

Houghton Recycling and Transfer Station



Fact Sheet

Screen wall made from recycled materials

Overview: Houghton Recycling and Transfer Station was constructed in the mid-1960s on 8.4 acres. The station is bordered by the closed Houghton Landfill on the north side, Bridle Trails State Park on the south side, and private homes on the east and west sides. The station has an open-sided, direct-dump style transfer building, a scalehouse, and no-fee recyclable materials collection area. The station primarily serves residents and businesses from the Bellevue, Bothell, Kirkland, Redmond, and Woodinville areas.

In 2011, a number of improvements were completed to enable King County to operate the station safely, efficiently, and with less impact on neighbors and the surrounding community.

King County's 2019 Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan recommends providing a new, modern recycling and transfer facility in the northeast part of the county.

Location: 11724 NE 60th St, Kirkland, WA 98033

Hours of operation

Mon-Fri: 8 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Sat & Sun: 8:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Closed on Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Day

Vehicle length limits: 30 feet. Max combined length limit for vehicles and trailers from bumper to bumper

What happens to the waste? The waste is transported by county employees in covered trailers from Houghton to the Cedar Hills Regional Landfill, 24 miles away.

What happens to recyclable materials? Recyclable materials are separated by type and distributed to local, national or international markets for processing into recycled content products. Only materials that are empty, clean and dry when collected are acceptable for recycling. Reusable materials (textiles) are donated to local non-profits.

Notable features

- A screen wall made from recycled PVC pipe blocks wind, controls litter, and screens views of station operations
- A compactor for cardboard reduces the number of truck trips to a recycling facility in Seattle, lowering carbon emissions and transportation costs.



Compactors for recyclable materials



Constructed in 2011, a sound barrier wall along the west side of the transfer station helps reduce noise impact to neighbors



King County

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Solid Waste Division

2018 at a glance

- **Who are the customers?** 81 percent of visits were made by self-haul customers, who contributed 17 percent of the total solid waste received at the station. Commercial customers contributed 83 percent of the total solid waste with 19 percent of the visits.
- **Tons of solid waste disposed:** 143,778. This constitutes 17 percent of the solid waste at all King County transfer stations.
- **Total customer visits:** 114,166
- **Recycling services**
 - Cardboard*
 - Textiles
 - The following can be combined in the large blue “Recyclable Materials” containers, must be empty, clean and dry:
 - o Paper, including office paper, junk mail, envelopes, newspapers, magazines, catalogs, paper food boxes, cartons such as milk, juice and broth cartons, paper cups if securely tied in clear plastic bags, and hard and paperback books
 - o Cans (aluminum, tin, steel)
 - o Glass bottles and jars
 - o Plastic bottles, cups, jugs, tubs, pots, food containers, clamshells, trays
 - o Lids (3 inches or more)

* These materials must be recycled at facilities that accept these materials for recycling.



A commercial garbage truck on the tipping floor

2018 Recycling Tonnage

Cardboard	Mixed Paper	Mixed Containers	Glass	Misc.	Total
375	150	42	86	7	660

Alternative Formats On Request
206-477-4466 • TTY Relay: 711



King County

Department of
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Solid Waste Division

Waste
Prevention

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<https://kingcounty.gov/houghton>