cooking oil, books, and textiles.

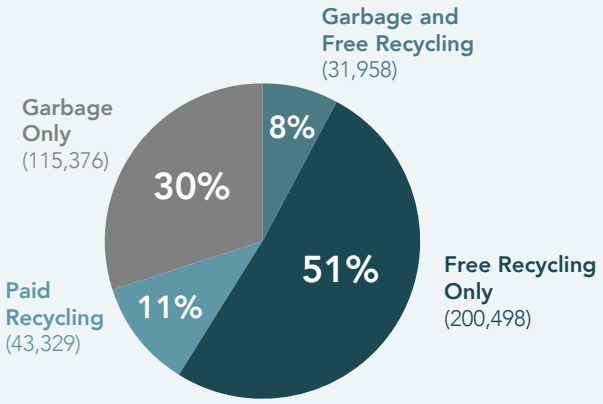
Site Area: 1.78 hectares including yard trimmings area

Building Area: 52 m x 61 m = 3,172 m^2

Number of customers in 2024: 391,161

MATERIAL(S)	CUSTOMERS	TONNES
Garbage	147,334	123,170
Clean Wood, Organics & Other Paid Recycling	42,615	43,930
New Gypsum	714	213
Mattresses	18,711 units	475
Free Recycling	232,456	4,813

2024 Overall Customer Use of North Shore recycling and Waste Centre



995 United Boulevard, Coquitlam

United Boulevard

Recycling and Waste Centre

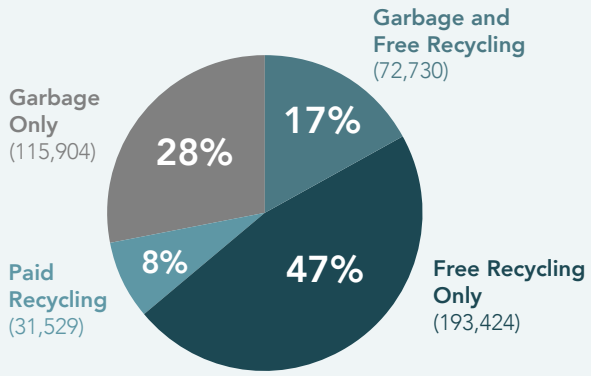
Facility Description

The United Boulevard Recycling and Waste Centre has both attended and automated weigh scales, the latter for use by commercial access card holders. Garbage is unloaded onto the 5,800 m² flat tipping floor in the main transfer building and a front-end loader pushes the waste into a below ground compactor for shipment to disposal. Service vehicles picking up recycling and the compacted waste have a designated entrance and traffic flow through the facility, separated from customers. Yard trimmings, clean wood, food scraps, gypsum, and mattresses can be recycled for a fee. A full-service recycling depot where customers can drop off materials for free is located ahead of the scales. Accepted materials include batteries, electronics, cardboard, metal, expanded polystyrene, plastic containers and bags, light fixtures, cooking oil, books, textiles, and more. Customers can choose to leave the recycling depot after dropping off their free recycling or they can join a separate traffic lane to reach the scale house to drop off their garbage or paid recycling.

Site Area: 6.2 hectares
Building Area: 63 m x 100 m = 6,300 m²
Number of customers in 2024: 413,587

MATERIAL(S)	CUSTOMERS	TONNES
Garbage	188,634	263,736
Clean Wood, Organics & Other Paid Recycling	31,198	6,425
New Gypsum	331	85
Mattresses	26,684 units	715
Free Recycling	266,153	5,620

2024 Overall Customer Use of United Boulevard Recycling and Waste Centre



9770 192nd Street, Surrey

North Surrey

Recycling and Waste Centre

Facility Description

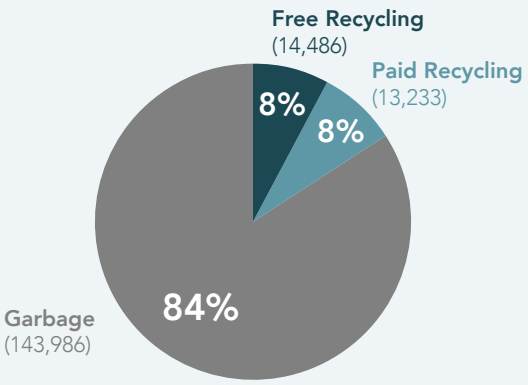
The North Surrey Recycling and Waste Centre accepts garbage and a limited number of recyclables from both small and large vehicles. The facility is equipped with both attended and automated scales; the automated scales are primarily intended for account customers with mechanically unloaded vehicles. Garbage is unloaded into a pit for mechanical unloading vehicles and onto the tipping floor for small vehicles. A front-end loader pushes the waste into a below ground compactor for shipment to disposal. Yard trimmings, clean wood, gypsum, and mattresses are accepted for recycling for a fee. General recyclables, such as metals, are managed within the transfer building. Customers have the option to pay for recyclables with their garbage or weigh in and out for free drop off of their recyclables.

A new recycling depot at North Surrey Recycling and Waste Centre is under development. The recycling depot will be located ahead of the scales and will allow customers to drop off many additional materials for recycling.

Site Area: 3.45 hectares
Building Area: 80 m x 71 m = 5,680 m^2
Number of customers in 2024: 171,705

MATERIAL(S)	CUSTOMERS	TONNES
Garbage	143,986	235,338
Clean Wood, Organics & Other Paid Recycling	12,812	2,910
New Gypsum	421	125
Mattresses	22,663 units	599
Free Recycling	14,486	1,813

2024 Overall Customer Use of North Surrey Recycling and Waste Centre



6711 – 154 Street, Surrey

Central Surrey

Recycling and Waste Centre

Facility Description

The Central Surrey Recycling and Waste Centre accepts garbage and a wide range of recyclables at the free recycling depot. It only has attended weigh scales and is primarily used by small vehicles that are hand-unloaded. While the facility can accommodate some mechanically unloading small vehicles, large vehicles are not able to access this facility. Garbage is unloaded onto the flat tipping floor in the main transfer building, and a front-end loader pushes the waste into a below ground container for shipment to disposal. Yard trimmings, clean wood, food scraps, gypsum, and mattresses are accepted for recycling for a fee. A full-service recycling depot where customers can drop off materials for free is located ahead of the scales. Recyclables accepted include batteries, electronics, cardboard, metal, expanded polystyrene, plastic containers and bags, light fixtures, cooking oil, books, textiles, and more.

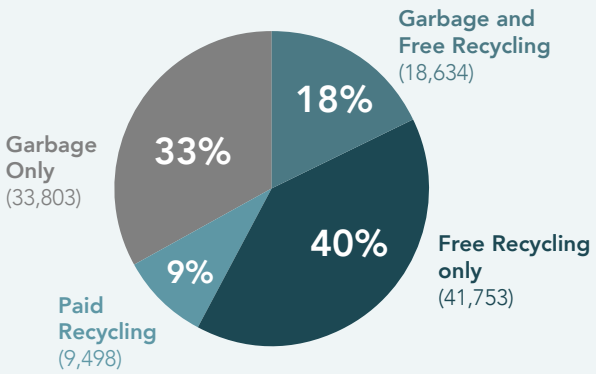
Site Area: 1.7 hectares

Building Area: 60 m x 50 m = 3,000 m^2

Number of customers 2024: 103,688

MATERIAL(S)	CUSTOMERS	TONNES
Garbage	52,437	10,327
Clean Wood, Organics & Other Paid Recycling	9,078	1,560
New Gypsum	420	115
Mattresses	9,026 units	234
Free Recycling	60,387	2,015

2024 Overall Customer Use of Central Surrey Recycling and Waste Centre



1070 – 272nd Street, Langley Township

Langley

Recycling and Waste Centre

Facility Description

The Langley Recycling and Waste Centre accepts garbage and limited recyclables from customers in small vehicles. It only has attended scales and is not used by mechanically unloading trucks. Garbage is hand-unloaded by customers onto a walking floor that is then loaded into a compactor container. Recyclables accepted for a fee include yard trimmings, clean wood, gypsum, and mattresses. Other recyclables such as batteries, cardboard, metals, plastic bags and containers, refillable propane tanks, and oil filters, are accepted within the transfer building area. Customers have the option to pay for recyclables with their garbage or weigh in and out to drop off their recyclables for free.

A new recycling depot at Langley Recycling and Waste Centre is under development. The recycling depot will be located ahead of the scales and will allow customers to drop off many additional materials for recycling.

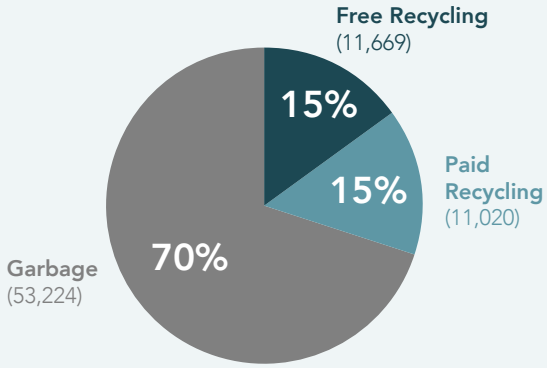
Site Area: 3.86 hectares

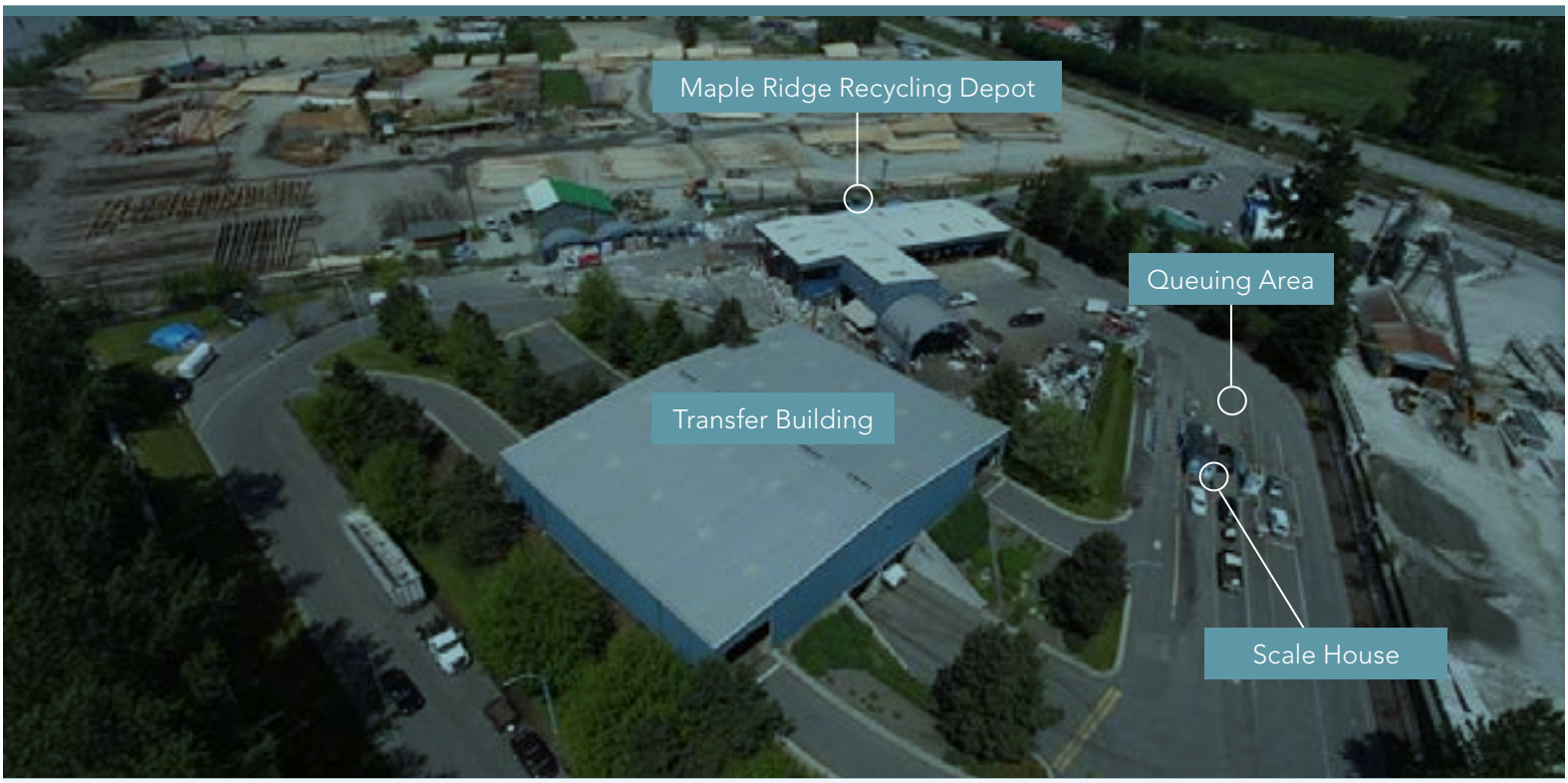
Building Area: 21 m x 13 m = 273 m^2

Number of customers in 2024: 75,913

MATERIAL(S)	CUSTOMERS	TONNES
Garbage	53,224	7,601
Clean Wood, Organics & Other Paid Recycling	10,549	2,238
New Gypsum	471	173
Mattresses	6,527 units	177
Free Recycling	11,669	1,366

2024 Overall Customer Use of Langley Recycling and Waste Centre





10092 – 236th Street, Maple Ridge

Maple Ridge

Recycling and Waste Centre

Facility Description

The Maple Ridge Recycling and Waste Centre accepts garbage and a number of recyclables from small vehicles that are hand-unloaded. It has attended scales only and is not used by mechanically unloading trucks. Garbage is unloaded directly into trailers located below the tipping floor. Yard trimmings, clean wood, new and used gypsum, and mattresses can be recycled for a fee.

A part of the property where the recycling and waste centre is located also contains a recycling depot, which is leased to Maple Ridge who in turn sublease to the Ridge Meadows Recycling Society. The Ridge Meadows Recycling Society operates the recycling depot, and it accepts recyclable materials for free.

Site Area – recycling and waste centre: 1.887 hectares

Site Area – recycling depot: 0.543 hectares

Building Area: 36 m x 46 m = 1,656 m^2

Number of customers in 2024: 112,641

MATERIAL(S)	CUSTOMERS	TONNES
Garbage	93,835	9,435
Clean Wood, Organics & Other Paid Recycling	18,552	2,915
New Gypsum	254	67
Mattresses	6,962 units	221

5150 Riverbend Drive, Burnaby

Waste-to-Energy Facility

Facility Description

Metro Vancouver's Waste-to-Energy Facility has operated in Burnaby since 1988 and handles about 240,000 tonnes of garbage per year – roughly a quarter of the region's waste. Steam produced from the combustion of garbage is used to generate electricity, approximately 180,000 MWh / year, enough to power approximately 16,000 homes. The facility also recovers approximately 5,000 tonnes of ferrous and non-ferrous metal annually.

Metro Vancouver has an agreement with River District Energy to provide heat and hot water through a new district energy system. When fully built out, the district energy system will provide heat and hot water up to 50,000 residential units in Vancouver and Burnaby, reducing greenhouse gas emissions by up to 70,000 t/CO2e.

The waste-to-energy process is monitored 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year from a control room located on site. Facility emissions data and compliance reports are available on Metro Vancouver's website in real time. The range of emissions monitored includes common air contaminants such as nitrogen oxides and particulate matter, as well as acid gases, trace metals, trace organics, dioxins, and furans.

The facility receives waste from an average of 80 mechanically unloaded trucks per day that empty their loads into a large garbage bunker.

Site Area: 1.8 hectares

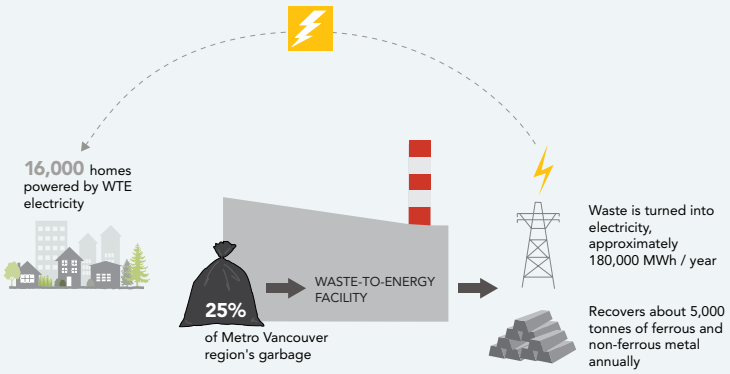
Building Area: 70 m x 70 m = 4,900 m^2

Direct Haul*: 143,182 tonnes

Transfer: 84,196 tonnes

Total Processed (2024): 243,169 tonnes

Customers (2024): 37,536



* Direct haul figure doesn't include 15,791 tonnes of residuals from liquid waste and waster treatment facilities, and international waste.