



Bow Valley Waste Management Commission

PROCESS FOR ACCEPTANCE OF EXCAVATED MATERIAL AND EARTHEN WASTE AT FRANCIS COOKE LANDFILL AND RESOURCE RECOVERY CENTRE

December 2023

ACCEPTANCE PROCESS

Excavated material is considered any material generated through an excavation project. This material includes the upper organic layers of the soil profile after recognizable live and dead vegetation has been separated as well as separate or aggregates of silt, sand, gravel, or coarser pit run. Street sweepings and other previously used bulk earthen material are also included for the purpose of approving acceptance at our facility.

Unlike most landfills in Alberta, the Francis Cooke Regional Landfill and Resource Recovery Centre is a “Class III” (inert waste) facility without a leachate liner. To ensure that groundwater or future land uses are not impacted by wastes disposed at this facility a waste generator must demonstrate that the material delivered to the facility meets certain quality standards. These standards are established by the Government of Alberta. Therefore, all excavated material must be assessed and approved by facility management before it may be accepted at this facility. If you wish to dispose of excavated material at the Francis Cooke facility, please follow the process outlined below BEFORE hauling to FCRL.

Projects which generate LESS than 10 cubic of excavated material should complete a *Small Commercial Loads* form and, in most cases, will not be required to provide lab analysis. This form is available from our scale office by calling 403-673-2708.

Projects which generate MORE than 10 cubic metres of excavated material should follow this process BEFORE hauling to FCRL to allow us to assess the waste. Excavated material delivered to FCRL without an approved ID# will not be accepted for disposal. Follow these steps:



1) Register your project by submitting an *Excavated Material Application* form (at bvwaste.ca/facility-guide/#acceptance) and return to FCRL.

2) FCRL will contact the project lead to confirm sampling and analytical requirements. **At minimum, analysis for pH, flash point, paint filter test, Tier 1 TOTAL metals (in mg/kg) and Tier 1 TOTAL BTEX and F1-F4 (in mg/kg) must be provided for every 500 m3 of material.**

3) Generator arranges for a qualified professional to take representative samples of excavated materials which they wish to dispose of at FCRL.

4) Samples should be analysed at an accredited laboratory for all parameters requested by FCRL.

- 5) Return copies of laboratory analysis reports to FCRL for review. Please highlight parameter values that are close to, or exceed, Alberta Tier I Soil Remediation Guidelines for Natural Area/ Residential Land Use.
- 6) FCRL will contact the project lead to confirm if material is acceptable for disposal at FCRL.
- 7) Waste approved for acceptance will be assigned an ID#.
- 8) Hauler provides approved ID# at the FCRL scale for each load to be accepted for disposal.

Material that is known to exceed the Alberta Tier 1 Soil Remediation Guidelines will not be accepted and should be disposed of at another approved facility. We reserve the right to refuse any material for operational reasons or if the material is perceived to pose an unacceptable risk.

This process takes time. We encourage waste generators to register their project with FCRL by completing an *Excavated Material Application* form as early as possible. Excavated material delivered to FCRL without an approved ID# will not be accepted. Urgent or emergency projects that serve the public interest may be given special considerations by management on a case-by-case basis.

EXCAVATED MATERIAL SAMPLING REQUIREMENTS

- 1) Samples must be taken by a qualified professional.
- 2) There must be one composite sample taken from each 500 cubic metres of material.
- 3) Each composite sample must be made up of 10 sub samples evenly distributed throughout the composite sample volume.
- 4) Sample locations must be distributed in a manner representative of the entire volume and spatial configuration of the material on the site prior to excavation. This distribution is intended to ensure sampling is representative of the total volume of material. This distribution may also facilitate appropriate portions of the material being accepted to avoid the cost of hauling to more expensive disposal sites.
- 5) Laboratory testing requirements may be adjusted on a case-by-case basis. If submitted along with an application, evidence from a Phase I Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) report conducted according to the most current version of the Alberta Environmental Site Assessment Standard will assist our ability to evaluate sampling requirements. Other information or reports prepared by a qualified environmental professional may also be taken into consideration when evaluating an application and establishing sampling requirements.

EXCAVATION AND EARTHEN WASTE CHARACTERIZATION AND ASSOCIATED RATES

Excavation and earthen wastes accepted for disposal will be inspected prior to tipping and assigned a tipping rate category. The categories differ according to the extent to which the quality of the material allows it to be put to some use on our site, the level of processing required to handle it and whether the earthen material is mixed with materials that are considered Easily Recoverable Resources accepted in our recovery drop-off areas. These categories and associated tipping rates, using 2021 rates as an example, are explained in the table "Excavated Material And Associated Rates". This table is posted on our web site and is attached to our Facility Handbook which is also available on our website.