



qathet
REGIONAL DISTRICT



Regional Emergency Operations Centre

MEDIA RELEASE

April 14, 2020

Deposit Container Recycling During COVID-19 Pandemic

Powell River, BC – The Regional Emergency Operations Centre is reminding residents that all mainland qathet Regional District (qRD) recycling depots are collecting deposit containers as a service for residents. There is no fee for this service. In order to ensure health and safety measures are followed, staff will determine if they are able to safely collect deposit containers in a way that requires no handling.

Currently, Texada Island depots are not collecting deposit containers. Residents are strongly encouraged to hold on to all clean refundables until collection can resume. There have been changes in the Sunset Coast Bottle Depot operating hours and we encourage you to visit Sunset Coast Bottle Depot's [website](#) for the most up to date information. Please do not litter. Littering negatively affects the environment, public health and has the potential to start forest fires. To report polluters, call the RAPP hotline at 1-877-952-RAPP (7277), or #7277 on the Telus network.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, non-essential trips to disposal facilities create extra risk for staff and residents. Please consider holding off your trip until the COVID-19 crisis subsides. Residents are encouraged to store recyclables at home. Return-It depots have been taking precautionary measures and are aware of the requirements from health authorities to protect their employees and customers in the handling of clean, empty beverage containers for recycling.

Please do not visit any recycling or disposal facilities if you have been diagnosed with COVID-19, have been exposed to, or are experiencing [symptoms of the virus](#). The public is reminded to responsibly handle waste, stay home and stay safe.

For the most up-to-date information during the COVID-19 state of emergency, visit the [Regional Emergency Operations Centre webpage](#).

CONTACT:

Ryan Thoms, Manager of Emergency Services
#105, 4675 Marine Avenue
Powell River, BC V8A 2L2
(604) 485-2260
rthoms@qathet.ca