

This document is intended to provide a broad overview of what tribal representatives can look for when inspecting facilities that accumulate hazardous waste. It is not a complete list of everything tribes need to know when managing hazardous waste. A Hazardous Waste Generator Regulatory Summary can be found at <https://www.epa.gov/hwgenerators/hazardous-waste-generator-regulatory-summary>, with links to the RCRA regulations.

PROPER HANDLING OF HAZARDOUS WASTE

- 1. WASTE DETERMINATION:** Determining what is a hazardous waste is a complex task that is a central component of the hazardous waste management regulations, and is not within the scope of this online course. Chapter 3 of the 2014 RCRA Orientation Manual, available at <https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2015-07/documents/rom.pdf>, introduces the hazardous waste identification process, describes how to determine if a waste is a solid waste, and provides the regulatory definition of hazardous waste. It also discusses those wastes specifically excluded from Subtitle C regulation and those wastes exempted when recycled.

Search out and discover all wastes.

Determine which wastes may contain regulated chemicals.

One method to determine if a waste is hazardous is to obtain chemical analysis of wastes.

Provide information on quantities and disposition of wastes upon request. - §262.43

- 2. CONTAIN WASTES PROPERLY:** Learn more about hazardous waste management facilities and units at <https://www.epa.gov/hwpermitting/hazardous-waste-management-facilities-and-units#facility>. See <https://yosemite.epa.gov/osw/rcra.nsf/documents/8c9f6dc8b378a2f585256e9900723a8b> for frequently asked questions about satellite accumulation areas.

Collect wastes in approved containers. See *SAA and CAA Requirements* in guidance provided on the online course main page.

Separate incompatibles.

Close containers when they are not in use.

Label and mark containers properly.

Maintain a daily waste transfer log, which will detail how much and what type of waste was placed in the container, and by whom.

Do not over accumulate. See <https://www.epa.gov/hwgenerators/categories-hazardous-waste-generators>.

Very Small Quantity Generator (Previously Conditionally Exempt Small Quantity Generator)

- May generate 100 kg (220 lbs.) or less of hazardous waste; 1 kg (2.2 lbs.) or less of acute hazardous waste; and 100 kg (220 lbs.) or less of acute spill residue or soil per calendar month - 40 CFR 260.10
- May accumulate 1,000 kg (2,200 lbs.) or less of hazardous waste; 1 kg (2.2 lbs.) or less of acute hazardous waste; and 100 kg (220 lbs.) or less of acute spill residue or soil
- Unlimited accumulation time on-site
- RCRA training recommended

Small Quantity Generator

- May generate 100 kg (220 lbs.) to 1,000 kg (2,200 lbs.) per month - 40 CFR 260.10
- May accumulate 6,000 kg (13,200 lbs.) maximum - §262.16(b)(1)
- Required to have an EPA ID number - §262.18
- 180 day or less accumulation time, or 270 days allowed if transporting wastes greater than 200 miles away - §§262.16(b)-(d)
- Follow container requirements - §§262.16(b)(2)-(5)
- Basic RCRA training required - §262.16(b)(9)(iii)
- Contingency plan and emergency procedures required - §§262.16(b)(9)
- Procedures required for preparedness and prevention - §262.16(b)(8)-(9)
- Land disposal restrictions and paperwork required - 40 CFR Part 268 all
- Must use manifest when shipping hazardous waste - 40 CFR Part 262 subpart B
- Must take steps to minimize hazardous waste - §262.27
- Package and label hazardous waste for shipment off-site to a RCRA facility for treatment, storage, or disposal - §§262.30-262.33
- Report if any required copies of signed manifests are not received back - §§262.42(b)
- Maintain records of waste testing, manifests, and exception reports - §262.11(f) and §262.40(a) and (d)
- Send off-site shipments to appropriate facilities for management - 40 CFR Parts 264/265, 266/267 and 270).
- Close equipment, structures, soils, and units by meeting specified performance standards and disposal and decontamination requirements.

Large Quantity Generator

- May generate 1,000 kg (2,200 lbs.); 1 kg (2.2 lbs.) of acute hazardous waste; or 100 kg (220 lbs.) of acute spill residue or more per month
- No limit of on-site accumulation of hazardous waste
- Can store hazardous waste 90 days maximum
- Requires full compliance for management of containers, tanks, drip pads, or containment buildings - §§262.17(a)(1)-(4)
- Ensure that appropriate personnel complete classroom or on-the-job training to become familiar with proper hazardous waste management and emergency procedures for the wastes handled at the facility - §262.17(a)(7)
- Full contingency plan and emergency procedures required - 40 CFR Part 262 subpart M
- Develop procedures to follow in the event of an emergency - 40 CFR Part 262 subpart M
- Control hazardous air emissions from tanks and containers – 40 CFR Part 265 subparts AA, BB and CC
- Land disposal restrictions and paperwork required - 40 CFR Part 268 all
- Must use manifest when shipping hazardous waste - 40 CFR Part 262 subpart B
- Must have a waste minimization program in place - §262.27
- Package and label hazardous waste for shipment off-site to a RCRA facility for treatment, storage, or disposal - §§262.30-262.33
- Biennial report required - §262.41
- Report if any required copies of signed manifests are not received back - §§262.42(b)
- Maintain records of waste testing, manifests, and exception reports - §262.11(f) and §262.40
- Send off-site shipments to appropriate facilities for management - 40 CFR Parts 264/265, 266/267 and 270
- Close equipment, structures, soils, and units by meeting specified performance standards and disposal and decontamination requirements.

3. **INSPECT SITES PERIODICALLY:** There are different inspection requirements, based on generator status and the type of hazardous waste accumulation area (satellite accumulation areas or central accumulation areas).

Inspect all hazardous waste areas weekly. Document and fix any concerns.

Respond to spills. Clean up and dispose of properly.

Maintain structures and containment and safety equipment.

4. **MANIFEST SHIPMENTS:** EPA's hazardous waste manifest system is designed to track hazardous waste from the time it leaves the generator facility where it was produced, until it reaches the off-site waste management facility that will store, treat, or dispose of the hazardous waste. See <https://www.epa.gov/hwgenerators/hazardous-waste-manifest-system>.

Use proper forms - Uniform Hazardous Waste Manifest and Land Disposal Restriction forms.

Use proper Hauler and Disposer. They must be registered with EPA and have a 12-digit EPA ID number.

5. **PREPARE PLANS, RECORDS AND REPORTS**

Have written preparedness and contingency plans and emergency procedures.

Have a waste minimization plan for your facility.

Have a training plan and provide RCRA training initially and annually for all employees managing hazardous waste.

Obtain 12-digit EPA ID Number.

File Manifests and Biennial Generator reports appropriately.

Keep waste analysis and waste determination records.

Maintain required Land Disposal Restriction reports for each waste stream.

A collection of the most frequent questions EPA received during implementation and during trainings about the hazardous waste generator regulations, published in the Federal Register on Nov. 28, 2016, can be found at <https://www.epa.gov/hwgenerators/frequent-questions-about-implementing-hazardous-waste-generator-improvements-final-rule#sat>.