

Hazardous Waste Fees for Environmental Cleanups



State of Oregon
Department of
Environmental
Quality

Background

Environmental cleanups may generate hazardous waste. This fact sheet describes fees assessed by the Hazardous Waste Program at the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality that apply to environmental cleanup projects. Property undergoing environmental cleanup often is being bought or sold and needs an expedited invoice for hazardous waste fees. This document explains the process involved if hazardous waste is generated during the cleanup.

When is cleanup waste defined as "hazardous waste"?

When soil, water or other environmental medium is contaminated by a listed or characteristic hazardous waste, then that medium contains a hazardous waste and must be managed accordingly. DEQ hazardous waste generator requirements are triggered when the contaminated medium is removed from its original location (i.e., excavation, pump and treat, etc.).

Steps in the process

If you generate hazardous waste at a cleanup site:

1. Determine your hazardous waste generator status. Hazardous waste generators are regulated differently depending on how much waste, including cleanup waste, they generate or accumulate. You may be a conditionally exempt generator, small quantity generator or a large quantity generator depending on how much hazardous waste you generate in one month or store on-site.

For information on determining your hazardous waste generator status, review the *Small Quantity Hazardous Waste Generator Handbook*. You may also contact one of the DEQ regional offices listed at the end of this fact sheet.

2. Notify DEQ by applying for a Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Site Identification Number if you are a small or large quantity generator of hazardous waste. The RCRA Site Identification Form can be downloaded from DEQ's website.

The RCRA Site ID number is location-specific and required on all manifests when shipping hazardous waste off-site.

Questions about applying for the number may be directed to 1-844-841-4938. You may also e-mail your notification questions to Hazwaste@deq.state.or.us

3. Submit an annual report on the hazardous waste activities. All hazardous waste generators, including hazardous waste cleanup sites that have an active RCRA Site ID number, are required to file an annual report.

DEQ mails the annual report information to hazardous waste generators in December each year. The report is due back to DEQ by March 1 the following year. The form asks you to describe hazardous waste management and cleanup activities for that calendar year. Electronic reporting information and forms may be found at www.deqhazwaste.net.

4. Pay your hazardous waste fees. DEQ issues a Hazardous Waste Generator Fee invoice from the information described in your annual report. Hazardous waste generator fees for cleanup wastes are the same fees that companies pay for ongoing industrial generated hazardous wastes, and are based on the amount of hazardous waste you generate and method used to manage the wastes.

More information on hazardous waste generator fees is on DEQ's website.

When is my payment due?

For multi-year, ongoing cleanups, DEQ mails invoices around mid-year for wastes generated during the previous year. For simpler, short-duration cleanups, DEQ may ask you to submit

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your annual report and pay hazardous waste generator fees when the cleanup is completed.

What if I'm buying or selling a property and need an expedited invoice?

If the cleanup is completed mid-year, you may complete your annual report when the site cleanup is complete and all hazardous waste has been completely managed. DEQ will issue an expedited invoice based on your mid-year report.

Benefits of completing the annual report early:

- allows hazardous waste fees to be included in a purchase or sales agreement for the property
- allows owners to use their environmental contractors for filing the report information
- enables owners to fulfill their hazardous waste requirements including cancellation of their RCRA Site Identification Number.

Who do I call if I have questions?

If you have questions about hazardous waste regulations, please call the DEQ regional office nearest you.

If you have questions about hazardous waste annual reporting or the expedited Hazardous Waste Generator Fee invoice, please call 1-844-841-4938 or email DEQ at hazwaste@deq.state.or.us

DEQ Regional Offices

Eastern Region
475 NE Bellevue, Suite 110
Bend, OR 97701
541-388-6146

Northwest Region
700 NE Multnomah St., Suite 600
Portland, OR 97232
503-229-5696

Western Region
4026 Fairview Industrial Dr
Salem, OR 97302
503-378-8240

Alternative formats

Documents can be provided upon request in an alternate format for individuals with disabilities or in a language other than English for people with limited English skills. To request a document in another format or language, call DEQ in Portland at 503-229-5696, or toll-free in Oregon at 1-800-452-4011, ext. 5696; or email deqinfo@deq.state.or.us.