

Disposing of Special Wastes

Special wastes cannot be thrown out like everyday garbage. They must be handled carefully and disposed of properly to minimize the risk of harming human health and the environment. The *Special Waste Regulations* require permits for activities involving special waste, including permits for disposal so as to ensure the process used causes minimal impact to the environment.

Special wastes include waste oil, biomedical wastes and dangerous goods no longer used for their original purpose (e.g. used antifreeze, used lead-acid batteries, and used paint). More detailed definitions and permit requirements can be found in “[Special Waste Regulations – General Information](#)” document.

The *Special Waste Regulations* of the *Environment Act* have been in effect since 1995. Waste oil accounts for most of the special waste generated in Yukon.

Proper handling saves money

Follow these common sense rules for storing and handling special wastes:

- **Segregate, don't mix** – mixed wastes are much more expensive to treat and/or dispose of. There are fewer disposal options for mixed waste. Use separate, clearly marked containers for different types of special wastes, e.g. waste lubricants and waste antifreeze.
- **Prevent contamination** – firmly close the lids on your pails and tighten the bungs on your barrels to keep out water and other contaminants

Disposal Options

The disposal method you use depends on the type of special waste(s) involved and who generated the waste.

Collection by the Yukon Government

For small volumes of special waste generated by households, bring wastes to annual Household Hazardous Waste days. Some community waste management facilities may accept special wastes year-round.

Collection by a Permitted Facility

For large volumes of special waste and for wastes generated as part of a business activity, there are several facilities in Yukon that have permits in place for treatment and/or disposal of special waste (Call the Environmental Protection and Assessment Branch for a list.)

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These facilities are not obligated to accept all special wastes, however. Always check with the special waste management facility before bringing special waste.

The individual or business that generated the special waste is responsible for the disposal costs. Disposal costs depend on the type and volume of special wastes involved. Typically, business that generate, store, and/or transport special waste require a permit. Please consult "[Special Waste Regulations – General Information](#)" document on permitting requirements.

Incineration of Waste Oil

Waste oil can be incinerated in a furnace that can also provide heat to a building/shop. Waste oil furnaces must be CSA certified, UL/ULC listed, or approved by the Environmental Protection and Assessment Branch. You need a Special Waste/Air Emissions Permit to burn waste oil. Heavily contaminated waste oil cannot be burned and must be shipped out of the territory. More details are available in the "[General Information on Waste Oil](#)" document.

Contaminated Soil and Water

Contaminated Soil and Water are regulated under the Contaminated Sites Regulation. To learn how to treat and transport contaminated material, consult <https://yukon.ca/en/waste-and-recycling/hazardous-waste-disposal/treat-and-relocate-contaminated-material#dealing-with-contaminated-soil-sediment-snow-and-groundwater>.

Waste Manifests

If special wastes are to be transported for treatment and/or disposal, a shipping document called a waste manifest must be completed by the waste generator (consignor), the carrier, and the facility that the waste is being sent to (consignee). Copies of the manifest must be provided to the Environmental Protection and Assessment Branch by the consignor and the consignee as identified on the manifest. Blank manifest booklets can be picked up the Client Services at 10 Burns Road (867-667-5652).

For more information on the Environment Act, please contact:

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Environmental Protection and Assessment
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