



## Illegal Dumping of Waste

It has become a real problem in Port Elizabeth with contractors dumping of waste in undesignated areas, making their actions illegal and punishable by law.

The areas in Port Elizabeth and surrounding areas where illegal dumping has become a real problem are as follows: Algoa Park, Koedoeskloof in Uitenhage, Kleinskool, Veeplaas, Helenvale and Wells Estate.

In order to assist the MBA members, we have decided to provide you with information on how different types of waste should be discarded and where it should be taken to be disposed with.

### **Waste Classification**

Waste classification means establishing the following:

- (a) Whether a waste is hazardous based on the nature of its physical, health and environmental hazardous properties (hazard classes) and
- (b) the degree or severity of hazard posed (hazard categories).

All waste, excluding exempted waste streams specified in the Waste Classification Regulations, must be classified in accordance with SANS 10234. Except for Health Care Risk Waste, all hazardous waste shall have a safety data sheet (SDS) prepared in accordance with SANS 10234. For all exempted hazardous wastes, the requirements for safety data sheets shall meet the following requirements:

For hazardous waste products – SDS's prepared in accordance with SANS 10234 are only required for the product the waste originates from.

For hazardous mixed wastes – SDS's prepared in accordance with SANS 10234 are only required for the specific hazardous waste/s or chemical/s in the waste.

### **General waste**

General waste is commonly known as domestic waste and comprises of non-hazardous, non-toxic material which is not recyclable.

### **Recyclables**

Recyclable waste includes cans, paper, plastic sheeting, plastic components, card board, wood, metal, foil and glass. Recyclable materials shall be recycled by a reputable recycler for an agreed rebate. The collection of recyclable waste must be co-ordinated through the SHE Officer / Administrator and recorded in the central waste register. The SHE Officer / Administrator shall ensure that the correct rebates for all recyclable materials are processed monthly.

### **Bio-hazardous waste**

Bio-hazardous waste includes wastes from human tissue, blood, excretion, bodily fluids, swabs, dressings, syringes, needles or sharps, infectious waste from media fills, petri dishes containing growth media, blood agar plates, cultures of various microbes, etc., mainly collected from clinics and microbiology laboratories.



Bio-hazardous waste shall not be stored on site for longer than 18 months and must be staged in an access controlled secure area, prior to collection. Bookings for the collection of bio-hazardous waste must be co-ordinated through the SHE Officer / Administrator and recorded in the central waste register.

Bio-hazardous waste shall be transported by a registered dangerous goods transporter and preferably incinerated. Autoclaved bio-hazardous waste may be land-filled in accordance with landfill permit conditions for such waste, i.e. proof of autoclaving required.

The loading of bio-hazardous waste shall be supervised by a SHE Officer / Administrator as per the checklist for loading of hazardous goods (GRP\_SF\_SHE\_0767). Waste destruction certificates shall be filed by the SHE Officer / Administrator as part of the central waste register reconciliation.

### **Engineering waste**

Engineering waste refers to all waste generated from maintenance activities or produced in various technical workshops, e.g. scrap metal, copper, fluorescent tubes, oily rags, oily metal shavings, spent welding rods, used oils, paints and solvents, HVAC dust filters etc.

The following engineering waste streams are considered hazardous and shall be segregated in labelled containers for disposal.

- a) Oily rags / oily metal shavings / spent welding rods
- b) Used oils
- c) Used solvents
- d) Fluorescent tubes
- e) HVAC Dust filters
- f) Paint (solvent based)

Provision for hazardous waste containers shall be made in the main waste yard for all routine hazardous engineering waste. HVAC dust filters shall be disposed as pharmaceutical waste. Used oils, paints and solvents shall be considered as non-routine hazardous waste and processed as an ad hoc waste request. Uncontaminated metals, wood and plastic shall be recycled.

The loading of engineering hazardous waste shall be supervised by a SHE Officer / Administrator as per the checklist for loading of hazardous goods (GRP\_SF\_SHE\_0767).

Waste destruction certificates shall be filed by the SHE Officer / Administrator as part of the central waste register reconciliation.

### **Drums Management**

Empty drums shall be returned to suppliers where possible. Reuse and recycling of drums or empty containers shall be done in accordance to SANS 10406. The waste generator shall maintain a list of all chemical containers and their respective hazardous classifications and UN numbers. All containers with products classified as 6.1 (toxic) shall not be recycled or reused. All other chemical drum classifications may be washed for re-use by an approved service provider or recycled. A nominally empty certificate shall be issued to the service provider for all drums collected for reuse or recycling.



## Canteen waste

Canteen waste includes hazardous waste (used cooking oil), general waste (food scraps) and recyclable waste, e.g. cool drink cans, plastic utensils and packaging, etc. Provision for sufficient and labelled waste bins (emptied timeously) placed in demarcated areas shall be made in the canteen for the separation of waste. The canteen contractor shall manage the disposal of used cooking oil and provide proof of safe disposal/recycling.

## Asbestos waste

Asbestos waste shall be regarded as hazardous waste. Asbestos cement roof sheets shall, after being removed, be sealed in plastic and labelled with an asbestos warning sign as per Guideline for Working with Asbestos (GRP\_PR\_SHE\_1201). All asbestos waste shall be placed in containers that prevent the likelihood of exposure during handling. Under no circumstances shall asbestos waste be re-circulated into the community. Asbestos waste shall be removed and disposed of by a registered waste disposal company authorised to handle asbestos waste.

## Old Batteries and Gas Cylinders

Where possible, old batteries and gas cylinders shall be returned to the supplier for reuse or disposal. Where batteries and gas cylinders are not returnable to the supplier, they shall be managed through the ad hoc waste process.

## Disposal of Waste to Landfill

All waste shall be assessed to ensure disposal in correct prescribed landfills in accordance with the Norms and Standards for Disposal of Waste to Landfill as follows:

Landfill Classification	Examples of waste permissible for disposal in the landfill
Class A or HH / HH landfill	Pharmaceutical waste Asbestos waste Expired, spoilt or unusable hazardous products PCBs (or rather PCB containing waste (>50ppm)) General waste, excluding domestic waste, which contains hazardous waste or hazardous chemicals.  Mixed, hazardous chemical wastes from analytical laboratories and laboratories from academic institutions in containers less than 100 litres.
Class B or GLB+	General waste Business waste not containing hazardous waste or hazardous chemicals



	Garden waste
Class C or GLB+	Post-consumer packaging
Class D or GLB-	Building and demolition waste not containing hazardous waste or hazardous chemicals Excavated earth material not containing hazardous waste or hazardous chemicals.

Members are urged to comply with the municipal bylaws when it comes to dumping of waste.

Members are urged to contact the Metro Police at telephone number 041 585 1555 if they see an illegal dumping in progress and need to provide the official with the following information:

- The address where the waste is dumped;
- The registration of the vehicle;
- A description of the vehicle.

Members who report illegal dumping activities are assured that their identity will not be revealed at any stage.

(GO – 11/6/19)