Waste management framework and producer requirements

EPA considers you a waste producer if you have management and control of waste.

Victoria's waste framework helps you classify and manage your waste.



Under Victorian laws, if you generate waste, you have a duty to protect the environment and prevent harm.

These duties mean you need to identify and put in place controls to manage any risks associated with your waste. You are responsible for taking reasonable steps to ensure your waste is taken to a lawful place.

Using a waste collection service does not acquit you of your environmental duties and you may still be liable if they do the wrong thing. Penalties can include:

- Fines over \$80,000 for individuals
- \$410,000 for companies
- Imprisonment can occur in severe cases.

You can find out more about your duties (GED) on our website.

What can I do to ensure my waste goes to the right place?

You can ask your waste provider for information about:

- Details about where your waste is going
- Confirmation that your waste arrived, such as receipts
- A copy of the vehicle permission and Waste Tracker records for reportable priority waste.

Watch out for signs of non-compliance:

- Lower costs/quotes than competitors
- Company is unwilling or unable to provide receipts for disposal or any details of the lawful place
- They are a newly created business or have no customer support team
- Waste services are advertised solely on social media or service applications.

These warning signs do not mean that a person or business may illegally dispose of waste.

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Interpreter Services For languages other than English, please call 03 9209 0147



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Industrial and commercial waste generators

Information



Classification

You must properly identify and classify your waste.

This makes it clear which duties apply to the waste, how to manage it, and where to send it.

You can use our 'Guide to classifying industrial waste' to help classify your waste.

Industrial waste includes waste from:

- Commercial, industrial and trade activities
- Accommodation, cafes and restaurants
- Building and road construction, renovations, demolitions and repairs
- Primary industries including agriculture, forestry and fishing.

Priority waste and reportable priority waste are types of industrial waste. They have additional duties due to their hazardous nature.





Transport

You need to choose your transporter wisely and provide sufficient information about your waste.

If your waste is industrial waste, it's your responsibility to take reasonable steps to make sure that it will be transported to a place that is authorised to receive it.

If the waste is a priority waste, you must:

- Provide additional information on the properties of the waste to the transporter
- Store and isolate the waste to enable resource recovery to occur and prevent escape or contamination.

If the waste is reportable priority waste, you must:

- Use EPA's Waste Tracker to notify EPA of waste transactions
- You may also have an Accredited Consigner or your waste service provider record the waste transactions on Waste Tracker on your behalf
- Make sure the transport company has an EPA permit to transport your waste (excluding tyres).



Lawful place

If the waste is industrial waste, you have a duty to ensure the waste is sent to the right place.

This means a place authorised by EPA to receive that type of waste.

If it is a priority waste, you have the additional duty to investigate resource recovery options or disposal alternatives.

Staying informed

Visit epa.vic.gov.au for:

Guide to classifying industrial waste (publication 1968.1)

Managing industrial waste - Your duties as a waste producer (publication 1990.1)

General Environmental Duty



Waste Tracker



Public Registers

