

## SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN SUMMARY



### What is a Solid Waste Management Plan?

A Plan that will guide Malahat Nation to manage waste and recycling in a responsible way over the next 10 years. The Plan will foster stewardship of the environment while supporting the growth of our fast-growing community.

### How was the Plan created?

The solid waste management planning process began with community engagement in the fall of 2023, with feedback and input compiled and actions and strategies presented in the spring of 2024. The final report was completed in the summer of 2024.



### What feedback did we get from members?

We heard that education and communication about waste management is very important. We also heard that members would like more opportunities for composting and/or a food waste pickup and have enough garbage pick-ups and cleaner bins to reduce wildlife interactions. Member feedback and input guided the identification of issues and development of the priority actions.

## NEXT STEPS

Page 2 shows short-term actions that address key issues raised by our community members.

**1** Implement priority actions (p.2)

**2** Build internal capacity and educational campaigns

**3** Report back to members on the progress of priority actions

# PRIORITIZED ACTIONS

The following short-term actions are prioritized for implementation over the next 1-3 years based on key issues raised by community members.

## WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

- Clean the curbside carts and waste dumpsters on a monthly basis to reduce odours likely to attract bears.
- Remove all food waste attractants from the garbage through composting.

## COMPOSTING

- Start a food waste collection program (to remove food waste from the garbage), either joining CVRD's three-stream curbside collection (starting in 2025) or using a private collector.

## RECYCLING

- Focus on education through collaboration with the First Nations Recycling Initiative. Members need more information on recycling options, the issue of curbside recycling contamination and the value of separating recyclables properly.
- Have a dedicated Waste Management Champion, who can lead waste prevention, recycling and other waste management actions.

## WASTE REDUCTION & DIVERSION

- Develop a mini-waste transfer station for storage of recyclables not accepted curbside (such as glass, refundables, Styrofoam, flexible plastics, mattresses, e-waste, etc.).
- Pilot monthly collection of these recyclables in a targeted area of the community.

## PUBLIC LITTERING

- Determine the feasibility of increasing the frequency of curbside garbage collection and removing some of the dumpsters.
- Address illegal dumping in problem areas by putting up trail cameras and signs that say 'No Trespassing. No Illegal Dumping. This area is under surveillance'.



Example sign.  
Make a custom sign or  
use one that already exists.



## LIQUID WASTE

- Complete the planned upgrade to the liquid waste system.

## CIRCULAR ECONOMY

- Explore partnerships with organizations that can benefit the community financially or by offering food or clothing. Find ways to build reciprocal relationships that can reduce waste locally.

## Bear Smart

The most urgent issue to address is reducing bears in the community and we need to work together on this.



We need to remove attractants to avoid bear interactions.