

FRANCIS COOKE LANDFILL AND RESOURCE RECOVERY CENTRE  
**LIST OF UNACCEPTABLE AND ILLEGAL ITEMS**

February 2020

The following list includes commonly encountered items that may not be tipped for burial or otherwise deposited at the Francis Cooke facility. These items are avoided to protect wildlife and the environment, promote safe working conditions for our staff and customers as well as to comply with operating approval conditions established by the Government of Alberta. Loads are eligible for a minimum surcharge of \$100.00 per item plus handling charges if any of these items are found in tipped materials.


Customers are required to pick-up and remove from the site any of these items that can be safely be removed from their tipped load. The Francis Cooke facility is not an approved hazardous materials sorting facility and loads remain eligible for the surcharge regardless of any effort to remove these items from a tipped load.

However, if customers notify the operator on duty or scale attendant prior to tipping that they are aware of illegal items in the load and request permission to carefully remove them, they may be able to avoid surcharges. If it is reasonable to believe more items may be hidden throughout a load the surcharge may still be applied.











**Please call 403-673-2708 if you are unsure whether your materials can be accepted.**

MATERIAL	DESCRIPTION	EXPLANATION AND PROPER DISPOSAL INFORMATION
Automotive Fluids	Liquids and hazardous materials in vehicles as such motor oil, transmission fluid, hydraulic fluid, battery fluid, coolants, brake fluids, fuels, window washer fluids.	Use a used vehicle collection service to dispose of vehicles or bring your vehicle completely drained of all liquids with the battery removed if it is to be left at the Francis Cooke facility. Contact your retailer, municipality or hazardous waste collection service about properly disposing of these materials and their containers.
Batteries	Batteries of any kind.	Not acceptable due to chemical components and their potential to start fires in buried wastes. Please call a commercial battery recycling service or contact your municipal recycling depot.
Chemically Treated Wood Also see "Creosote"	Wood that has be treated in a manner to facilitate the penetration of oil or water borne preservatives below the surface. Including, but not limited to, "pressure treated" wood or wood that has had its surface modified to allow chemical penetration into the wood. Does not include wood with coatings applied to the surface such as paint.	Chemically treated wood waste is not inert waste and should never be burned in open fires or disposed of in Class III landfills. Treated wood waste can be disposed of at Class I or Class II landfills provided prior permission from the landfill operator is obtained. A drop-off bin is available at the Francis Cooke facility for placing properly separated chemically treated wood. This material is considered an illegal item if it is dropped on the ground at the landfill face in amounts that cannot be quickly picked up or is mixed into the load. This is expensive and customers with large amounts should consider taking chemically treated wood directly to a Class II landfill facility to save costs and unnecessary handling.
Closed Fuel Containers	Propane tanks and canisters, gasoline and diesel containers of any size.	These are considered as hazardous waste due to our inability to be sure they are no longer pressurized and do not contain any residues. Metal recyclers may reject these containers for their own health and safety reasons and refuse to accept entire loads of recycled metal with these items present. Contact your municipality for proper disposal locations.
Coffee and Other Drink Cups	Used coffee cups, fast food drink and other food containers whether empty or with contents remaining.	These and any other food-related items are considered as evidence of improper disposal of food waste and "domestic waste" in trade waste containers, are wildlife attractants and may result in the surcharge being applied. These items must be disposed as garbage according to municipal bylaws, or corresponding regulations on equivalent on federal and provincial land.
Contaminated soil	Earthen materials that have been contaminated with organic or inorganic contaminants.	Commission may refuse loads that are associated with concerns for contaminated soil. Lab tests (Class II Landfill organics and Inorganics) may be required for acceptance.

Cooking Oils and containers	This is considered food waste and liquid waste and so is not accepted.	Contact a commercial cooking and food service oils collection service.
Creosote and Materials Treated With Creosote	The most common items encountered are used railway ties or power poles but also includes any item treated with creosote or creosote containers.	Dispose at Class I or Class II landfills provided that prior landfill operator permission is obtained. Contact <a href="#">City of Calgary landfills</a> .
Demolition Hazards	Buildings contain smoke and gas detectors as well as mercury containing thermostats and pressurized containers such as fire extinguishers.	Buildings scheduled for demolition should be inspected and stripped of these hazards and illegal items prior to demolition.
Electronics	Electronic appliances with visual screens and electronic circuit boards and associated peripheral equipment.	These appliances include valuable but toxic heavy metals including mercury that should not accumulate in landfills, especially in an unlined facility close to a waterway such as the Francis Cooke site. There is a long established program for these items to be recycled in Alberta. They may be brought to the Francis Cooke facility when handled with care and placed in the Alberta Recycling collection bins provided. But, if they are handled roughly, obviously mixed with other garbage for burial or hazardous components such as video screens are broken when tipped they are considered illegal items on our site and subject to an illegal item surcharge.
Fluorescent and Other Mercury Containing Lights	Mercury-containing light bulbs include: fluorescent bulbs and tubes (including compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs), high intensity discharge (HID) lights, which include mercury vapor bulbs, metal halide and high-pressure sodium bulbs often used for streetlights, floodlights, parking lots, and industrial lighting; and neon/argon lamps commonly used in the electric sign industry. Includes already broken bulbs and tubes.	These items should not be brought to the Francis Cooke facility. There are well-established services for recycling all components in these lights including the mercury which is embedded in all components of the fixture in addition to the gases. Contact your retailer, municipality or hazardous waste collection service about properly disposing of these lights. The surcharge is applied in increments of \$100 for the first 12 bulbs and each additional 12 bulbs is an additional \$100.00.
Fluorescent Light Ballasts	Any fluorescent light ballast that does not specifically indicate on the ballast that it is PCB free.	Unless the manufacturer label specifically identifies the ballast as PCB-free it is considered hazardous and should not be tipped at our landfill face. These items and PCB-free ballasts may be dropped into our on-site electronics recycling bins.
Food and Food Related Waste	Any human or animal food item, or item used to prepare, contain, serve or otherwise be used in contact with food.	This description identifies the presence of food or food related animal attractants that are not permitted at the Francis Cooke facility. Nor are they permitted to be disposed in trade and construction waste bins anywhere in the Bow Valley region. Material that has been in contact with food may carry hidden food or harbor food odours undetectable to humans and serve as wildlife and pest attractants. The presence of large numbers of empty containers such as disposable drink cups, or other used drink or other used containers is may be considered evidence of food waste or improper disposal of food related materials and may result in a surcharge being applied.
Food Service Grease, Grease Traps and Containers	Any grease or grease related equipment and containers that once contained grease and have not been thoroughly cleaned.	Take to a Class II landfill such as those operated by the <a href="#">City of Calgary</a> . Contact a commercial food service grease handling and recycling service.

Fruits And Vegetable Waste From Yards And Gardens	Apples, Berries, Pumpkins, garden vegetables.	These are considered food wastes and may serve as animal attractants that create safety hazards for people and wildlife at the Francis Cooke Facility.
Fuels	See Liquid or Solid Chemicals	
Hazardous Materials And Hazardous Material Containers	<p>Any hazardous material and closed hazardous material container. See the attached list of hazardous material and hazardous container symbols to help you identify them.</p> 	Any container with WHMIS/GHS symbols that cannot be easily determined to be empty, clean and dry will result in an illegal item surcharge. Commission employees are not permitted to open any containers, especially those displaying WHMIS/GHS labels. Contact your retailer, municipality or hazardous waste collection service about properly disposing of these containers and their contents.
Household Garbage And Domestic Waste	Any bags or other containers of kitchen waste or waste from day-to-day domestic activities.	The Francis Cooke facility is not approved to accept household or domestic waste. This waste must be disposed in commercial or municipal collection containers designated for this waste. It is contrary to municipal bylaws have domestic waste in trade waste bins. Construction, renovation and demolition projects are required to have a separate disposal plan for domestic wastes such as drink containers and lunch waste.
Hydro-Vac Wastes	Any liquids or slurries from hydro-vac operations.	This waste must be disposed at a facility that has been approved by the Government of Alberta to accept hydro-vac waste. Project managers and regulators are encouraged to ask for scale tickets or other documentation of proper disposal.
Liquid or Solid Chemicals Including Chemical Containers any with Residual Contents.	Common examples include paint, solvents, oils, fuels, household cleaning chemicals, fertilizers and pesticides.	These chemicals are not accepted due to their chemical and liquid nature. Exceptions would be <b>dried</b> paint less than 1 litre or 25% of a standard 3.7 litre (1 gallon) container. Contact your retailer, municipality or hazardous waste collection service about properly disposing of these materials and their containers.
Liquids	No liquids of any kind, including water, may be disposed at the Francis Cooke Facility.	Depending on the nature of your liquids contact a commercial hazardous waste service, used oil collection service, a Class II landfill, a hydro-vac disposal facility or your municipal waste water treatment facility to determine the best way to handle your liquid wastes. Contact <a href="#">Alberta Recycling</a> for information about paint disposal.
Motor Oil	Crank case and transmission oils and empty containers and filters. See "Automotive Fluids".	Contact your retailer, local municipality or <a href="#">Alberta Recycling</a> .
Paint and Paint Containers	See "Liquid or Solid Chemicals".	Contact your retailer, local municipality or <a href="#">Alberta Recycling</a> . For information or how to dispose of unwanted paint.
Pesticide & Herbicide Containers	Any container or bag that held any pesticides or herbicides.	Herbicide containers, whether they are empty or with any type of contents, are not accepted at the Francis Cooke facility. Contact the <a href="#">Alberta Government</a> for information relating to proper disposal of pesticide waste or contact <a href="#">Clean Farms</a> .

Pet and Livestock Waste	Pet and livestock waste that includes or has been in contact with urine or feces.	The Francis Cooke facility's permits do not allow it to accept these materials. Contact a Class II landfill facility or a composting that is approved to accept these materials.
Pressurized Containers	Sealed containers that when purchased contained pressurized contents. Examples include pressurized cleaners, spray paint cans, glues, solvents, lubricants and propane tanks and canisters. Look for the WHIMIS / GFS hazard symbols on the container.	These containers, even when they are believed to be empty, have potential to release contents or residues under pressure in an uncontrolled manner. Explosions have occurred. It is impractical for staff to confirm if contents have been completely removed under operating conditions. Contact your municipality's solid waste service or call a commercial hazardous waste service.
Refrigeration Equipment	Fridges, air conditioners, retail display and commercial coolers and freezers.	Unless tagged by a certified Freon removal specialist these cannot be tipped at the landfill area. They must be handled carefully and dropped in the designated Freon removal staging area.
Smoke Detectors (Batteries Removed)	Smoke detectors from households and commercial structures individually or included in demolition material or small structures dropped off for demolition.	These items contain a radioactive component that, while relatively benign in a household, accumulated in large numbers in a landfill may pose environmental problems. Contact your retailer, municipality or commercial hazardous waste collection service about properly disposing of these items.
Thermostats and Other Equipment Containing Mercury in Switches, Levels etc.	Thermostats from households and other structures including those remaining in demolition material or small structures dropped off for demolition.	Be sure these item are removed from any structure scheduled for demolition. Contact your retailer, municipality or commercial hazardous waste collection service about properly disposing of these items.

	<b>Exploding bomb</b> (for explosion or reactivity hazards)		<b>Flame</b> (for fire hazards)		<b>Flame over circle</b> (for oxidizing hazards)
	<b>Gas cylinder</b> (for gases under pressure)		<b>Corrosion</b> (for corrosive damage to metals, as well as skin, eyes)		<b>Skull and Crossbones</b> (can cause death or toxicity with short exposure to small amounts)
	<b>Health hazard</b> (may cause or suspected of causing serious health effects)		<b>Exclamation mark</b> (may cause less serious health effects or damage the ozone layer*)		<b>Environment*</b> (may cause damage to the aquatic environment)
	<b>Biohazardous Infectious Materials</b> (for organisms or toxins that can cause diseases in people or animals)				