



## SOLID AND HAZARDOUS WASTE OVERVIEW

Do you generate or handle hazardous wastes (i.e., waste that poses potential harm to human health and the environment)? Examples of materials at construction sites that may be classified as hazardous wastes include: spent cleaners (e.g., organic solvents), paints (including lead-based paint), used oil, paint thinners, wastes that contain ignitable and corrosive materials, and wastes that contain certain toxic pollutants. A list of hazardous wastes and their allowed concentrations is in the regulations that implement the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA). These regulations also contain requirements for managing, treating, and disposing of hazardous wastes. For example, RCRA regulations contain requirements for:

- Generators of hazardous wastes. The requirements for generators of hazardous wastes are based on the amount of hazardous wastes generated. Generators of large amounts of hazardous wastes are subject to more regulatory requirements than are generators of small amounts of hazardous wastes. The RCRA regulations list quantities of hazardous wastes that determine whether a generator is large or small.
- Storage of hazardous wastes. The RCRA regulations specify the time hazardous wastes can be stored at a site. If the storage time is exceeded, a RCRA permit is required.
- Transport, treatment, and disposal of hazardous wastes. To transport hazardous wastes, a transporter must be registered with either Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) or a state as a hazardous waste transporter. A generator is responsible for ensuring that a transporter is a registered hazardous waste transporter and that the hazardous waste is delivered to a RCRA-permitted treatment or disposal facility. The generator also must sign the hazardous wastes manifest used to track the transport of a hazardous waste to a permitted treatment or disposal facility.

For more information on RCRA hazardous wastes and the hazardous wastes requirements, contact EPA's Office of Solid Waste Call Center at 800-424-9346 (TDD - 800-553-7672) Monday - Friday between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. EST.