



# Solid Waste & Recycling Report

ACHIEVING WASTE DIVERSION IN THE  
CITY OF PORT MOODY (2020-2021)

JULY 2022

ENGINEERING AND OPERATIONS DIVISION



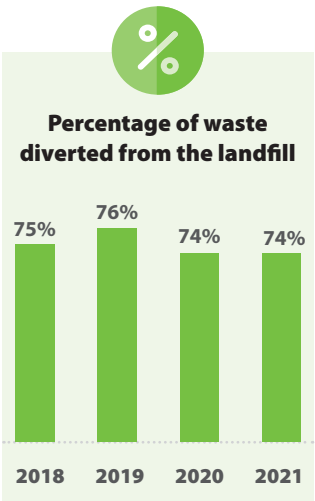
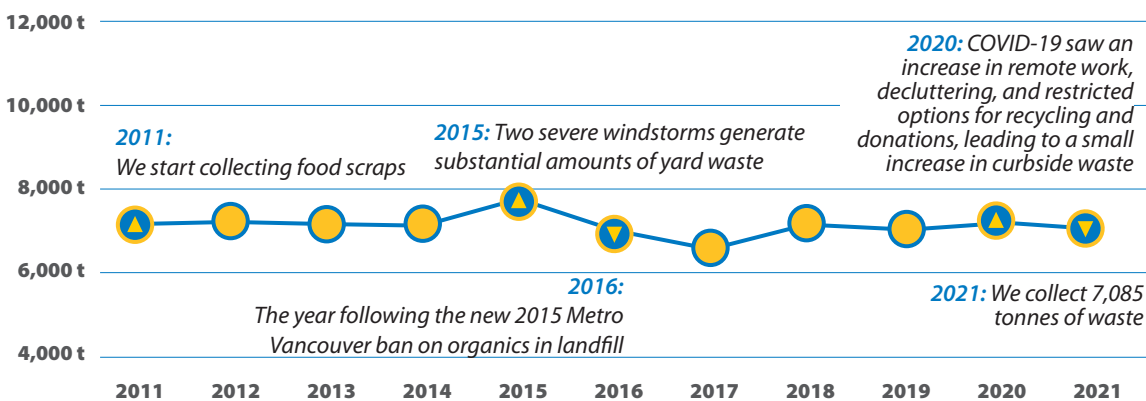
**PORT MOODY**  
CITY OF THE ARTS



Program Overview— The City of Port Moody's in-house solid waste collection program has been operational for over 12 years. We proudly serve our residents, picking up green waste, recycling, glass, and garbage for close to **12,000 households**. Our focus is operating an efficient and effective service that positively benefits the community.



Tracking over a decade of waste volumes:



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**Recycling  
(including glass)**



2020	
	
Homes Served	Tonnes collected
11,704	1,807
Household average: 168kg	

2021	
	
Homes Served	Tonnes collected
12,211	1,794
Household average: 158kg	





**Green Waste**



2020	
	
Homes Served	Tonnes collected
7,317	3,435
Household average: 470kg	

2021	
	
Homes Served	Tonnes collected
7,410	3,318
Household average: 448kg	



**Garbage**

2020	
	
Homes Served	Tonnes collected
6,658	1,883
Household average: 283kg	

2021	
	
Homes Served	Tonnes collected
6,785	1,835
Household average: 271kg	

# Recycle BC and Port Moody

Recycle BC is responsible for residential packaging and paper product recycling in our province. The City of Port Moody has a contract agreement with Recycle BC to collect recycling and to meet specific targets. While our city recycles more material on average, we also have a higher amount of unaccepted materials entering our recycling stream. In 2021, the City launched a contamination remediation plan to specifically reduce the amount of unaccepted materials in recycling carts. The plan includes communication campaigns, audits, and in severe cases, collection refusal and fines.



## Going for Green

48% of the total amount of waste we collect is from green carts. Diverting food and other organic material from the landfill makes a big impact in lowering our carbon footprint.



## Dog Waste Diversion

Instead of generating greenhouse gases in a landfill, the City's red bin program helped dog owners divert 43 tonnes of waste to a wastewater treatment plant. There are 14 dedicated dog waste bins located at various parks and trailheads.

**Wildlife** – Surrounded by forests and mountains, wildlife sightings are common in Port Moody. The City's Bear Essentials program focuses on effectively reducing attractants, and preventing wildlife conflicts. Efforts by Bylaws, Operations, Communications, and Environment staff aim to keep people and bears safe through a combination of education and enforcement.

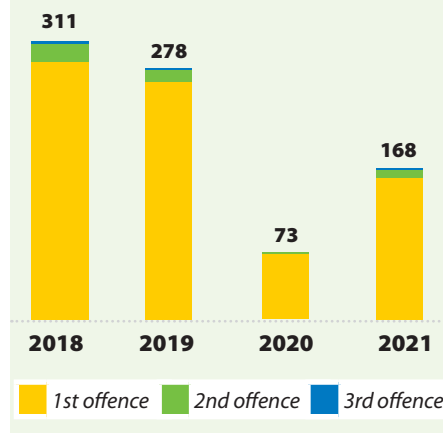


## Bears are out—and so are bylaw officers

Through a mixture of education and enforcement, the majority of our residents understand that managing access to garbage is one of the most important actions to take to keep people and bears safe in our community. Better yet, tickets written for second and third offenses have declined from 20 in 2018 to 7 in 2021.



## Total citations issued (under Bylaw 3058)



## Communication Tools & Outreach

The City engages residents and stakeholders through a range of print and digital marketing.



**Annual Calendar** • The City prints and distributes 12,000 calendars to residents and businesses. It includes a collection schedule, easy tips on using carts, facts on managing bear attractants, and disposal resources.



**Solid Waste App** • Over 9,000 reminders have been created with the City's Solid Waste App, which offers collection day prompts and seasonal messaging. Residents can also search for where to dispose of items using the Waste Wizard.



**Targeted Campaigns** • The City has developed and implemented campaigns about recycling, and managing wildlife attractants. We also partnered with Metro Vancouver on a number of initiatives, including "what's your superhabit?", "create memories, not garbage", and un-flushable materials.



**Open Data Portal** • The City makes data, statistics, and information accessible through our Open Data Portal ([data.portmoody.ca](http://data.portmoody.ca)), including monthly waste diversion rates.

# 2020–2021 Highlights



## Ban on single-use plastic and foam items

On October 12, 2021, City Council adopted a bylaw to regulate single-use plastic and foam items to promote responsible and sustainable environmental practices.

The bylaw came into effect on April 22, 2022 and bans distribution of plastic checkout bags, foam containers for prepared food, plastic stir sticks, and plastic drinking straws (except where required for accessibility needs). In addition, the bylaw states a business may provide a paper or reusable checkout bag to customers on request and charge a minimum fee of \$0.25 or \$2.00 respectively.



## "Don't let your recycling go to waste" campaign

In response to an uptick in recycling contamination, the City launched an original campaign encouraging residents to ensure their recycling efforts do not go to waste.

Along with a comprehensive auditing program that included curbside education, we published seven animated graphics on our social media channels specifically pinpointing top "offenders" that contaminate recycling efforts. The campaign generated over 7,000 views on Facebook, just over 6,500 impressions on Twitter and between 300–400 views per post on Instagram.



## United Boulevard Recycling and Waste Centre opening

The City of Port Moody was one of four regional partners who contributed to the opening of Metro Vancouver's new United Boulevard Recycling and Waste Centre (995 United Blvd., Coquitlam). This facility has a full-service recycling depot where residents can easily drop off materials for free, including batteries, electronics, Styrofoam, books, textiles and more.

The new centrally located facility plays an important role in Metro Vancouver's efforts to reduce waste and move to a circular economy.

182

Number of blocks adopted by our 158 Adopt-a-Street volunteers, who help maintain litter-free public spaces.

39

Number of calls the City received on illegal dumping in 2021. This number is slightly up from 36 calls in 2020.

120

Approx. number of public litter cans in city parks and streets. We are currently replacing or upgrading older models with bear-proof systems.

## Future Opportunities and Next Steps

- Working in partnership with our GIS team, Solid Waste and Recycling staff have developed a new audit app. This tool will help staff collect detailed information in the field on the volume and type of contamination found in our waste streams. Future opportunities include making this information available online through our Open Data Portal as part of our ongoing campaign to help reduce contamination.
- Staff continue to work to minimize human-bear conflicts in the community through enforcement, policy, and education efforts, including requiring wildlife resistant enclosures for the secure storage of solid waste carts when not set out for collection. We continue to evaluate all our tools, including the Solid Waste Bylaw, to best keep people and bears safe.