

**REPORT TO ELECTORAL AREAS COMMITTEE
MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2023**

SUBJECT **Household Hazardous Waste Pickup in Electoral Areas – Update**

ISSUE SUMMARY

To report back on discussions with Electoral Area fire departments regarding the storage of household hazardous waste (HHW) in the Electoral Areas.

BACKGROUND

At the June 14, 2023 CRD Board meeting, staff were asked to investigate the cost and feasibility of Hartland funding a one-time HHW pickup on four islands in the Southern Gulf Islands, Juan de Fuca and Salt Spring Island.

The September 13 Electoral Areas Committee (EAC) staff report (Appendix A) indicated that preliminary estimates to have a qualified third party conduct mobile collection events in these communities range from \$20,000 to \$50,000 per community, depending on volume and type of products received, as well as travel logistics and subsequent transport of material to sorting and processing facilities. The Environmental Resource Management (ERM) budget for the HHW service is limited to the Hartland Depot operation and community education; costs for mobile collection events are not currently included in the ERM budget. The total cost to provide one-time HHW events in the six Electoral Area communities is estimated to be \$200,000.

The acceptance of both provincially-regulated (Extended Producer Responsibility) and non-regulated HHW at the Hartland Depot offers residents a one-stop drop for their unwanted products, and provides for safe and efficient collection, consolidation and packaging for transportation to processing. Cost for delivery of the service is approximately \$800,000 per year.

The CRD's Protective Services staff reached out to Electoral Area fire chiefs, and the collective feedback was that there is no heightened level of concern for firefighter safety due to storage of HHW. They did indicate that a local public drop-off opportunity would be appreciated by the Electoral Areas.

ALTERNATIVES

Alternative 1

The Electoral Areas Committee recommends to the Capital Regional District Board:
That household hazardous waste collection not be expanded, and Electoral Area residents continue to take their household hazardous waste to the specialized regional infrastructure at the Hartland Depot.

Alternative 2

The Electoral Areas Committee recommends to the Capital Regional District Board:

1. That the regional household hazardous waste management be expanded to include a final one-time mobile collection event in the Capital Regional District's Electoral Areas; and
2. That the 2024 Environmental Resource Management budget be amended to include \$200,000 to fund the one time mobile collection event.

IMPLICATIONS

Financial Implications

The cost for the delivery of the regional HHW collection service at the Hartland Depot is approximately \$800,000 per year.

The estimated cost to conduct mobile collection events in the Electoral Area communities ranges from \$20,000 to \$50,000 per community. The total cost to provide one-time HHW event in the six Electoral Area communities is estimated to be \$200,000.

CONCLUSION

At the September 13, 2023 Electoral Areas Committee meeting, Capital Regional District staff were asked to speak to fire departments within the Electoral Areas to examine if they have any concerns with the storage of household hazardous waste (HHW) in the Electoral Areas. The collective feedback from fire chiefs was that there is no heightened level of concern for firefighter safety due to storage of HHW. Staff recommend that HHW collection not be expanded to the Electoral Areas and that residents continue to take their HHW to the specialized regional infrastructure at the Hartland Depot.

RECOMMENDATION

The Electoral Areas Committee recommends to the Capital Regional District Board:
That household hazardous waste collection not be expanded, and Electoral Area residents continue to take their household hazardous waste to the specialized regional infrastructure at the Hartland Depot.

Submitted by:	Russ Smith, Senior Manager, Environmental Resource Management
Concurrence:	Larisa Hutcheson, P. Eng., General Manager, Parks & Environmental Services
Concurrence:	Ted Robbins, B. Sc., C. Tech., Chief Administrative Officer

ATTACHMENT

Appendix A: Staff Report: Household Hazardous Waste Pickup in Electoral Areas – Electoral Areas Committee (September 13, 2023)