



Monday, December 21, 2020

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **TOWN OF ROCKY MOUNTAIN HOUSE ANNOUNCES NEW ECO CENTRE**

### **Residents can access waste reduction centre at no increased cost**

Rocky Mountain House, Alta. – The Town of Rocky Mountain House is pleased to announce the opening of the Rocky Mountain House Eco Centre on Jan. 5, 2021.

The Eco Centre, located at 4511-42 Street, will accept cardboard, paper, glass, plastic, yard waste, tires, white metals, fridges and electronics from Town residents and businesses.

“We are excited to move forward with the Eco Centre initiative, to meet our waste diversion goals,” said Mayor Tammy Burke. “Given that 76 per cent of Town waste that goes to landfill is either compostable or recyclable, we hope that this expanded recycling service will make a significant dent in waste reduction.”

## **Rocky Mountain House Eco Centre**



**WASTE DIVERSION  
IN ACTION!**

**4511-42 St.**

**403-845-3220**



After months of discussion and planning, the opening of the Rocky Mountain House Eco Centre is the first major step forward for the Town’s Waste Reduction Strategy.

The Town of Rocky Mountain House Eco Centre will be operated by Engineering & Operations, subcontracted to Empringham Disposal. The Town expects to quickly expand the list of accepted items at the Eco Centre in the New Year.

“We invite residents to join us in celebrating this important environmental milestone for our community, and ask for your patience as the operation evolves. Like any new initiative we expect a learning curve for staff and users along the way.”

The Town of Rocky Mountain House is pleased to offer this enhanced service to residents at no additional cost. The Rocky Mountain House Eco Centre is funded through the existing solid waste base charges on monthly utility bills.

The Rocky Mountain House Eco Centre will be open for drop-offs Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. The centre will be closed on Sundays, Mondays and all statutory holidays.

### **Residential solid waste**

Residential solid waste curbside pick-up will continue on Wednesdays and Thursdays. The Rocky Mountain House Eco Centre will continue to accept bagged household garbage from Town residents. As always, large loads of household waste must be taken to regional landfill.

### **Commercial solid waste**

The Town stopped invoicing businesses for commercial waste tonnage in November. Commercial businesses now have service and billing arrangements directly with commercial haulers.

No commercial waste will be accepted at the Rocky Mountain House Eco Centre, but Town businesses are welcome to use the Eco Centre for all divertible materials at no cost.

### **Low-cost Location**

The Town of Rocky Mountain House Eco Centre will be housed in the old recreation building, located at 4511-42 Street. In keeping with spirit of waste reduction, diversion and circular economy, the Town will be repurposing an existing Town facility to better serve residents. This decision meets two [Strategic Plan](#) goals: advancing the Town's asset management plan, and being an environmental leader.

“Repurposing the old recreation building is the result of creative and thrifty thinking,” said Mayor Burke. “The Eco Centre will put a Town asset back to work for Town residents.”

### **Waste Reduction in Rocky Mountain House**

Rocky Mountain House Town Council adopted its [Waste Reduction Strategy](#) on March 17, 2020. The Rocky Mountain Regional Solid Waste Authority Agreement expired on March 31, 2020, and since then the Town has been planning the future of waste management within Town limits with a view to reducing overall cost to ratepayers. The Town of Rocky Mountain House [Eco Centre Design and Recommendations Report](#) was subsequently accepted by Council on Dec. 15, 2020.

The Eco Centre report identified a need for new building; using the old recreation is a cost-saving measure while still enhancing service to residents.



The Rocky Mountain House Eco Centre meets several recommendations of the Eco Centre Report, including one-way traffic, maintaining and increasing the list of accepted items. Its design has been developed with best practices and industry knowledge of recycling and waste diversion in Alberta.

Visit [www.rockymtnhouse.com/p/eco-centre](http://www.rockymtnhouse.com/p/eco-centre) for complete list of accepted items, hours of operation, users guide and more.

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