

New Hazardous Waste guidance published

A simple guide that will help anyone involved in managing or handling waste to comply with new regulations was published on Wednesday, 24 November by the Environment Agency.

The guide will particularly help producers and managers of hazardous waste to understand what they need to do if they decide to send waste to landfill sites for disposal.

Under the new regulations which form part of the Landfill Directive, hazardous waste needs to be treated before it is landfilled. From next July, hazardous waste will also need to meet Waste Acceptance Criteria (WAC). These set tougher requirements for substances such as heavy metals. The new guidance explains the relationship between the WAC and the pretreatment requirements of the Directive.

Liz Parkes, Head of Waste Regulation, Environment Agency said: "The Landfill Directive has had and will continue to have a significant impact on the management of all wastes. It's very important that everyone understands how the new rules affect them and what they need to do.

"Sending waste to landfill should be the last possible option for a waste producer or manager as there are often environmentally friendly ways of managing the waste. Landfill is also becoming more expensive as we demand higher operating standards from landfill sites that are able to accept hazardous waste. However, this guide provides important information for any waste producer or manager who, after consideration, has decided that it is necessary to landfill their waste."

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