

WHAT IS DANGEROUS WASTE?

Washington State uses the term “dangerous waste,” rather than the federal law’s term of “hazardous waste.” Washington State’s Dangerous Waste Regulations are more protective than federal laws. “Dangerous wastes” means those solid wastes designated in WAC 173-303-070 through 173-303-100 as dangerous, extremely hazardous, or mixed waste.

If a site generates dangerous waste, the facility will need to determine their generator category each month. The generator category tells a facility how to handle their waste and which dangerous waste rules to follow.



CONTACT US



City of Spokane
(509) 625-4600



Spokane County
(509) 477-7177



Airway Heights
(509) 443-5667

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

HAZARDOUS WASTE HANDLING:

Department of Ecology
(509) 329-3400
www.ecy.wa.gov

Spokane Regional Health District
(509) 324-1560 ext. 3
www.srhd.org

For hazardous spills or any other emergencies call 911

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DANGEROUS WASTE GENERATOR CATEGORIES



COMMERCIAL WASTEWATER

BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (BMPs)

DESIGNATE YOUR WASTE

STEP #1

PREPARE TO DESIGNATE

- Obtain a copy of the Dangerous Waste Regulations
- Get the Safety Data Sheets (SDS) for any products that go into your waste stream
- Determine what byproducts will be discarded, recycled off-site (waste), or used again in your facility (not waste)

STEP #2

SEPARATE EXEMPT OR EXCLUDED WASTE

- Used oil
- Spent antifreeze
- Spent lead-acid batteries
- Scrap metals
- Waste with precious metals
- Some refrigerants
- Some wastes applied to land
- Some wastes burned for energy

STEP #3

DETERMINE WASTE CODES

- On F, K, P, or U lists
- Find lists at WAC 173-303-9904



STEP #4

CHARACTERIZE THE HAZARDS OF THE WASTE

- Hazards include ignitability, corrosivity, reactivity, and toxicity
- Check the SDS or MSDS or send a sample to a lab for characterization to determine hazards if not known

STEP #5

CHECK WASHINGTON STATE CRITERIA

- Washington has state-specific criteria for toxic, persistent, and solid corrosive wastes defined in WAC 173-303-9904



DETERMINE YOUR GENERATOR CATEGORY

Waste types are determined through Quantity Exclusion Limits (QELs). A QEL is a monthly weight limit that will determine generator category. Waste codes found at WAC 173-303-9904 will define the QEL for waste. (See footnotes of 9904)



Most dangerous wastes have a QEL of 220 pounds



Dangerous wastes that are toxic in small amounts have a QEL of 2.2 pounds

CATEGORIES

SMALL



Less than 220 lbs.



2.2 lbs. or less

MEDIUM



220 - 2,200 lbs.



2.2 lbs. or less

LARGE



2,200 lbs. or more



More than 2.2 lbs.