

Hazardous Waste - Satellite Accumulation Area Procedure

General

A Hazardous Waste Satellite Accumulation Area (SAA) is a location within a Large Quantity Generator (LQG) Site where hazardous wastes are initially generated and tend to accumulate. These areas are regulated by the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and must be managed accordingly. A Satellite Accumulation Area may be located within a laboratory, shop, central storage area, or other secure location, provided that the SAA is at or near the point of waste generation and is under the control of the person or persons generating the waste.

SAA regulations are designed to ensure that hazardous wastes are handled and stored in a manner that minimizes the hazards to human health or the environment from fires, explosions, or releases of hazardous waste. In order to prevent hazardous wastes from being inadvertently discarded with the regular trash or to the sewer system, all hazardous materials must be evaluated before disposal by the Department of Safety and Environmental Management (SEM).

Requirements

All hazardous wastes must be collected in compatible containers that are clearly labeled with a "HAZARDOUS WASTE" label. (Labels are available from SEM).

Waste Determinations:

All hazardous materials must be considered hazardous wastes unless determined otherwise. Waste determinations are initiated by contacting SEM or by filing a Request for Chemical Pickup Form with SEM. Completed forms should be sent to:

Department of Safety and Environmental Management (SEM)
5784 York Village, Building 7
Orono, ME 04469-5784
Fax: 581-4085

When a waste determination is made, SEM provides storage/disposal instructions. Additional information may be required in some cases.

Containers and Compatibility:

Waste chemicals must be stored in containers that are chemically compatible with the contents. Incompatible wastes must not be mixed together. Containers must be kept tightly closed when waste is not being added to or removed from the container. (The only exception is when it is unsafe to seal the container: as when a reaction is not yet complete and evolving gasses would cause a pressure buildup and explosion).

Accumulation Limits:

Only one container of each type of waste may be stored in a SAA.

Full containers must not be stored in accumulation areas because SAA's are not designed to meet the alarm and containment requirements for Waste Storage Areas.

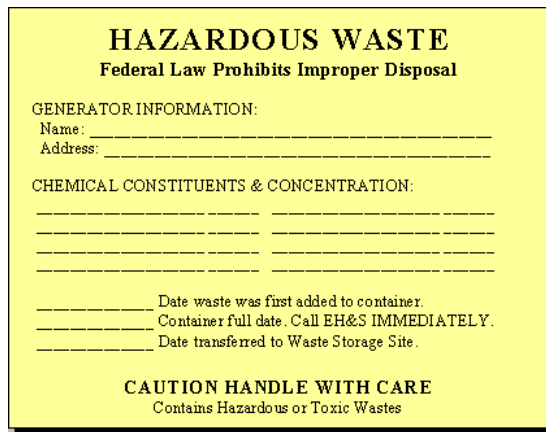
Each Acutely Hazardous Waste may be accumulated in any size container of up to 1-quart in volume. Wastes other than Acutely Hazardous Wastes may be accumulated in any size container of up to 55 gallons.

Inspection Requirements:

All SAA's must be inspected weekly. A *Satellite Accumulation Area Inspection Log* must be maintained weekly and must be readily accessible for inspection within the area. Copies of the weekly inspection log should be sent to SEM on the last working day of every month.

Labeling Requirements:

Each hazardous waste container in a SAA must be properly labeled. Fill in all information that applies, being sure to include all hazardous chemical constituents and the approximate concentration of each.



The image shows a yellow rectangular label with a black border. At the top, it reads "HAZARDOUS WASTE" in bold, followed by "Federal Law Prohibits Improper Disposal". Below this, there is a section for "GENERATOR INFORMATION:" with fields for "Name:" and "Address:". The next section is "CHEMICAL CONSTITUENTS & CONCENTRATION:" with three horizontal lines for text entry. At the bottom of the label, there are three lines for dates: "Date waste was first added to container.", "Container full date. Call EH&S IMMEDIATELY.", and "Date transferred to Waste Storage Site.". The label concludes with the text "CAUTION HANDLE WITH CARE" and "Contains Hazardous or Toxic Wastes" in a smaller font.

Sample Label (available from SEM)

Disposal Procedures:

Complete a *Request for Chemical Pickup Form* and contact SEM (581-4055) or fax the form to (581-4085) before the container is filled. This will prevent having more than one container of a single type of waste in a SAA and will allow for timely removal of the wastes. Once a container is full, it must be removed from the area and transferred to a Waste Storage Area within 72 hours.

Training:

Employees working in SAA's must be trained and must not work unsupervised until training is received. Training must be updated annually to ensure that employees are familiar with waste handling procedures, storage requirements, and emergency procedures. Additional Waste Handler Training is required for employees who work at the Waste Storage Site, transfer waste to the Waste Storage Site, or perform Hazardous Waste Determinations.

Standard Satellite Accumulation Area Training may be included with the employees Laboratory-Specific Hazard Communication Training and must include:

- Containers and Compatibility;
- Accumulation Limits;
- Labeling and Inspection Requirements;
- Disposal Procedures; and
- Spill response procedures

Responsibilities

The **Department of Safety and Environmental Management** is responsible for conducting Hazardous Waste Determinations, the collection, and disposal of hazardous wastes; periodic inspections of SAA's; and maintaining copies of monthly SAA inspection records for one year from the inspection date.

Principal Investigators and Supervisors are responsible for notifying SEM upon establishment of a Satellite Accumulation Area; ensuring that training is received by SAA workers; ensuring that daily inspections of designated satellite accumulation areas are conducted and forwarded to SEM monthly; and maintaining records and information on waste being generated in their areas (including quantities generated, type/concentration of constituents, and inspection records).

Each employee is responsible for attending training and notifying their supervisor prior to commencing operations that may generate hazardous waste.

Definitions

Acutely Hazardous Wastes: Waste chemicals, off-spec products, or spill residues specifically listed by name in the EPA and DEP regulations P Lists.

Corrosive: Aqueous solutions with a pH less than or equal to 2, or greater than or equal to 12.5; liquids that corrode steel or aluminum at a rate greater than 0.250" per year; and chemicals which cause visible destruction or irreversible alteration of human tissue.

Hazardous Material: A material that has been determined by the Secretary of Transportation to pose an unreasonable risk of harm, in transportation, to health or the environment. Hazardous Materials are listed in 49 CFR 172.101.

Hazardous Waste: Wastes which display the characteristics of ignitability, corrosivity, reactivity, or toxicity; or are listed as hazardous wastes by the EPA or DEP for displaying either a hazardous waste characteristics or for possessing a high potential to harm human health or the environment if improperly disposed.

Ignitable: Liquids, other than aqueous solutions containing less than 24% alcohol by volume, with a flash point less than 60° C (140° F) or solids capable of causing fire through friction, absorption of moisture, or spontaneous chemical changes.

Large Quantity Generator (LQG): A LQG is a single geographic location where more than 100 kilograms (220.46 lbs.) of hazardous waste or one kilogram of Acutely Hazardous Waste is generated in a calendar month.

Listed Wastes: Chemicals specifically listed by name in EPA and DEP regulations including: characteristic of toxicity as defined in 40 CFR 261.24; wastes from non-specific sources (F List); wastes from specific sources (K List); Commercial products, off-spec products, spill residues (U & P Lists); PCB-containing waste oils, transformers, and ballasts containing or possibly containing PCB oils (M List).

Reactive: A substance which is normally unstable and readily undergoes violent change without detonating; reacts violently with water; forms potentially explosive mixtures with water; or forms toxic vapors, gases, or fumes when mixed with water in a quantity sufficient to present a danger.

Waste Generator: The person whose work or instruction with a hazardous chemical first caused the material to become a hazardous waste (Usually a laboratory technician or researcher).

Satellite Accumulation Area: A demarcated area set aside for the temporary storage of hazardous waste at or near the point of generation. Wastes in a Satellite Accumulation Area (SAA) are under the control of the Waste Generator. SAA's should not be located near doorways, floor drains, or any other place where wastes could escape to the environment if spilled.

For Additional Information

Contact your Department Safety Coordinator or
Safety and Environmental Management at (207) 581-4055

MF11055 Satellite Accumulation Area Inspection Log