

Flathead County Solid Waste District

Required Pre-Registration Packet for the

**Small Business Hazardous Waste
Collection Event**

Friday, June 7, 2024

Flathead County Landfill

FOLLOW THESE FIVE STEPS TO REGISTER

1. First review all information included in this packet and resources included in this packet for information on how to reduce your waste stream and save money before you register.
2. Review your waste stream and determine your hazardous waste generator status (see tips inside).
3. Pre-register no later than June 3rd by calling **Jeremy Furse at Veolia Environmental Services; 385-243-4484**. You can get answers to questions and/or list the types and quantities of materials you want to dispose of at this event.
4. You should receive a follow-up call within a few days from Veolia Environmental Services, the licensed Hazardous Waste collection service that will handle the actual collections at this event for the County Solid Waste District. They will provide you an appointment time and cost estimate for the hazardous waste you plan to dispose of at the event.
5. Remember, it is your legal responsibility to properly dispose of hazardous waste generated by your business activities and common maintenance needs. This event helps you comply with state law and it helps you save money!

Flathead County Solid Waste District Small Business Hazardous Waste Collection Event

Event Overview:

Most businesses use at least some products that are considered hazardous waste. If your business uses products with a warning label such as flammable, caustic, danger, hazardous or poison then you will want to take advantage of this event.

Flathead County has teamed up with Veolia Environmental Services to provide the many small businesses that the state classifies as Very Small Quantity Generators (see definition below) with an economical way to properly dispose of small amounts of hazardous waste. While the event is not free, a joint collection event can save more than 50% of costs to dispose of hazardous material over having a conventional pick up at your business.

The advantage of this program is that small quantities from different generators can be combined for disposal and thus distribute the costs among contributors. Each business pays only for its share of the combined drum.

You must be a small business to participate. Most Small businesses fit this definition. This is what that means:

Very Small Quantity Generator - Any entity, other than a household, that generates less than 100 kg (220 lb., or approximately one-half drum or 30 gallons) of hazardous waste or one (1) kg (2.2 lb.) of acute hazardous waste per calendar month, and never accumulates more than 1,000 kg (2,200 lb., or five (5) drums or 300 gallons) of hazardous waste.

Hazardous Waste - Any discarded material, or material accumulated prior to being discarded, which because of its hazardous characteristics (ignitibility, corrosiveness, reactivity, toxicity, or listing by EPA) as defined in 40 CFR261 is regulated by the EPA.

Many businesses assume that they can dispose of their hazardous waste the same way they dispose of their solid waste. **This is incorrect!** It does not permit them to dispose of their hazardous waste as solid waste. Very Small Quantity generators cannot dispose of the hazardous waste in storm drains, landfills or dumpsters. Federal, State and local laws prohibit these actions since it may cause environmental and public health problems. The landfill in Flathead County is prohibited from accepting hazardous and liquid waste. Violators of these laws can face both civil and criminal penalties.

Many different businesses can be Very Small Quantity generators. A few examples, along with the waste they may generate include:

- Dentist Offices: silver, photographic chemistry waste
- Auto Repair shops: oils, coolants, solvents
- Print Shops: cleaning solvents and inks

- Painters: paints and solvents
- Funeral Homes: preservatives
- Exterminators: pesticides
- Photo Shops: developing and fixing solutions

You must Pre-register:

You must pre-register prior to the event and we encourage you to register early so that you will be better prepared to take advantage of the cost-saving opportunities this event offers your business. The first step is to review this Pre-Registration Packet which includes more background information and directions on how to register. These packets are available at the Flathead County Landfill at 758-5910.

It's More than a One-Time Event:

The Flathead County Solid Waste District has committed to making this an annual event provided that businesses take advantage of this opportunity. FCSWD already offers a free drop-off collection service for residential Household Hazardous Wastes on the third Saturday of every month. An appointment is needed to participate in the residential Household Hazardous Wastes monthly events and can be set up by calling the landfill at 758-5910. (Business Hazardous Waste is not accepted at these residential collection events.)

Why use this Business Hazardous Waste collection program?

This program provides businesses who meet the definition of "very small quantity generators" with a legal and affordable solution to hazardous waste disposal. While the event is not free, a joint collection event can save more than 50% of costs to dispose of hazardous material over having a conventional pick up at your business.

Who Makes the Rules? What's my responsibility?

Regulations concerning the management of hazardous wastes are issued by and enforced by the Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). These regulations apply to hazardous wastes from "cradle to grave." In other words you are responsible for the hazardous wastes you produce or use from the time they are generated until the time they are properly, legally disposed of. (It is not legal to place hazardous waste in dumpsters with your commonly recognized trash items.) In addition, various local agencies (like the fire department or sewage treatment plant) may have requirements on how and where your hazardous materials are stored, used and disposed.

This Small Business Hazardous Waste Collection Event is operated in accordance with State and Federal regulations and does in turn have certain limitations on the types and amounts of waste which can be accepted. Acceptance of hazardous waste, or enrollment in the program is solely at the discretion of the Flathead County Solid Waste District and its sub-contractor for this event, Veolia Environmental Services.

Enrollment in this program does not relieve you as a generator of any other regulatory responsibility. You will be required to certify that you meet the conditions of the Small Quantity

Generators (VSQG) program as part of the registration. The generator is responsible for complying with all applicable regulations governing storage, transport, disposal, and reporting.

Before You Register Find Out If There Are Ways to Reduce Your Waste Stream.

Wastes may be reduced if you:

- **Use less hazardous products**, contact the Montana Pollution Prevention Program (P2) for free advice. The Montana Pollution Prevention Program provides non-regulatory technical assistance to small businesses. The Program is located on the campus of Montana State University in Bozeman, Montana. The Montana Pollution Prevention Program can be reached toll-free in Montana by calling 1-888-678-6872 or
- (406) 994-6948, and by email at myla.kelly@montana.edu. Their website is www.montana.edu/wwwated/business.shtml

Montana P2 Success Stories

Example 1. A furniture restoration business reduced its consumption and disposal of thinners and strippers through the use of a solvent distillation unit. The payback period for the unit was less than seven months and will save the business over \$2,500 a year on virgin solvent purchases and waste solvent disposal costs.

Example 2. A printing business completely eliminated the use of isopropyl alcohol in their fountain solution by converting to an alcohol substitute. The change reduces employee exposure to volatile organic compounds and will save the company at least \$10,000 in air emissions control equipment.

- **Exchange waste products through Montana Material Exchange.** If a small business cannot reuse extra materials on-site or recycle it without treatment, the next best option would be to find a business that can use it. The Montana Material Exchange Program (MME) promotes the use of one company's unneeded materials as another's inventory through its quarterly newsletter and national computer exchange network. It is a free service coordinated by the MSU Extension Service Solid Waste and Pollution Prevention Programs in cooperation with the Montana Chamber of Commerce. The MME is also located on the campus of MSU in Bozeman. <http://www.montana.edu/mme/>
- **Treat it.** You or a local environmental consultant may be able to reduce your waste volume or make it less hazardous by treating it. Call the Montana Pollution Prevention Program at (888) MSU-MTP2 (678-6872) or (406) 994-6948 for suggestions or contact an environmental consultant listed in the yellow pages.
- **Ask an expert.** If a waste is determined to be hazardous, specific state rules apply to its management and disposal. Questions about a particular waste can be directed to Montana Department of Environmental Quality 406-444-1435. For local expertise check listing in the yellow pages under "Environmental Consultants." A consultant can advise you on cost effective ways to reduce your waste stream.

For additional information on managing your hazardous wastes contact:

MT Department of Environmental Quality – 406-444-1435
<http://deq.mt.gov/index.asp>

MT Small Business Assistance Program – (406) 444-2960 or (800) 433-8773
<http://www.deq.mt.gov/SBAP/index.asp>

MT Department of Transportation – (406) 444-6200 or (800) 335-7592
<http://www.mdt.mt.gov/>

MT Disaster & Emergency Services – (406) 324-4777
<http://dma.mt.gov/DES/default.asp>

State Fire Marshal's Office - (406) 444-2050

US EPA - Montana Office - (406) 457-5000 or toll-free at (866) 457-2690
<http://www.epa.gov/aboutepa/region8.html>

National Emergency Response Center - (800) 449-5381

Occupational Safety & Health Administration (OSHA) - (800) 321-6742
<http://www.osha.gov/index.html>

RCRA/Superfund Hotline - (800) 424-9346

Flathead County Solid Waste District—(406) 758-5910
<http://flathead.mt.gov/waste/>

Waste Not Project – (406) 756-8993
<http://www.wastenotproject.org/>

You are now ready to register. Here's how.

Pre-register before May 31st by calling **Jeremy Furse at Veolia Environmental Services; 385-243-4484**. Call with questions and/or to list the types and quantities of materials you want to dispose of at this event.

You should receive a follow-up call within a few days from Veolia Environmental Services, the licensed Hazardous Waste collection service that will handle the actual collections at this event. They will provide you an appointment time and cost estimate for the hazardous waste you plan to dispose of at the event.

The Technical Service Representative, **Jeremy Furse**, will gather information in order to schedule an appointment for you, confirm your business' CESQG status, calculate your cost and address any additional concerns such as safe transport to the collection site. You will be expected to pay Veolia Environmental Services at the time of waste delivery by check, cash or credit card.

What happens to my waste once I bring it to this collection event?

All waste materials will be shipped to fully permitted hazardous waste disposal sites. Disposal hierarchy will be recycling, destructive incineration, treatment, secure landfill. Approximately 80% of all wastes, by volume, will be ultimately recycled or reclaimed.

Do you still have questions?

Call the Flathead County Solid Waste business office at 406-758-5910.