



Hazardous waste is defined as waste that poses substantial or potential threats to public health &/or the environment because it is toxic, infectious, radioactive or flammable. We produce 400 million tons of hazardous waste each year - almost 13 tons a second. Hazardous wastes are wastes that can cause substantial harm to our health & the environment. Almost 133 pounds of hazardous waste is generated a year for every single person in the world, & the amount is increasing. In just one generation, the production of man-made chemicals has increased by 40,000% from 1 million to 400 million tons.

4 Characteristics of Hazardous Waste

Ignitability

- a substance that is flammable at or above a 140 degrees Fahrenheit flash point
- alcohol, gasoline, acetone, compressed gasses

Corrosivity

- a liquid with a pH of less than or equal to 2 or pH of greater than or equal to 12.5
- battery acid and rust removers

Reactivity

- materials that are unstable and experience violent change without detonating
- materials that have the potential for explosive mixture or reaction with water
- materials where toxic gasses are released when mixed with water

Toxicity

- poisonous materials that pose a threat to groundwater
- materials that contain high concentrations of heavy metals like cadmium, lead, or mercury

MWA Accepted Items

- Appliances
- Batteries
- Computer Waste
- Cooking Oil
- Christmas Lights
- Electronics & TVs
- Fire Extinguishers
- Light Bulbs, Tubes, Ballast, & Lamps
- Metal
- Motor Oil & Antifreeze
- Oil-Based Paint
- Propane
- Sharps, Needles, & Syringes
- Tires

HAZARDOUS WASTE

Want to learn more about disposal of hazardous waste?

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