

# Guide to Dangerous Waste by Generator Category

## About this guide

This guide summarizes the most common requirements for each generator category under the [Dangerous Waste Regulations \(Chapter 173-303 WAC\)](#),<sup>1</sup> but is not an all-inclusive list. Always refer to the regulations for details or call a hazardous waste specialist at your [Ecology Regional Office](#).<sup>2</sup> Please refer to the [glossary of terms](#) (see page 8) for definitions of acronyms included.

To determine your [generator category](#),<sup>3</sup> refer to section WAC 173-303-169 and the generator category definitions under WAC 173-303-040. The regulating agency for all generators is the Department of Ecology. Small quantity generators may also need to comply with local city and county regulations.

### ADA Accessibility

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Table 1: Summary of large, medium, and small quantity generator regulations.

	Large Quantity Generator	Medium Quantity Generator	Small Quantity Generator
<b>Waste Designation</b>	Determine if waste is regulated dangerous waste.	Determine if waste is regulated dangerous waste.	Determine if waste is regulated dangerous waste.
<b>Regulations</b>	WAC 173-303-070	WAC 173-303-070	WAC 173-303-070
<b>Waste Accumulation Amount</b>	No limit.	Not to exceed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2,200 pounds dangerous waste,</li> <li>• 2.2 pounds of AHW or toxic EHW, or</li> <li>• 220 pounds of cleanup residue from a spill of AHW or toxic EHW.</li> </ul>	Not to exceed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2,200 pounds dangerous waste,</li> <li>• 2.2 pounds of AHW or toxic EHW, or</li> <li>• 220 pounds of cleanup residue from a spill of AHW or toxic EHW.</li> </ul>
<b>Regulations</b>		WAC 173-303-172(4)	WAC 173-303-171(1)(c)

<sup>1</sup> [app.leg.wa.gov/wac/default.aspx?cite=173-303](http://app.leg.wa.gov/wac/default.aspx?cite=173-303)

<sup>2</sup> [ecology.wa.gov/contact.html](http://ecology.wa.gov/contact.html)

<sup>3</sup> [ecology.wa.gov/GeneratorStatus](http://ecology.wa.gov/GeneratorStatus)

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	Large Quantity Generator	Medium Quantity Generator	Small Quantity Generator
<b>Monthly Waste Generation Amount</b>	No limit.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Between 220 and 2,200 pounds dangerous waste,</li> <li>Less than 2.2 pounds of AHW or toxic EHW, or</li> <li>Less than 220 pounds of cleanup residue from a spill of AHW or toxic EHW.</li> </ul>	Not to exceed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>220 pounds dangerous waste,</li> <li>2.2 pounds of AHW or toxic EHW, or</li> <li>220 pounds of cleanup residue from a spill of AHW or toxic EHW.</li> </ul>
<b>Regulations</b>	WAC 173-303-040, <a href="#">see LQG definition</a> . <sup>4</sup>	WAC 173-303-040, <a href="#">see MQG definition</a> . <sup>4</sup>	WAC 173-303-040, <a href="#">see SQG definition</a> . <sup>4</sup>
<b>Waste Accumulation Time Limit</b>	90 calendar days (except SAA containers).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>180 calendar days (except SAA containers).</li> <li>For episodic waste, 60 calendar days from the event start date.</li> </ul>	No time limit, except for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>180 calendar days for special waste.</li> <li>For episodic waste, 60 calendar days from the event start date.</li> </ul>
<b>Regulations</b>	WAC 173-303-200(2)	WAC 173-303-172(3-4)	WAC 173-303-073, -171, -173(3)
<b>EPA/State ID Number</b>	File Dangerous Waste Site ID Form to notify and obtain ID number.	File Dangerous Waste Site ID Form to notify and obtain ID number.	Not required, unless site manages dangerous waste under: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Alternative standards for episodic generation.</li> <li>Conditional exclusion for special waste.</li> </ul>
<b>Regulations</b>	WAC 173-303-060, -170	WAC 173-303-060, -170	WAC 173-303-060, -073, -170, -173
<b>Container Management</b>	All dangerous waste containers must be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In good condition</li> <li>Non-leaking</li> <li>Compatible with waste</li> </ul>	All dangerous waste containers must be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In good condition</li> <li>Non-leaking</li> <li>Compatible with waste</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Manage waste in a way that does not pose a threat.</li> <li>Other local regulations may apply.</li> </ul>

<sup>4</sup> [ecology.wa.gov/GeneratorStatus](http://ecology.wa.gov/GeneratorStatus)

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	Large Quantity Generator	Medium Quantity Generator	Small Quantity Generator
<b>Regulations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Closed (except special circumstances in SAAs)</li> <li>Separated from incompatibles</li> </ul> Additional CAA requirements include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inspected weekly</li> <li>Stored within a secondary containment system</li> <li>A minimum 30 inch aisle space between rows of containers</li> </ul> Note special requirements for containers accumulating ignitable, reactive, or incompatible waste.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Closed (except special circumstances in SAAs)</li> <li>Separated from incompatibles</li> </ul> Additional CAA requirements include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inspected weekly</li> <li>Stored within a secondary containment system</li> <li>A minimum 30 inch aisle space between rows of containers</li> </ul> Note special requirements for containers accumulating ignitable, reactive, or incompatible waste.	
<b>What to Include When Labeling Waste During Accumulation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The words “Hazardous Waste” or “Dangerous Waste.”</li> <li>Hazards associated with the waste.</li> <li>The accumulation start date (in CAAs only).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The words “Hazardous Waste” or “Dangerous Waste.”</li> <li>Hazards associated with the waste.</li> <li>The accumulation start date (in CAAs only).</li> </ul>	If managed as episodic waste or large quantity generator consolidation, see those requirements. Otherwise, not required.
<b>Regulations</b>	WAC 173-303-174, -200(7)	WAC 173-303-174, -172(9)	WAC 173-303-171(1)(e)(ix), -173(3)
<b>SAA Limits</b>	55 gallons dangerous waste or 1 quart AHW/toxic EHW, or 2.2 pounds of solid AHW/toxic EHW.	55 gallons dangerous waste or 1 quart AHW/toxic EHW, or 2.2 pounds of solid AHW/toxic EHW.	Does not apply.
<b>Regulations</b>	WAC 173-303-174	WAC 173-303-174	
<b>Requirements for Accumulating</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Thorough assessment of tank safety.</li> <li>Proper design for tank’s waste.</li> <li>Proper installation.</li> <li>Secondary containment.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Safe operating procedures.</li> <li>Daily or weekly inspections (depending on the tank system and leak detection equipment).</li> </ul>	Local regulations may apply.

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<b>Dangerous Waste in Tanks</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clear detection of any release.</li> <li>• Safe operating procedures.</li> <li>• Daily inspections.</li> <li>• Immediate response to spills or leaks.</li> <li>• Safe closure and post-closure care.</li> </ul> <p>Note special requirements for tanks that accumulate ignitable, reactive, or incompatible waste.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Safe closure and post-closure care.</li> </ul> <p>Note special requirements for tanks that accumulate ignitable, reactive, or incompatible waste.</p>	
<b>Regulations</b>	WAC 173-303-200(4)	WAC 173-303-172(6)	
<b>CAA and General Inspections</b>	All inspections must be scheduled, performed, and documented. All deficiencies must be noted and corrected.	All inspections must be scheduled, performed, and documented. All deficiencies must be noted and corrected.	Not required.
<b>Regulations</b>	WAC 173-303-200(3)(d), -200(10)	WAC 173-303-172(5)(d), -172(13)	
<b>Personnel Training</b>	Training program required, including a written training plan.	Familiarize employees with proper waste handling and emergency procedures.	Not required.
<b>Regulations</b>	WAC 173-303-200(9)	WAC 173-303-172(12)(c)	
<b>Preparedness and Prevention</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minimize fire, explosion, and release of dangerous waste.</li> <li>• Maintain clear communication systems (internal and external) and fire suppression controls.</li> <li>• Regularly test and maintain communication and control equipment.</li> <li>• Train personnel on how to quickly access communications or alarm system.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minimize fire, explosion, and release of dangerous waste.</li> <li>• Maintain clear communication systems (internal and external) and fire suppression controls.</li> <li>• Regularly test and maintain communication and control equipment.</li> <li>• Train personnel on how to quickly access communications or alarm system.</li> </ul>	Not required.

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	<b>Large Quantity Generator</b>	<b>Medium Quantity Generator</b>	<b>Small Quantity Generator</b>
<b>Regulations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintain adequate aisle space for movement of emergency equipment.</li> <li>Work with local authorities to develop preparedness and prevention arrangements for your facility.</li> </ul> <p>WAC 173-303-201</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintain adequate aisle space for movement of emergency equipment.</li> <li>Work with local authorities to develop preparedness and prevention arrangements for your facility.</li> </ul> <p>WAC 173-303-172(11)</p>	
<b>Contingency Plan and Emergency Procedures</b>	<p>Written contingency plan and quick reference guide required.</p> <p>WAC 173-303-201(8-9), (11)</p>	<p>Post emergency information next to communication devices or in dangerous waste accumulation areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Name and number of emergency coordinator.</li> <li>Location of fire extinguishers, spill equipment, and fire alarm.</li> <li>Fire department telephone number, unless the facility has a direct alarm.</li> </ul> <p>WAC 173-303-172(12)</p>	<p>Not required.</p>
<b>Additional Reporting for Emergencies</b>	<p>Immediately report spill, fire, explosion, or release.</p> <p>WAC 173-303-145, -201(14)</p>	<p>Immediately report spill, fire, explosion, or release.</p> <p>WAC 173-303-145, -172(12)(d)(iii)</p>	<p>Immediately report spills if threat to human health and the environment.</p> <p>WAC 173-303-145</p>
<b>Disposal of Dangerous Waste</b>	<p>Ship to permitted dangerous waste TSDF or dangerous waste recycler. Uniform hazardous waste manifest required.</p>	<p>Ship to permitted dangerous waste TSDF or dangerous waste recycler. Uniform hazardous waste manifest required.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Treat on-site at, or ship off-site to, permitted dangerous waste TSDF, permitted moderate risk waste facility, legitimate recycler, other permitted solid waste facility, or large quantity generator under the control of the same person.</li> </ul>

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<b>Regulations</b>	WAC 173-303-200(1)	WAC 173-303-172(1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For episodic waste, ship to permitted dangerous waste TSDF. Uniform hazardous waste manifest required.</li> </ul> WAC 173-303-171(1)(e)
<b>Packaging, Labeling, Marking for Transport</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Package, label and mark per USDOT regulations (49 CFR).</li> <li>Mark with dangerous waste numbers.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Package, label and mark per USDOT regulations (49 CFR).</li> <li>Mark with dangerous waste numbers.</li> </ul>	Refer to USDOT regulations (49 CFR).
<b>Regulations</b>	WAC 173-303-190(1-3), (5-8)	WAC 173-303-190(1-3), (5-8)	
<b>Placarding for Transport</b>	Must offer the appropriate placard.	Must offer the appropriate placard.	Refer to USDOT regulations (49 CFR).
<b>Regulations</b>	WAC 173-303-190(4)	WAC 173-303-190(4)	
<b>Manifest</b>	Use for shipments off-site. Transporters of manifested waste must have an EPA/State ID number.	Use for shipments off-site. Transporters of manifested waste must have an EPA/State ID number.	Not required, except for shipments off-site of episodic dangerous waste.
<b>Regulations</b>	WAC 173-303-180	WAC 173-303-180	WAC 173-303-173(3)
<b>Annual Reporting</b>	File every year.	File every year.	File every year if generator has an active EPA/State ID number. Only file Site ID form, unless you shipped episodic waste or special waste, in which case you must follow the appropriate instructions on the form.
<b>Regulations</b>	WAC 173-303-220(1), -170(2)(b)(iii)	WAC 173-303-220(1), -170(2)(b)(ii), -173(4)	WAC 173-303-073, -(170)(2)(b)(i), -173(3)
<b>Exception Reporting</b>	45 days if signed manifest is not returned from TSDF.	45 days if signed manifest is not returned from TSDF.	Not required.

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	Large Quantity Generator	Medium Quantity Generator	Small Quantity Generator
<b>Regulations</b>	WAC 173-303-220(2)	WAC 173-303-220(2)	
<b>Recordkeeping</b>	Maintain the following for 5 years: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Manifests</li> <li>• Annual reports</li> <li>• Waste designation records</li> <li>• Any other records required in -200</li> </ul>	Maintain the following for 5 years: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Manifests</li> <li>• Annual reports</li> <li>• Waste designation records</li> <li>• Any other records required in -172</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain waste designation records for 5 years.</li> <li>• Other records typically not required, but encouraged.</li> <li>• Must keep records of an episodic generation event for 5 years.</li> </ul>
<b>Regulations</b>	WAC 173-303-210	WAC 173-303-210	WAC 173-303-210(3), -173(3)(j)
<b>When to Develop Pollution Prevention Plan</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More than 2,640 pounds of dangerous waste is generated annually or</li> <li>• Generator reports toxic releases under Section 313 of the Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More than 2,640 pounds of dangerous waste is generated annually or</li> <li>• Generator reports toxic releases under Section 313 of the Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act.</li> </ul>	If generator reports toxic releases under Section 313 of the Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act.
<b>Regulations</b>	Chapter 173-307 WAC	Chapter 173-307 WAC	Chapter 173-307 WAC
<b>Recycled, Reclaimed, and Recovered Waste</b>	Recycled used oil, recycled car batteries, and other recycled wastes may be partially or conditionally exempt from regulation as dangerous waste.	Recycled used oil, recycled car batteries, and other recycled wastes may be partially or conditionally exempt from regulation as dangerous waste.	Recycled used oil, recycled used batteries, and other recycled wastes may be partially or conditionally exempt from regulation as dangerous waste.
<b>Regulations</b>	WAC 173-303-017, 071, 120, 500,525	WAC 173-303-017, 071, 120, 500,525	WAC 173-303-017, 071,120, 500, 525
<b>Universal Waste</b>	Follow standards for universal waste management (batteries, mercury-containing equipment, and lamps).	Follow standards for universal waste management (batteries, mercury-containing equipment, and lamps).	Follow standards for universal waste management (batteries, mercury-containing equipment, and lamps).
<b>Regulations</b>	WAC 173-303-573	WAC 173-303-573	WAC 173-303-573

# Guide to Dangerous Waste by Generator Category

## Glossary of terms

Table 2: Acronyms used throughout this guide and their meaning.

Acronym	Meaning
AHW	Acutely hazardous waste
CAA	Central accumulation area
EHW	Extremely hazardous waste
ID	Identification
LQG	Large quantity generator
MQG	Medium quantity generator
SAA	Satellite accumulation area
SQG	Small quantity generator
TSDF	Treatment, storage, and disposal facility
USDOT	US Department of Transportation



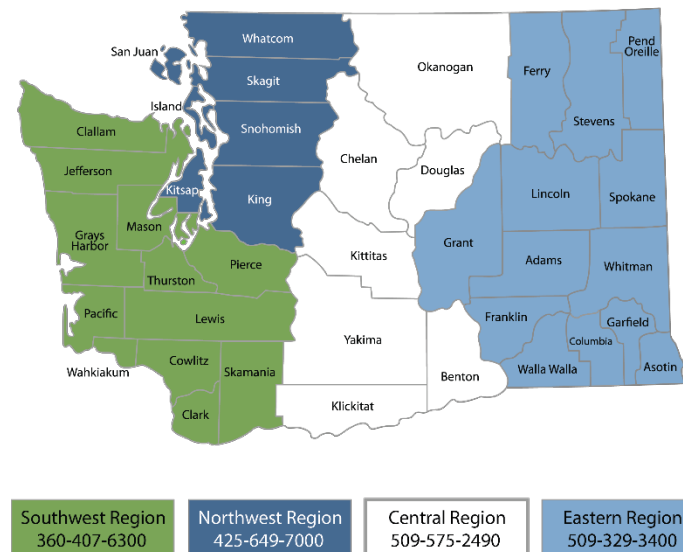
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## Questions?

To speak to a hazardous waste specialist, contact your regional Ecology office:

### Department of Ecology Regional Offices

Map of counties served



**Northwest Regional Office, Bellevue: 425-649-7000**

Counties: Island, King, Kitsap, San Juan, Skagit, Snohomish, Whatcom

**Southwest Regional Office, Lacey: 360-407-6300**

Counties: Clallam, Clark, Cowlitz, Grays Harbor, Jefferson, Mason, Lewis, Pacific, Pierce, Skamania, Thurston, Wahkiakum

**Central Regional Office, Union Gap: 509-575-2490**

Counties: Benton, Chelan, Douglas, Kittitas, Klickitat, Okanogan, Yakima

**Eastern Regional Office, Spokane: 509-329-3400**

Counties: Adams, Asotin, Columbia, Ferry, Franklin, Garfield, Grant, Lincoln, Pend Oreille, Spokane, Stevens, Walla Walla, Whitman