

Contractor Certification Program Documents

- [Fact Sheet](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [Certification Workbook](#)
- [Certification Checklist Package](#)
- [Certified Facilities List](#)

DEM Regulations & Policies

- [DEM Rules & Regs. for Hazardous Waste Management](#)
- [DEM Air Pollution Regulations](#)
- [Rules & Regulations Governing Administration & Enforcement of RI Mercury Education & Reduction Act](#)
- [DEM Solid Waste Regulation # 5 - Waste Tire Storage & Recycling](#)
- [RI Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Regulations](#)
- [RI Environmental Compliance Incentive Act Policy](#)
- Mercury Info**
- [Rhode Island DEM Mercury Topics page](#)
- [Rhode Island Mercury Commission](#)
- [RI Mercury Reduction & Education Act -Auto Mercury Switches NEWMOA Mercury](#)

Rhode Island Auto Salvage Yard Facilities Certification Program



The automobile manufacturing industry is the largest manufacturing industry in the world. Every year, over 11 million vehicles end up at auto recycling facilities (often referred to as junkyards or auto salvage yards). In the United States, the auto recycling industry employs more than 40,000 people and there are an estimated 7,000 vehicle recycling operations nationwide.

The dismantling of vehicles for reusable or recyclable parts and fluids and the sale of remaining materials as scrap has gone a long way toward lessening the burden on landfills.

However, potential human health and environmental risks associated with auto salvage operations are diverse and variable - arising from a broad array of physical, chemical, and biological hazards.

Such hazards include:

- the potential for fire or explosion at improperly managed sites
- the transmission of diseases where yard areas serve as vector-breeding habitats, for instance, for mosquitoes
- soil, surface water, and groundwater contamination resulting from the improper management of solid and hazardous waste, including mercury switches
- air releases of asbestos fibers, fugitive dust, and/or volatile organic compounds

In order to minimize such hazards and improve environmental regulatory compliance, the Rhode Island Auto Salvage Yard Facilities Certification Program is an

Other RI State Agencies

[Dept. of Business Regulation \(Auto Wrecking & Salvage Yards\)](#)

Web Resources:

- [EPA New England Auto Salvage & Auto Recyclers Homepage](#)
- [US EPA Product Stewardship - Vehicles](#)
- [Environmental Compliance for Auto Recyclers](#)
- [National Environmental Compliance Assistance Clearinghouse: Auto Salvage](#)
- [Steel Recycling Institute](#)
- [American Iron & Steel Institute](#)
- [Occupational Safety & Health Administration \(OSHA\)](#)
- [Vermont SIRI MSDS Collection & Health & Safety Info US EPA - Hazardous Waste Manifest System](#)
- [Uniform Hazardous Waste Manifest Training Video](#)
- Publications**
- [Rhode Island Universal Waste Fact Sheet](#)
- [Hazardous Waste](#)

[Reduction Program](#)

[EPA Region 5
Automotive Mercury](#)

[Removing Mercury
Switches from
Vehicles \(Quicksilver
Caucus\)](#)

[End of Life Vehicle
Solutions \(ELVS\)
Educational
Materials](#)

[Michigan Mercury
Switch Video - "The
48 Second Solution"
\(Requires Windows
Media Player\)](#)

Stormwater Info

[US EPA Storm
Water Program](#)

[DEM's RIPDES
Storm Water
Program](#)

effort to share information with operators of auto salvage facilities about compliance with applicable environmental regulations and best management practices, and allow auto salvage yard operators to certify that they are complying with these environmental regulatory requirements.

This site provides resources to explain and comply with regulatory requirements, including information and needed documents for the **Auto Salvage Yard Facilities Certification Program**, for auto salvage yard operators.

It also provides educational resources on many topics relating to auto salvage yard operation.

Contact us:

Department of Environmental Management
Office of Technical & Customer Assistance
Auto Salvage Yard Facilities Certification Program
235 Promenade Street
Providence, RI 02908-5767
Telephone: (401) 222-4700, Ext. 4412
Fax: (401) 222-3810
Email: Thomas.Armstrong@dem.ri.gov

We welcome your questions, and value your comments. Please provide as many details as necessary.

Thanks!

[Identification \(EPA\)
Product Stewardship
Opportunities Within
the Automotive
Industry](#)

**Industry
Associations**

[Automotive
Recyclers
Association \(ARA\)](#)

[Auto Recyclers of
Rhode Island](#)

[Ocean State Auto
Recycling](#)

News

[Environmental
Compliance for Auto
Recyclers News
\(ARA/ECAR\)](#)