



2 Obtain a RCRA Site Identification Number

What is a RCRA Identification Number?

It wasn't long ago that we disposed of our hazardous wastes with the rest of our trash. Then we noticed that the fish died, there were odors in our drinking water, and there were abandoned waste drums on vacant lots.

A system of federal, state, and local hazardous waste regulations now helps prevent these problems. This is done, in part, by requiring all hazardous waste generators, transporters, transfer facilities, and management facilities to identify themselves as members of the Hazardous Waste Generator's system.

You participate in the system by notifying the Department of Ecology (Ecology) of your hazardous waste activities. Ecology will then issue you a site-specific RCRA Site Identification (RCRA Site ID) Number (also known as an "EPA/Site ID" number or "Site Identification" number.)

Why is it important?

For one thing, it's the law. You are required to determine whether your wastes are hazardous. Depending on the type and amount of hazardous waste, you must comply with state and federal requirements by obtaining a RCRA Site ID Number.

Another reason is that many hazardous waste haulers and management facilities won't accept your wastes if you don't have a RCRA Site ID Number, even if you're a small quantity generator and technically don't require one.

Last but not least, when you enter the system, you join other businesses and organizations in a program designed to protect human health and the environment.

Who needs one?

You need to get a RCRA Site ID Number if you:

- ✓ Generate more than 220 pounds per month¹ or accumulate on-site at any time more than 2200 pounds¹ of hazardous waste
- ✓ Commercially transport hazardous waste
- ✓ Own or operate a hazardous waste treatment, storage, or disposal facility, or
- ✓ Recycle regulated amounts of hazardous waste

It is illegal to offer hazardous waste to a transporter or waste management facility that does not have a RCRA Site ID Number.

You will also need to obtain a RCRA Site ID Number even if you generate, transport, or manage hazardous waste for a "one-time only" occurrence. You should withdraw the RCRA Site ID Number after the waste has been properly managed under the system.

¹ Don't transport or dispose of your wastes until you receive your Identification Number.

To obtain a Site ID Number for the first time:

- You can request the Site ID Form and a copy of the instructions on how to complete the Site ID Form by calling 1-800-874-2022. You can also download them from the Internet at turbowastenet. Consider keeping an unused original in your files and fill out photocopies so that you always have a blank form on hand.
- Complete one Site ID Form for each individual site you own or operate that is involved in hazardous waste activities. Remember, the RCRA Site ID Number is assigned for the waste activities at the location you indicate on the form. You must use one number for each location.

To report any changes:

- Submit the Site ID Form to the Ecology address listed at the top of the form. Your site-specific RCRA Site ID Number should arrive within two weeks.
- Submit a revised Site ID Form to Ecology to report changes in company ownership, mailing address, or dangerous waste activity.

If your business location changes:

- RCRA Site ID Numbers are site specific. You must withdraw the current RCRA Site ID Number and request a new number for the new location (if you will still be handling hazardous wastes) by completing two separate Site ID Forms. Please note that you must complete your Annual Report of Waste Activity for the year you withdraw your RCRA Site ID Number (see Checklist Fact Sheet 3.) You may submit your Annual Report and request to withdraw your RCRA Site ID Number at the same time. Your new site-specific RCRA Site ID Number will arrive within two weeks².

If you are at the same location but no longer handle hazardous waste:

- You can request that your RCRA Site ID Number be withdrawn by completing a Site ID Form and checking the appropriate box on the front page. Don't forget you must complete an Annual Report for the year you request a withdrawal² (see Checklist Fact Sheet 3.)

If you need to use the number again at some later date, you must first notify Ecology by completing a Site ID Form and checking

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While this Fact Sheet summarizes the notification requirements under the Dangerous Waste Regulations (Chapter 173-303 WAC), it does not replace them. Always refer to the regulations themselves for more detail or call a hazardous waste specialist at your nearest Ecology regional office.

Spokane	(509) 327-3400
Lacey	(360) 407-6300
Bellevue	(425) 649-7000
Yakima	(509) 575-2490

This is Checklist Fact Sheet 2 in a series of 10.

If you need this information in an alternate format, please call the Hazardous Waste and Toxics Reduction Program at 360-407-6700. If you are a person with a speech or hearing impairment, call 711, or 800-833-6388 for TTY.

²Annual reports reminders are mailed out in January of each year. Call 1-800-874-2022 to request a reporting package for submittal.