

## Residential User Fees – Frequently Asked Questions

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**Q: Why do residents have to pay to use the landfill?**

**A:** The Rappahannock Regional Solid Waste Management Board (R-Board) operates both the Regional Landfill in Stafford and the Belman Road Convenience Center in Fredericksburg. The R-Board does not receive General Fund dollars from either locality. Commercial trash haulers pay fees that generate the bulk of the revenue. A changing market and necessary capital expenses drive the need for additional revenue.

**Q: Why did the fees increase July 1, 2019?**

**A:** The R-Board had not made any changes to the user fees since initiated in March 2015. Over the past few years the R-Board noticed a need to increase fees to help support landfill operations. The R-Board does not receive General Fund dollars from either locality. Commercial trash haulers pay fees that generate the bulk of the revenue. A changing market and necessary capital expenses drive the need for additional revenue by way of fee increase.

**Q: How much is the user fee?**

**A:** Annual passes (unlimited visits) cost \$120. A coupon book costs \$40 and contains 10 coupons (1 per visit). A one-time-visit costs \$5 and is available only at the residential entrance of the Regional Landfill.

**Q: I used to pay \$23 (Stafford County) or \$20 (City of Fredericksburg) on my personal property tax bill and received a decal for every vehicle I own. The decal allowed me to get into the landfill. Now I still pay the fee on my tax bill AND have to buy a landfill sticker. Why are you charging me twice?**

**A:** The \$23 (Stafford County) or \$20 (City of Fredericksburg) fee on the property tax bill is a Vehicle Licensing Fee. The funds for this fee go to the general fund, as part of the personal property tax. The old decals were strictly a “proof of residency” to allow you into the Regional Landfill, but the R-Board does not receive tax dollars as a subsidy from either locality. You are not being charged twice.

**Q: Is recycling still free?**

**A:** Yes, cans, bottles, newspapers, cardboard, and other items that are accepted in the R-Board’s single-stream recycling program will continue to be accepted at no charge. However, we do prefer for glass to be brought to our residential convenience center’s separated glass containers in order for the R-Board to utilize the material for beneficial use. Scrap metal; automotive, equipment, and rechargeable batteries; used motor oil and antifreeze; used cooking oil; cell phones; eyeglasses; fluorescent bulbs; and printer cartridges are also free to recycle. Scrap metal includes appliances containing refrigerant.

**Q: Is there a fee for yard waste?**

**A:** Yes. While yard waste and brush are diverted from the landfill, there is a cost to process these materials. In addition, yard waste and brush do not generate revenue as the sale of other recyclable items do.

**Q: Are there restrictions for yard waste?**

**A:** Yes. At the Regional Landfill in Stafford vegetative materials less than 12” in diameter and a maximum length of 8’ are acceptable. At the Belman Road Convenience Center in Fredericksburg, materials are restricted to grass, leaves, brush, and limbs no larger than 4” in diameter. Stumps that exceed these restrictions will not be accepted.

**Q: What if I arrive at the landfill and do not have a coupon, an annual sticker, or enough cash to purchase an annual pass or coupon book?**

**A:** You may purchase a single visit for \$5 at the Regional Landfill (residential side) to take care of your immediate disposal needs.

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**Q: Where can I purchase the annual stickers or coupon book?**

**A:** Stickers and coupon books are available online at [www.R-Board.org](http://www.R-Board.org), at the Stafford Country Treasurer's Office, City of Fredericksburg Treasurer's Office, R-Board Administrative Office, and at the residential side of the Regional Landfill. Annual pass stickers and coupon books are also available through the mail. Please send a completed application form, available at [www.R-Board.org](http://www.R-Board.org), with a check made payable to the Stafford County Treasurer to the R-Board Administrative Office, P.O. Box 339, Stafford, VA 22555.

**Q: Do you accept credit or debit cards?**

**A:** Most major cards at both the Eskimo Hill Residential Center and Eskimo Hill Commercial Side.

**Q: Are the stickers or coupon books available for purchase online?**

**A:** Yes, on the R-Board's website: [www.r-board.org](http://www.r-board.org). You may order coupon books or annual passes online with a credit card. Your order will be processed and mailed to your home or may be picked up at the R-Board Administrative Office. You may also download and complete the application from [www.R-Board.org](http://www.R-Board.org) and mail it with a check made payable to the Stafford County Treasurer to the R-Board Administrative Office, P.O. Box 339, Stafford, VA 22555.

**Q: If I purchase a sticker or coupon book by mail, how long will it take to receive my sticker or coupon book back in the mail?**

**A:** Please allow up to 7 business days for processing and mailing.

**Q: Why can't I buy a pass, coupon book or one-time pass at the Belman Road facility?**

**A:** In the interest of traffic flow, financial accountability, and employee safety, there are no financial transactions conducted at the Belman Road facility. Coupons and annual passes are accepted at that location.

**Q: Can I get a \$5 credit towards my annual pass if I purchase a one-trip pass first?**

**A:** No.

**Q: Do I have to provide my vehicle registration when I purchase my annual sticker?**

**A:** Yes, provide the registration for each vehicle for which you wish to purchase a sticker, regardless of the location of the sale.

**Q: What do I need to bring with me to get an annual sticker?**

**A:** Registration card(s) for the vehicle(s) for which you wish to purchase annual stickers; and cash, check, or a credit/debit card. Business cards will not be accepted for an annual sticker.

**Q: Where do I place my annual sticker?**

**A:** The R-Board encourages placement of the sticker on the back of the interior rearview mirror so that the gate attendant will see it easily. If the sticker is in another location on your vehicle, please indicate that to the gate attendant as you enter the facility.

**Q: What if I have more than two vehicles?**

**A:** For an additional \$100, a resident may obtain up to two more annual passes. Vehicle registration information is required for all annual passes.

**Q: If my household only has one registered vehicle, how much will my annual sticker cost me?**

**A:** The cost for an annual sticker is \$100.

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**Q: I own property in the City or County and split the time I reside with another home outside of these localities. Can I still purchase a coupon book or an annual sticker?**

**A:** Yes, a person owning property in the City or County is eligible to purchase either the annual sticker or coupon book.

**Q: What if I live in Stafford/City, but my vehicle is registered in another state?**

**A:** Please present proof of residency with your vehicle registration at the time you purchase your annual pass. Examples of proof of residency include a property tax receipt, a lease agreement, or utility bill.

**Q: My vehicle is registered in my business name and I am also a City or County resident. Can I purchase an annual pass for my business use vehicles?**

**A:** Annual stickers are for residential use only. Any vehicle registered in a business name is considered commercial use at the landfill and must pay the commercial rate/ton as set by the R-Board and is payable at the scales at the Regional Landfill. Business exceptions are allowed to residents who drive business registered vehicles as their primary vehicle, who agree to only bring in their residentially generated trash and are approved by the Board. If a business is seen disposing of their business-generated refuse at the residential side they are subject to their annual pass or coupon book being voided and being directed to the scales to be processed as a commercial customer.

**Q: At the time I purchased my annual pass, I only had registration information for one vehicle. How do I get my second sticker?**

**A:** Bring your vehicle registration information to the R-Board Administrative Office or Eskimo Hill Regional Landfill and we will update your information and issue you a second sticker. You can also mail a copy of your vehicle registration to the R-Board Administrative Office, P.O. Box 339, Stafford, VA 22555 requesting a second sticker.

**Q: Can I buy annual passes for my neighbor and myself?**

**A:** Yes, you may purchase separate, additional annual stickers with the appropriate vehicle registration information and payment of a separate \$100. Stickers may not be shared between households.

**Q: Is it true that decals cannot be transferred to a new car?**

**A:** If your vehicle is wrecked, sold, or otherwise not going to be used for trash disposal, please bring the remnants of the original sticker to the R-Board Administrative Office, with the registration information for your new vehicle. You will be issued a replacement sticker at no charge.

**Q: Do the stickers expire?**

**A:** The annual sticker expires December 31 each year.

**Q: Do the coupons expire?**

**A:** No, the coupons do not expire.

**Q: Can I turn in my unused coupons for a credit towards the purchase of an annual pass if I decide that I would prefer an annual pass after I purchase a coupon book?**

**A:** No. Partial payments will not be accepted. Credits and refunds will not be issued.

**Q: What do I do if I lose my annual pass?**

**A:** Replacements are available at the R-Board Administrative Office, 1739 Jefferson Davis Hwy, Stafford, VA 22554. Office hours are Monday – Friday from 8:00am-4:30pm.

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**Q: Can I be refunded on any unused coupons?**

**A:** No refunds will be issued.

**Q: Are credit or debit cards accepted forms of payment for annual passes and coupon books?**

**A:** Yes, all forms of payment are accepted all sales locations.

**Q: Can I be refunded a pro-rated amount if I move and don't use the sticker for the entire year?**

**A:** No refunds will be issued.

**Q: How many annual stickers may I purchase?**

**A:** For \$100, a resident may obtain annual stickers for two vehicles registered to the same address. The second annual sticker is offered at no cost to the applicant.

**Q: I am a contractor with residential refuse to dispose. Can I purchase an annual sticker or coupon booklet to dispose of debris?**

**A:** No, the residential waste is not coming from your own home. The commercial rates have not changed. You will continue to pay the commercial rate/ton as set by the R-Board and determined at the scales.

**Q: The trash I am bringing to the landfill is from my residential rental property. Why can't I buy a coupon book or annual pass to dispose of these items?**

**A:** While the material is residential in nature, you qualify as a commercial entity because the waste is not coming from your own home. The commercial rates have not changed. You will need to pay the commercial rate/ton as set by the R-Board and determined at the scales.

**Q: If I lose my coupon book, how can I get it replaced?**

**A:** You would need to purchase another coupon book at full price.

**Q: Is there a limit to the amount of trash that a resident can drop off?**

**A:** Only one coupon is necessary per visit. However, the previously established limits on the number of tires, vehicle size, and trailer size remain in place.

**Q: What are the rules regarding trailers?**

**A:** Residents with trailers less 8' containing any material will be allowed with an annual pass, coupon, or one-time payment. Trailers over 8' will be charged an oversize fee of \$20. Exceptions to the oversize fee include yard debris or up to four 100 gal. trash cans.

**Q: When I arrive at the landfill, where do I go to purchase an annual pass, coupon book, or one-time visit?**

**A:** All user fee sales are handled at the residential area of the landfill. Please observe the traffic lanes and arrows.

**Q: Can I rent a U-Haul and bring my receipt showing my annual pass?**

**A:** No. The U-Haul will be subject to a \$20 oversize load fee.

**Q: Is the household chemical collection still free?**

**A:** Yes, the bi-annual household hazardous waste collection is still a free service. Information on the next collection will be posted on our website.

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**Q: Is there a fee to dispose of tires?**

**A:** Residents are allowed free disposal of up to 8 tires per household per year. Any resident bringing in tires over that amount will be referred to the scales to pay the \$160 per ton fee, as described in the R-Board's published fee schedule.

**Q: Whom do I contact for more information?**

**A:** Call the R-Board Administrative Office at 540-658-5279, visit [www.R-Board.org](http://www.R-Board.org), or send an email to [recycling@staffordcountyva.gov](mailto:recycling@staffordcountyva.gov).