

The following is a message sent to long-term care facilities from the City of Vancouver.

Guidelines for disposal and management of waste at long-term care facilities

To help prevent the spread of COVID-19, and to protect both waste collection workers and our most vulnerable populations, long term care facility staff are asked to follow these guidelines:

Guidelines for proper waste disposal

- All general waste materials must be placed in plastic garbage bags, tied securely and then put in the garbage container for collection. No loose or un-bagged garbage.
- All personal hygiene waste (used tissues, gloves, masks, wipes) must be double-bagged before being placed in the garbage container.
- All waste materials that have been or may have been exposed to the COVID-19 virus must be double-bagged before being placed in the garbage container.
- NO biomedical waste of any kind should be placed in the regular garbage.
- NO garbage of any kind should be mixed with recyclable materials.

Guidelines for proper management of Containers

Waste and recycling containers stored outside must be closed and locked at all times (except when in direct use or when being emptied.)

Locked containers prevent access by transients, the homeless and binners. Unlocked containers are an invitation to our most vulnerable members to dig into them looking for returnable containers or other items of value. Anyone digging into the bin could be at risk of coming into contact with the COVID-19 virus.

Thank you for your support in these challenging times.

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