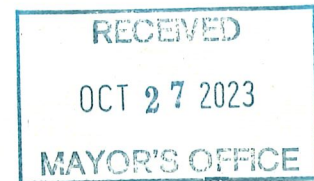


NOOKSACK VALLEY D • I • S • P • O • S • A • L

P.O. Box 267 250 Birch Bay-Lynden Rd. Lynden, WA 98264 (360) 354-3400

Mayor Scott Korthuis
Lynden City Council
Lynden, WA 98264



Dear Mayor Scott and Council Members,

Nooksack Valley Disposal has been happy to provide both garbage and recycling services to the City of Lynden for over 40 years. Because of increasing disposal fees and other rising costs, we are coming to the City with a rate increase request, to become effective January 1, 2024.

Recycling and Disposal Services has announced they will be increasing our garbage disposal fees effective January 1 2024. Our cost per ton will be increased by 5.4%, or \$6.04 per ton more than we are currently charged. We are requesting a \$.20 per cart charge to cover this increase.

The markets for recycling have continued to remain very weak, and 2023 will be the most expensive year ever for processing costs for our company. Paper, plastic, and glass are currently charged near \$100 per ton or more at the processing facility in Ferndale. As a result, we are requesting a \$.40 per month increase to our base fee for residential recycling.

As outlined in our Municipal Solid Waste Agreement with the City of Lynden, Section 7A, we are giving request to revise our rates for residential and commercial services at least 60 days prior to their implementation. We have included a schedule with the current and proposed rates. The average household set out 2.6 carts of garbage per month this past year. The proposed increase would raise the average residential bill by \$.92 per month in total for garbage and recycling.

We continue to strive to provide excellent customer service, while maintaining our position as one of the lowest priced and most efficient providers of garbage and recycling pickup in Northwest Washington. We will continue to have some of the lowest prices of any of the comparable nearby cities. We look forward to continuing our good relationship with the City and to providing clean, safe, and dependable garbage and recycling services in the years ahead.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dan Leidecker".

Dan Leidecker, President

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Calvin Den Hartog".

Calvin Den Hartog, General Manager

"Our business is picking up."

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**Nooksack Valley Disposal and Recycling
Current and Proposed Rates
2023 and 2024**

<u>Residential</u>	<u>Current</u>	<u>Proposed</u>	Increase Proposed
Base Fee	\$ 7.00	\$ 7.40 per month	5.7%
Per Cart	\$ 7.30	\$ 7.50 per dump	2.7%
Optional Yardwaste	\$ 11.50	\$ 11.50 per month	0%

Commercial

Can	\$ 4.40	\$ 4.50	2.3%
Cart	\$ 8.40	\$ 8.60	2.4%
1-yard	\$ 23.70	\$ 24.30 per dump	2.5%
1.5 yard	\$ 30.60	\$ 31.40	2.6%
2-yard	\$ 38.90	\$ 39.90	2.6%

Schools and Rest Homes

1-yard	\$ 21.70	\$ 22.30 per dump	2.8%
1.5 yard	\$ 28.60	\$ 29.40	2.8%
2 yard	\$ 36.90	\$ 37.90	2.7%

Dumpster Rental Fees

1-yard	\$ 12.00	\$ 12.00 per month
1.5 yard	\$ 13.00	\$ 13.00
2-yard	\$ 14.00	\$ 14.00

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The following is a comparison of garbage/recycling rates from cities in the area. The rates compare what a 60-68 gallon cart emptied every-other-week or weekly would cost. Every-other-week recycling is included in all prices. Some cities do not offer carts, so an equivalent volume using a 32-gallon container is used for comparison.

<u>City</u>	<u>EOW</u>		<u>Weekly</u>		<u>2-yd Dumpster</u>
Lynden (current)	\$21.60 per month		\$36.20 per month		\$38.90 per dump
Lynden (proposed)	\$22.40 per month	3.7%	\$37.40 per month	3.3%	\$39.90 per dump 2.6%
Anacortes	\$33.89 per month		\$47.18 per month		\$74.06 per dump
Bellingham	\$29.45 per month		\$53.93 per month		\$41.82 per dump
Duvall	\$33.97 per month		\$45.67 per month		\$47.25 per dump
Everett	\$28.62 per month		\$35.63 per month		\$35.61 per dump
Ferndale	\$23.54 per month		\$41.92 per month		\$66.98 per dump
Friday Harbor	\$36.00 per month		\$68.00 per month		\$100.00 per dump
Marysville	\$32.59 per month		\$50.68 per month		\$46.70 per dump
Monroe	\$22.69 per month		\$32.89 per month		\$43.74 per dump
Mt. Vernon	\$34.24 per month		\$46.89 per month		\$38.84 per dump
Oak Harbor	\$23.38 per month		\$39.19 per month		\$50.41 per dump
Sedro-Wooley	\$34.25 per month		\$42.50 per month		\$52.63 per dump

The typical household in Lynden sets out an average of 2.6 carts per month.

Lynden Yardwaste Rates are \$8.50 for EOW cart, \$11.50 for Weekly cart, compared to \$12.62 for EOW and \$25.34 for 2 carts EOW in Bellingham and \$15.14 for EOW and \$30.24 for 2 carts EOW in Ferndale.

"Our business is picking up."

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NOOKSACK VALLEY DISPOSAL AND RECYCLING
STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS - LYNDEN
FOR THE 12 MONTHS ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

	<u>Refuse</u>	<u>Recycling</u>
REVENUES:		
Residential	\$ 1,391,811	\$ 350,612
Commercial	\$ 1,398,938	
Pass-through dump fees	\$ 159,509	
 Total revenues	 \$ 2,950,258	 \$ 350,612
OPERATING EXPENSES:		
Wages	\$ 601,516	\$ 148,773
Dump fees/Recycle Fees	\$ 1,000,991	\$ 75,010
Pass-through dump fees	\$ 159,509	\$ -
Repairs and maintenance	\$ 54,396	\$ 10,346
Fuel and oil	\$ 142,651	\$ 23,217
Tires and tubes	\$ 31,484	\$ 5,370
Depreciation	\$ 168,857	\$ 24,032
Insurance	\$ 23,050	\$ 6,542
Medical insurance	\$ 83,700	\$ 25,955
Business taxes	\$ 70,332	\$ 6,896
Property taxes	\$ 6,100	\$ 946
Taxes and licenses	\$ 7,122	\$ 1,204
Payroll taxes	\$ 73,208	\$ 17,014
Retirement fund	\$ 88,906	\$ 17,259
Utilities	\$ 4,270	\$ 1,202
Telephone	\$ 976	\$ 273
Office	\$ 23,342	\$ 5,832
Postage	\$ 14,184	\$ 4,016
Advertising	\$ 1,440	\$ 399
Travel	\$ 3,018	\$ 355
Dues and subscriptions	\$ 7,711	\$ 1,188
Professional fees	\$ 15,256	\$ 2,920
Donations	\$ 1,834	\$ 350
Miscellaneous	\$ 1,496	\$ 284
 Total operating expenses	 \$ 2,585,350	 \$ 379,383
 INCOME (LOSS) FROM OPERATIONS	 \$ 364,908	 \$ (28,771)

1998-2023 Rate Changes

