

Ecology updates Dangerous Waste Regulations

What are the dangerous waste regulations?

These are the rules governing the safe management of dangerous waste. Washington's Dangerous Waste Regulations are found in Chapter 173-303 WAC (Washington Administrative Code). The federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) authorizes us to implement these regulations.

The regulations apply to generators, transporters, and facilities that manage dangerous waste.

What's changing in 2019?

We have made changes to the regulations to help improve waste management and align with federal rules. We updated the rules to amend specific sections of the Dangerous Waste Regulations. Amendments include several state-initiated changes. We also incorporated new federal hazardous waste rules, including:

- [Revisions to the Export Provisions of the Cathode Ray Tube \(CRT\) Rule](#)
This rule revises certain export provisions of the CRT exclusion Ecology adopted in 2007. EPA implements export regulations, and these revisions will allow EPA to better track exports of CRTs for reuse and recycling ensuring safer management of these materials.
- [Hazardous Waste Generator Improvements Rule](#)
The objectives for this rule are:
 - Reorganize the generator regulations to be more user-friendly. Generators can now find all waste management requirements applying to their generator category located in one place.
 - Fix regulatory gaps to clarify how the hazardous waste regulations work. For example, generators can now easily find what they must do in order to be exempt from a dangerous waste permit.
 - Provide generator flexibility in managing wastes in a more cost-effective and protective manner. An important benefit is the Episodic Generation rule. Dangerous waste generated from an eligible episodic event does not have to be counted toward determining generator status, potentially avoiding increased regulatory requirements.
 - Make technical corrections and conforming changes.
- [Hazardous Waste Export-Import Revisions](#)
This rule amends existing export-import regulations to align U.S. manifest regulations with current Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development export-import rules for hazardous waste shipments between members. States are required to adopt these rules, although EPA is the implementing agency.
- [Hazardous Waste Electronic Manifest Rule](#)
This rule establishes new requirements that will authorize the use of electronic manifests as a means to track shipments of hazardous waste from the generator to the treatment, storage, and disposal facility. Ecology is required to adopt these rules to remain equivalent to and consistent with federal requirements.
- [Conditional Exclusions for Solvent-Contaminated Wipes](#)
This rule conditionally excludes solvent-contaminated wipes (also called shop towels or rags) that are reused or disposed in municipal landfills or hazardous waste landfills. Ecology adopted the exclusion for reused wipes, but has not adopted an exclusion for wipes disposed in municipal landfills. We did adopt the exclusion for wipes disposed at hazardous waste landfills.

Hazardous Waste and Toxics Reduction Program

- **Revisions to the Definition of Solid Waste**
Ecology adopted certain standards as required by EPA's January 13, 2015 Definition of Solid Waste Rule. This includes rules codifying existing criteria for legitimate recycling, tracking of speculatively accumulated wastes, a prohibition on sham recycling and updates to recycling variance requirements. We did not adopt optional exclusions for hazardous secondary materials being reclaimed.

State-initiated changes we adopted

- **Label lettering size and visibility**
For containers larger than 1-gallon (or 4 liters) the lettering on hazardous waste labels and on hazard labels must be at least ½ inch tall or visible from 25 feet away.
- **Hazard label requirements**
Labels must include descriptive word(s) or pictogram(s) that identify the contents inside the container.
- **Changes to the exclusion for PCB wastes**
There will be an exemption for state-only PCB wastes also regulated under the Toxic Substance Control Act 40 CFR Part 760.
- **Several new or revised definitions**
These include changes to accumulation, authorized representative, electronic signature, point of generation, storage and weekly inspections.

When were the new rules adopted?

The rules were adopted on January 28, 2019.

When will the new rules go into effect?

Any business that generates, transports, or manages dangerous waste in Washington must comply with the updated regulations starting April 28, 2019.

How can I learn more?

You can visit our [dangerous waste rulemaking website](#)¹ to learn more about the rulemaking process, view the final regulations, the Rule Making Order, and read our response to public comments.

Visit our [Manage Your Waste website](#)² to learn more about complying with Washington's Dangerous Waste Regulations.

We are developing trainings and educational materials to keep you up-to-date on new requirements and how to navigate the rules. You can let us know what materials and topics you are most interested in by participating in our [survey](#).³ You can also keep up-to-date by subscribing to our [dangerous waste rules email list](#)⁴ or our [ShopTalk newsletter](#).⁵

Appeal procedure

This adoption can be appealed under procedures described in the Administrative Procedure Act (RCW 34.05), including those found in RCW 34.05.330.

¹ ecology.wa.gov/DWrulemaking

² ecology.wa.gov/Waste-Toxics/Business-waste/Manage-your-waste

³ surveymonkey.com/r/DWRulesOutreach

⁴ bitly.com/dwlistserv

⁵ bitly.com/shoptalknews

For technical assistance, contact our regional offices

Region	Counties served	Mailing Address	Phone
Southwest	Clallam, Clark, Cowlitz, Grays Harbor, Jefferson, Mason, Lewis, Pacific, Pierce, Skamania, Thurston, Wahkiakum	PO Box 47775 Olympia, WA 98504	360-407-6300
Northwest	Island, King, Kitsap, San Juan, Skagit, Snohomish, Whatcom	3190 160th Ave SE Bellevue, WA 98008	425-649-7000
Central	Benton, Chelan, Douglas, Kittitas, Klickitat, Okanogan, Yakima	1250 W Alder St Union Gap, WA 98903	509-575-2490
Eastern	Adams, Asotin, Columbia, Ferry, Franklin, Garfield, Grant, Lincoln, Pend Oreille, Spokane, Stevens, Walla Walla, Whitman	4601 N Monroe Spokane, WA 99205	509-329-3400

Español

El Departamento de Ecología adoptó enmiendas al Capítulo 173-303 del Código Administrativo del Estado de Washington (WAC por sus siglas en inglés), Reglamentos de Desechos Peligrosos (Chapter 173-303 WAC Dangerous Waste Regulations). Estos reglamentos establecen requisitos para generadores, transportistas e instalaciones que gestionan desechos peligrosos en nuestro estado.

Para más información, favor de llamar a Robert Rieck al 360-407-6751 y solicite un intérprete.

한국어

워싱턴주 환경부는 Chapter 173-303 WAC Dangerous Waste Regulations 법규를 개정하였다. 이법규는 워싱턴주 전체의 위험 폐기 물질을 생산혹은 수송하는자와 다루는 시설을 규제한다.

좀 더 자세한 내용은 Robert Rieck (360-407-6751) 에게 문의하거나 통역 요청할것.

Tiếng Việt

Bộ Môi Sinh đã phê chuẩn phần luật bổ sung về quy định chất thải nguy hiểm, Chapter 173-303 WAC Dangerous Waste Regulations. Những quy định này thiết lập các yêu cầu đối với các cơ sở làm ra, vận chuyển, và quản lý chất thải nguy hiểm trong tiểu bang.

Để biết thêm thông tin hoặc cần thông dịch viên, xin liên hệ Robert Rieck tại số 360-407-6751.

中文

華盛頓州生態管理署通過了對 WAC 173 , 第303章 "危險廢物法規" 的修訂。這些法規規定我們州的發電機, 運輸機和危險廢物設施的管理要求。

有關更多信息, 請聯繫 Robert Rieck 360-407-6751. 您可要求口譯員。

Русский

Департамент экологии (Department of Ecology) принял поправки к Главе 173-303 WAC Dangerous Waste Regulations. В этих положениях устанавливаются требования к источникам отходов, а также предприятиям, занимающимся перевозкой и переработкой отходов в нашем штате.

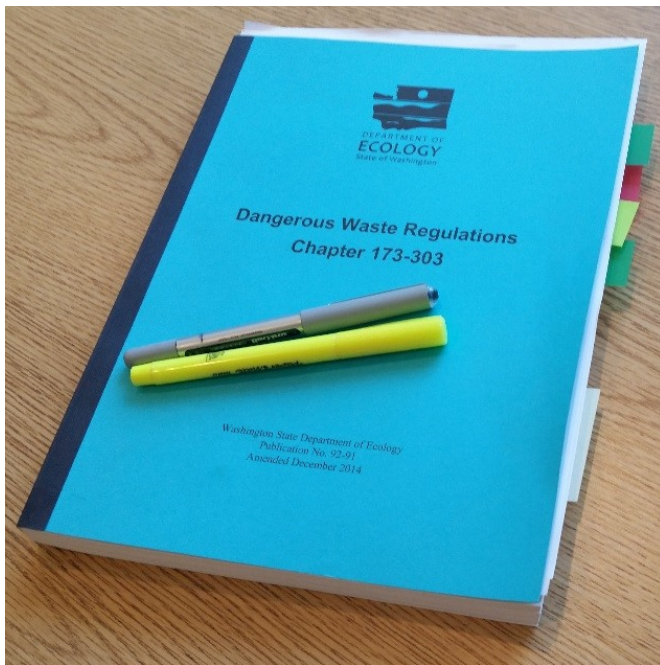
Чтобы получить дополнительную информацию, обратитесь к Роберту Рикку (Robert Rieck) по телефону 360-407-6751 и попросите об услугах устного перевода.



DEPARTMENT OF
ECOLOGY
State of Washington

Hazardous Waste & Toxics Reduction Program
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Información en Español incluida.

한글번역본 내부에 있음.

Thông tin bằng tiếng Việt ở bên trong.

以内是中文的有关信息.

Информация на русском языке внутри.

Accommodation Requests: To request ADA accommodation including materials in a format for the visually impaired, call Ecology at 360-407-6700 or visit <https://ecology.wa.gov/accessibility>. People with impaired hearing may call Washington Relay Service at 711. People with speech disability may call TTY at 877-833-6341.