

The following wastes are also prohibited from landfills, but not normally generated by households.

Empty drums – Unless crushed to eliminate voids. Check with the landfill if they accept drums.

Liquid waste that is not from a household – Go to www.michigan.gov/deqwaste and select "Hazardous & Liquid Industrial Waste." Contact the DEQ Waste and Hazardous Materials Division District Office for more information.

Low-level radioactive waste – Go to www.michigan.gov/deqwaste and select "Radiological Protection," contact the DEQ at 517-335-2690 or E-mail radioactivematerial@michigan.gov for information. You can also contact the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Region III office, at 630-829-9500 or www.nrc.gov.

Regulated hazardous waste – Go to www.michigan.gov/deqwaste and select "Hazardous & Liquid Industrial Waste." Contact the DEQ Waste and Hazardous Materials Division District Office for more information.

NEED HELP FINDING YOUR DEQ DISTRICT OFFICE? A district office map can be found at www.michigan.gov/deq and select "Inside DEQ" and "Contact DEQ."

Or call the Environmental Assistance Center at **800-662-9278**, Monday thru Friday 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. for additional information.

For more recycling information, contact your local recycling program. For a list, go to (www.deq.state.mi.us/documents/deq-whm-stsw-recyclingcontacts.pdf), or go to www.earth911.org, or call 1-800-CLEANUP.

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TALKING TRASH

LANDFILL PROHIBITED MATERIALS AND APPROPRIATE DISPOSAL OPTIONS FOR RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMERS



Jennifer M. Granholm, Governor
Steven E. Chester, Director

Landfill Prohibited Materials and Appropriate Disposal Options for Residential Customers

Under Michigan solid waste law, the following items are not allowed to be disposed of in landfills:

Beverage containers – 1 gallon or less in size and are either a:



- soft drink,
- soda water, carbonated natural or mineral water, or other nonalcoholic carbonated drink,
- beer, ale, or other malt drink of whatever alcoholic content, or
- mixed wine drink or mixed spirit drink.

This prohibition does not apply to green glass containers before June 1, 2007, but recycling of green glass is encouraged. If a deposit was paid on a beverage container, it can be returned for a refund, to any retailer where that beverage is sold. If a deposit was not paid on the container because it was purchased out-of-state, the container should be recycled through a local recycling program. Frequently asked questions concerning the Deposit Law can be found at www.deq.state.mi.us/documents/deq-wmd-swp-mibottlededepositlawFAQ1.pdf.

Used oil – Many oil change locations and local recycling programs will accept used oil. Keep the used oil separate from other liquids. Contact your local recycling program for other options.



Whole motor vehicle tires – Whole scrap tires may be accepted at a landfill, but are prohibited from disposal in a landfill. Prior to

landfill disposal, the tire must be cut or otherwise processed into pieces. Most tire retailers accept old tires for a fee when you purchase new tires. Check with the retailer to see if they will accept old tires that may be lying around your home or garage. Some communities hold special waste collection days. Contact your local recycling program for more information. Scrap tires can also be taken to a registered end-user, scrap tire processor, or scrap tire recycler that is in compliance with the scrap tire law. For a list of scrap tire haulers and additional information, go to www.michigan.gov/deq/waste and select “Scrap Tires.”



Lead acid battery – Return spent lead acid batteries to the retailer when purchasing a new battery. Any place that sells lead acid batteries is required to accept at least the same amount of batteries sold. Contact your local recycling program for other options.



Yard clippings – Yard clippings are defined as leaves, grass clippings, vegetable or other garden debris, shrubbery, or brush or tree trimmings, less than 4 feet in length and 2 inches in diameter, that can be converted to compost humus. It does not include diseased or infected yard waste. Use yard clippings as mulch or practice backyard composting if possible. Contact your county MSU Extension office (list at www.msue.msu.edu) for more information. If on-site management is not possible, the yard clippings should be sent to a:



- composting facility, or
- farm to be used to grow agricultural products.

Medical waste – Some medical waste may not be landfilled. Contact the landfill to see if they will accept needles and syringes if packaged and labeled properly. See the publication “The Point is Needles Hurt” at www.deq.state.mi.us/documents/deq-ead-tas-newsharps.pdf.

For example, put sharps in a:

- purchased sharps container;
- an empty coffee can,
- a laundry detergent bottle, or
- an empty bleach bottle.



When the container is full, tape the lid down with heavy duct or packing tape. Label the container with the words “MEDICAL WASTE” or “SHARPS CONTAINER” and let your waste hauler know you are placing the waste with your regular trash. A list of Medical Waste Disposal Services is at www.michigan.gov/deq/waste and select “Medical Waste.”

Sewage – Go to www.michigan.gov/deq and select “Water” “Surface Water” “Septage” for a list of licensed septage waste haulers and for links on proper management of septic tanks.

Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs) – If you have fluorescent light ballasts or other devices containing PCBs, contact the landfill to find out if they can accept the waste. Contact the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5 office, at 312-886-7061 or go to www.epa.gov/pcb for more information.

Asbestos – If doing remodeling or demolition projects that involve asbestos, contact the landfill to find out if they can accept the waste or if they have special labeling or packaging requirements. Homeowners may remove asbestos from their own residences, but precautions need to be taken and the waste must go to a licensed disposal site. Go to www.cpsc.gov/cpsc/pub/pubs/453.html for information about removing asbestos by homeowners. For information about friable asbestos regulations, see the Asbestos NESHAP publication at www.michigan.gov/aq and select “Compliance” “Asbestos NESHAP Program.”