

Storing Hazardous Waste & Recyclables

Hazardous Waste and Recyclables

Many Alberta businesses produce hazardous waste and hazardous recyclables, such as used car batteries, antifreeze, leftover paint, spent solvents, corrosives and cleaning products. Proper storage and containment of these materials is important to protect Alberta's air, land and water from contamination.

Storage Requirements

When storing hazardous waste or recyclables, containers must be:

- In good condition and not leaking
- Protected from the weather
- Compatible with the materials they are storing to avoid corrosion or chemical reactions that could result in fire
- Kept closed except when adding waste
- Not opened, handled or stored in ways that could cause leaks or ruptures
- Clearly marked and labeled to identify what is being stored

In addition, the following requirements and precautions should be taken:

- Clean up any spills immediately
- Do not store incompatible wastes together
- Have in place secondary containment for liquid hazardous waste/recyclables
- Use separate containers and appropriate barriers between different waste to prevent contact in the event of a release

- Inspect waste and recyclables in storage weekly and note any deterioration or corrosion in an inspection log

Recycling and Disposal

There are numerous Alberta companies that can assist you in establishing a proper waste storage and identify recycling and disposal options.

To find a company near you, call the Environmental Services Association of Alberta (ESAA) at (780) 429-6363 or visit:

- [Environmental Services Association of Alberta](#)

Hazardous waste and recyclables contain substances that could contaminate air, soil and water

The Storage Site

Hazardous wastes and recyclables must be stored in a place that allows for safe handling and is prepared for emergencies. The storage site must:

- Prevent access by unauthorized persons
- Be posted as a hazardous waste/recyclables storage area
- Have proper equipment to handle emergency situations
- Have designated people responsible for the site and able to respond to emergency situations

- Be designed and maintained to ensure run-off cannot enter the secondary containment system
- Be located away from sewer drains, manholes, drainage courses and standing water

These storage requirements are not mandatory when storing small quantities (less than 5 kg); however, the general principles of safe and secure management should be followed.

Approval Requirements

Generally, an approval under the *Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act* is required to store hazardous waste/recyclables when:

- More than 10,000 kg is stored at one time
- Some or all of the hazardous waste or recyclables is produced by someone other than the owner of the facility
- Hazardous waste or recyclables are stored for longer than one year

If you are not sure whether a facility requires an approval, or would like more information on obtaining an approval, contact the Alberta Environment and Parks regional office nearest you.

For More Information

For more information on the storage and disposal of hazardous waste and hazardous recyclables:

- [Contact Us](#)