

EXAMPLES TO REDUCE YOUR WASTE

- All mineral oils can be recycled and used again for the same purpose or used as fuel to generate heat/energy
- Avoid use of disposables – e.g. use ceramic mugs instead of plastic cups
- Buy products with less packaging or easily recyclable packaging
- Buy products with a longer life span
- All computer printing to be double sided



- Repair broken pallets/crates/boxes store them and re-use them
- Use rechargeable batteries/refillable printer cartridges
- Re-use cardboard boxes, padded envelopes and other packaging
- Use shredded paper, wood shavings or moulded cardboard instead of polystyrene or Styrofoam mouldings or chips to protect your products in transport
- Use suppliers that offer take-back service (fluorescent tubes, white goods, brown goods, vegetable oil, tyres, etc)
- Use suppliers that sell exact quantities rather than per dozen/hundred to avoid unnecessary/unusable stock
- Use suppliers that offer returnable packaging/flexible packaging arrangements.

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OTHER RELEVANT REGULATIONS

- **Duty of Care Regulations (EPA 1990 Section 34) (Issue 2 of Series 1)**
- **Hazardous Waste Regulations and the European Waste Catalogue - EWC (including the Hazardous Waste List) (Due 2005) (Issue 3 of Series 1)**
- **Waste Acceptance Criteria (WACs) (Due 2005)**
- **WEEE Directive (August 2004)**

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

DEFRA Central Government

www.defra.gov.uk

Environment Agency Wales

www.environment-agency.gov.uk

NetRegs legislation explained

www.environment-agency.gov.uk/netregs

Waste Resources Action Plan

www.wrap.org.uk

Arena Network Business Support

www.arenanetwork.wales.org.uk

Letsrecycle

www.letsrecycle.com

N.B. BRASS is not responsible for the content of external internet sites

These notes will provide a series of guidance on current waste issues from regulation (series 1), specific industry sector waste problems (series 2) and finally specific individual problems waste streams (series 3).

Each week a different piece of legislation, industry sector or waste type will be discussed. All briefing notes can be downloaded from the website below.

N.B.: These notes are merely a guidance and should not be considered as advice from any of the parties contained within this leaflet.

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Do you know how the new landfill regulations affect your business?

Will your company be classed as a producer of hazardous waste under new hazardous waste legislation?

Do you need help in minimising the amount of waste you produce?

Do you want to reduce the cost of waste disposal?



LANDFILL REGULATIONS AND YOUR BUSINESS

These are just a few of the many issues raised by companies during the National Waste Survey 2003. This series of briefing notes aims to highlight the issues of waste management and how new regulations could impact on your company and what you have to do to comply, including some simple alterations in business practice. This series has been devised for you the producer to highlight the problems and provide some simple tips on how to help you manage waste.

Series 1/Issue 1

LANDFILL REGULATIONS & YOUR BUSINESS

Since June 2002 the Landfill (England & Wales) Regulations are being implemented. The main aim of the regulations is to **minimise the negative effects of landfill** on human health and environment, by reducing the amount and types of waste going to landfill and to stimulate re-use, recycling and recovery of waste.

DO YOU KNOW:

- * How much waste your company generates?
- * How much cost/income you generate from disposal?
- * What types (any hazardous?) of waste you produce?
- * Who takes your waste away and where they take it?
- * If these contractors are registered and/or licensed?
- * What to do to comply with the regulations?

If you have answered 'no' to any of these questions then reading this leaflet might help you to save you and your company money and comply with current legislation.

CHANGES IN THE REGULATIONS

1. Registration and re-classification of all landfill sites into three main types

- Non-hazardous – accepting only non-hazardous waste
- Hazardous – accepting only hazardous waste (as identified in the European Waste Catalogue)
- Inert – accepting construction & demolition wastes only (bricks, ceramics, glass, tiles, concrete, etc).

2. End of co-disposal

From July 2004 hazardous and non-hazardous wastes can no longer be disposed as a mix at the same site

3. Pre-treatment of waste going to landfill

From July 2004 **all** waste to landfill will need pre-treatment (a physical, chemical or biological process, this includes manual/mechanical separation). Discuss this with your waste contractor to ensure your contractor is in compliance.

4. Ban of certain types of waste going to landfill

Liquid wastes, explosive, corrosive, oxidising, (highly) flammable waste, infectious or clinical waste (human/ animal), tyres (whole July 2003/shredded July 2006), waste not fulfilling the waste acceptance criteria (WACs)

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HOW DOES IT EFFECT YOUR BUSINESS?

The cost of disposing waste to landfill will steadily increase over the next few years. Waste producers will face an annual increase in landfill tax. In Wales, there are no hazardous waste landfill sites, as a result, any hazardous waste disposed to landfill will need to be transported to England and some producers could face a four fold increase in transportation costs. Landfill will become more expensive due to the following:

- Landfill tax increase (annual increase £3 per tonne to max. £35 tonne).
- Cost of pre-treatment manual/mechanical separation, recovery, regeneration, etc.
- Increased transport costs due to increased distances to the sites (mainly affecting hazardous wastes).
- Diminished competition – increase in gate fees.

STEPS TO TAKE BEFORE DISPOSAL OF YOUR WASTE:

- Identify your waste, separate re-usables and recyclables, hazardous, non hazardous and inert waste to ensure that the waste will go to the appropriate treatment and/or landfill site.
- Try to keep waste out of landfill site for financial and environmental reasons, if this is possible:
- Know which landfill your waste will be going to.
- Find available waste management alternatives for recyclables or banned wastes.

SUMMARY OF EFFECTS OF THE LANDFILL DIRECTIVE:

- Increased cost of treatment/disposal for certain wastes (hazardous) and disposal options (landfill).
- Increased environmental awareness, waste minimisation or reduction and financial savings.
- Knowledge of legislation and disposal options required and available.

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ALTERNATIVES - WHAT CAN YOU DO TO MINIMISE YOUR WASTE

- Conduct a **waste audit** to identify types and volumes of the waste you produce. Look in the bin: What's in there? Should it be in there? Can it go somewhere else-source separation? Where can it go?
- Implement **minimisation** programs to produce less waste altogether e.g. buy small quantities to avoid left-overs, accurate stock keeping, re-use.
- Improved **process management** e.g. improved machine maintenance results in less waste from break-downs or stoppage during production.
- Improved **resource management** to prevent raw materials going to waste, e.g. computer cutting to reduce off-cuts.
- Avoid waste going to landfill:
 - * **Re-use** (most types of packaging)
 - * **Recycle** keep recyclables out of the bin, different bins for different wastes (paper, cardboard, glass, cans). Make recycling easy and fun. Appoint a waste champion and involve the whole workforce.
 - * **Compost** fruit, vegetable, garden waste & clean cardboard and paper.



- Send waste to treatment facilities to recycle, recover (oils, vegetable oils) or to reduce (volume) or to an incineration facility (hazardous, healthcare waste).
- Downscale your bin size (full is full) and find alternatives.

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