

## Forestry & Forest-Based Product Manufacturers Fact Sheet Hazardous Waste Management in BC

Many processes used in the forestry sector – both for harvesting wood fiber and in the manufacture of forest-based products such as plywood, pulp and paper, generate wastes that are hazardous.

**Hazardous wastes most commonly generated from pulp and paper, plywood and forest product operations include:** spent solvents used in de-greasing, corrosive wastes generated from the use of strong acids and bases, wastewater and wastewater treatment sludge from the bleaching process, paint waste containing solvents and/or heavy metals, ink waste containing solvents, metals, or ignitable materials and waste petroleum distillates from cleanup operations.

### Hazardous Wastes in the Forestry Sector

Logging activities and sawmills primarily generate waste oils, solvents, lubricating fluids and contaminated sawdust. If they maintain their own trucks, skidders, loaders, forklifts and other machinery, they can generate the same waste products as automotive repair and mechanical shops.

Manufacturing, refinishing and restoring wood products also generate waste solvents, paints, adhesives, stains, finishes and applicators.

Wood preservative facilities generate waste chemicals and sludge, containing materials such as arsenic, pentachlorophenol, chromium, copper and creosote.

These chemicals are also found in debris from clean-out of pressure cylinders and sumps, filters, sludge and wastewater. Even contaminated personal protection items, such as respirator filters, could be hazardous waste.

Companies that generate hazardous wastes have a responsibility to manage these wastes in compliance with the **Hazardous Waste Regulation** and the **BC Environmental Management Act**.

Generators of hazardous wastes also have the responsibility to properly Manifest these wastes before tendering them to a licensed waste transporter and an authorized waste receiver/processor. Generators must also obtain a BC Generator Registration Number, depending on the quantity of waste produced or stored. Please refer to the fact sheet: **Generators of Hazardous Waste** for a more comprehensive explanation of a generator's responsibilities.

There are penalties for non-compliance in the forms of fines and possible imprisonment. Please refer to **Section 10, Division 1 of the Environmental Management Act** for further details.

# BCEIA

British Columbia  
Environment Industry  
Association



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## Reduce Your Risk Through Proper Waste Management

**While each waste generator should seek specific advice, the following general principles for waste management are required:**

- Identify whether or not the wastes are hazardous.
- If the waste is hazardous and is produced or stored in sufficient quantity to require registration, obtain a BC Waste Generation Registration Number.
- Store the wastes in approved and properly labeled containers in a safe and secure location.
- Properly label and mark storage containers, according to all relevant requirements of the **Hazardous Waste Regulations** and the **Transportation of Dangerous Goods Regulations**.
- Choose a reputable, authorized waste disposal facility that is approved to receive and deal with the type of waste you generate.
- Obtain the services of a reputable, licensed hazardous waste transport company authorized for your type(s) of waste to move the waste to the waste disposal facility.
- Track the movement of the waste through proper use of the Hazardous Waste Manifest.

***If you are unsure if a particular waste is hazardous, you should retain the services of a qualified hazardous waste consultant, or contact a reputable hazardous waste management company for advice.***

## Hazardous Waste Manifest

**The Hazardous Waste Manifest System keeps track of:**

- The date, type, characteristics, quantity and origin of hazardous wastes
- Identity of the transporter of the wastes
- Proof of delivery of waste to the designated waste management site

It also provides a signed record (Manifest copy) for all parties, confirming that the wastes have been received and how they are intended to be managed.

### **For Further Information:**

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### **Need More Information?**

Contact the nearest regional office of the BC Ministry of Environment. A list of regional offices can be found at <http://wlapwww.gov.bc.ca/regops/contacts.html>

Or you can find your nearest Ministry of the Environment office by phone.

**Victoria: (250) 387-6121**

**Vancouver: (604) 660-2421**

**Elsewhere in BC: 1-800-663-7867**

**Outside BC: (604) 660-2421**

There are links to the relevant legislation, as well as other helpful information on the BC Ministry of Environment's Hazardous Wastes Homepage, <http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/epd/hazwaste/index.htm>

**For more specific information please see the other fact sheets in this series**

- 001 General Information
- 002 Generators of Hazardous Waste
- 003 Selecting a Hazardous Waste Transporter
- 004 Selecting a Hazardous Waste Receiver/Processor
- 005 Transporters of Hazardous Waste
- 006 Construction Industry
- 007 Mechanical & Automotive Industries
- 008 Marine Industry
- 009 Forestry & Forest-Based Product Manufacturers
- 010 Mining, Metals & Metal Finishing
- 011 Oil, Gas & Chemical Manufacturing
- 012 Government & Institutional Generators

**or visit Hazardous Waste BC at**  
<http://www.hazwastebc.com>