

BULLETIN: 67/2020

TRANSFER STATIONS AND LANDFILL LEVY RATE CHANGES – FURTHER DEFERRAL

The Victorian Government has announced that it will extend the deferral of changes to landfill levy rates for a further six months. An initial six-month deferral was previously announced in April 2020 (Bulletin 35/2020) but a further extension will support households and businesses impacted by the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

There will be no changes to landfill levy rates in 2020-21; however, previously announced changes will proceed in 2021-22 and 2022-23. The current levy rates are summarised in the table below and will be published on the Environment Protection Authority [website](#).

The levy changes are part of the State Government's Recycling Victoria package, a 10-year action plan to transition our waste and recycling sectors. The changes will encourage more recycling, reduce waste to landfill and discourage cross-border dumping from states with higher levies.

Landfill levy changes 2020-2023

Levy	2020-21	2021-22 (from 1 July 2021)	2020-21 (from 1 July 2022)
Metropolitan Municipal and Industrial Landfill Levy	\$65.90	\$105.90	\$125.90
Rural Municipal Landfill Levy	\$33.03	\$52.95	\$62.95
Rural Industrial Landfill Levy	\$57.76	\$93.19	\$110.79
Priority Waste - Category C Landfill Levy*	\$70.00	\$105.90	\$125.90
Priority Waste - Category D Landfill Levy*	New category from 1 July 2021	\$105.90	\$125.90

* The Victorian Government has previously announced a deferral to the commencement date of the Environment Protection Act 2017 from 1 July 2020 to 1 July 2021 (unless proclaimed earlier). Category D will be introduced when the amendments to the Environment Protection Act 2017 take effect at this time. The term Priority Wastes will replace Prescribed Industrial Waste (PIW) at this time.

Metropolitan Melbourne moved to the Second Step in the roadmap for reopening from 11:59pm on 27 September and as a part of this step, transfer stations can open to the public for disposing of organic waste and garden waste. The Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) has confirmed that residents are able to travel more than 5km from home to access their closest transfer station.

In regional Victoria transfer stations are open for all customers.

Councils must continue to operate these facilities in a manner that is safe and in line with the Chief Health Officer's directions. This includes ensuring that all transfer stations have a [COVIDSafe Plan](#) in place - this is a mandatory requirement.

The updated roadmaps for metropolitan Melbourne and regional Victoria, as well as industry restrictions by region are available at: [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) roadmap for reopening.](#)

Local Government Victoria has previously issued a bulletin (Bulletin 37/2020) regarding hours of waste collection.

Councils continue to be encouraged to extend the operating hours of waste collection services so that these can commence at 5am weekdays. Victoria's councils are asked to adopt a flexible compliance approach to local noise laws, planning permit conditions and contract terms, so waste collections can continue at a time that is safe and meets the changing needs of the community.

The Environment Protection Authority (EPA) will adopt a proportionate regulatory approach that takes full account of the current circumstances while ensuring risks to Victoria's environment continue to be managed.

Advice on limiting noise emissions from domestic refuse collection - for example, only carrying out compaction on the move, is contained in the Noise Control Guidelines, (publication 1254) www.epa.vic.gov.au/about-epa/publications/1254.

[Local Government Victoria](http://www.localgovernment.vic.gov.au) will continue to update its website with information on the coronavirus (COVID-19) roadmap for reopening and what it means for councils as information comes to hand.

Regards

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