Hazardous Waste Regulations

Waste legislation can be complex and difficult to comprehend. Our straight talking, no nonsense guides to make it easier to understand how each law affects you. Compliance comes as standard in everything we do, protecting your organisation every step of the way.





1. Overview

Certain waste types are classed as 'hazardous' and must therefore be managed under the Hazardous Waste Regulations in England and Wales. Separate Regulations and procedures are applied in Scotland and Northern Ireland.

2. Are you affected

Any business that produces hazardous waste must ensure it is collected using consignment notes and is only taken to a location permitted to receive it.

3. Summary

- Hazardous waste is generally defined by the EWC code list where a number is marked with an asterisk. Typical everyday waste classed as hazardous includes fluorescent tubes, televisions, fridges and oily rags.
- Some waste may be hazardous because it contains hazardous components. The producer must therefore determine whether the concentration of hazardous components is sufficient to class the waste as hazardous.
- Any site producing more than 500kgs of hazardous waste must register annually as a hazardous waste producer.
- A registered site will be provided with a Premises Code that must be used on all Consignment Notes (CN). Sites producing <500kgs/yr must use an Exempt code.

- A CN must be used each time hazardous waste is moved from one site to another, regardless of whether the sites belong to the same company.
- CNs are in three parts for the consignor, the carrier and the consignee.
- The consignee must ensure that they provide quarterly records to each consignor from whom they have received waste.
- Consignees must also complete quarterly returns to the Environment Agency and pay them a fee of £10 or £5 for each consignment received depending on whether they are single consignments or part of a multiple collection round.
- All parties to a consignment including brokers and dealers - must keep records for 3 years.
- The Hazardous Waste Regulations were amended by the Waste (England and Wales) Regulations 2011 to require a Waste Hierarchy statement and to remove multiple CNs. The two should be read in conjunction with each other.

4. What next

There are no known plans for further amendments to the Hazardous Waste Regulations, however, Scotland is looking into an electronic consignment system.

5. More information

- Hazardous Waste (England and Wales) Regulations 2005
- · EA Guidance