

## Solid Waste

The Solid Waste Management Program (SWMP) is responsible for the control and regulation of solid (nonhazardous) waste in Missouri. The waste may be generated from commercial, industrial, municipal or residential sites. The SWMP also regulates infectious waste and the management of waste tires. The program administers programs created by federal law, the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) and state law (the Solid Waste Management Law, Chapter 260.200 - 260.345 RSMo). The portion of the Code of State Regulations (CSR) defining the organization and responsibilities of the Solid Waste Management Program is found in 10 CSR 80.

The SWMP is primarily involved with the permitting and regulating of the design, construction and operation of solid waste disposal areas and processing facilities. The SWMP is also responsible for the proper management and closure of existing landfills, waste tire processing facilities, and waste tire storage sites.

### Permits

An **Infectious Waste Processing Facility** accepts infectious waste transferred from an off-site generator for processing or treatment. A hospital that processes or treats its own waste on-site is exempt. Both a construction permit and an operating permit are required. Prior to completion of the construction permitting process, a public notice is required and a public hearing will be held upon request.

A **Scrap Tire End-User Registration** is required for any facility where scrap tires or scrap tire material are used as a fuel, fuel supplement or used to make a product and more than 100 scrap tires are used for any purpose.

Those who transports scrap tires must obtain a **Scrap Tire Hauler Permit**. Hauler permits are issued by the Missouri Department of Transportation, Motor Carrier Services Unit. Hauling scrap tires generated at a business or residence does not need a permit if the tires are transported by the employees using vehicles of the business. The SWMP does not require a public notice or hearing.

A **Scrap Tire Processing Facility Permit** is for facilities where tires are reduced in volume by bailing, shredding, cutting, chipping or otherwise altered is required to have this permit. Processing must be done to facilitate recycling, resource recovery or disposal. A public notice or hearing is not currently required for this permit. Exemptions to the permit requirement are:

- The facility does not store more than 24 tires at any time.
- Any business that processes scrap tires generated only at that site.

Any scrap tire site or location storing 500 or more whole, cut, chipped or shredded scrap tires has to have a **Scrap Tire Site Permit**. A public notice or hearing is not currently required for this permit. A scrap tire site permit must include a Financial Assurance Instrument (FAI). The FAI demonstrates the financial capability of the facility owner to properly close the site. A scrap tire site must also have tire processing capability and a waste tire processing facility permit in order to qualify for a scrap tire site permit.

A scrap tire collection center is a site where scrap tires are collected prior to recycling or processing and fewer than 500 tires are stored on any given day. This includes whole, baled, shredded, cut or chipped tires. A facility that stores less than 25 tires at any time is exempt.

A solid waste disposal area (or landfill) is a facility that accepts waste from any commercial, industrial, recreational or governmental operation or more than one residence. There is a multi-step public participation process prescribed by law for these facilities. Prior to applying for a **Solid Waste Disposal Area Permit**, an applicant must first obtain approval for the site's geologic and hydrologic conditions from Missouri Department of Natural Resources' Division of Geology and Land Survey. Before constructing a solid waste processing facility or a solid waste disposal area, an applicant must first obtain a construction permit from the Missouri Department of Natural Resources Solid Waste Management Program.

In order to obtain a construction permit, plans, specifications and other data necessary to comply with the Solid Waste Management Law must be submitted to the SWMP. Prior to accepting waste at the facility the applicant must apply for and receive an operating permit from the SWMP. The operating permit will be issued after the department is assured the facility has been constructed in accordance with the approved plans, specifications and construction permit conditions.

A **Solid Waste Processing Facility** such as an incinerator, compost plant, or transfer station is a facility that accepts municipal solid waste (MSW) for processing or salvaging. Prior to completion of the construction permitting process, a public notice is required and a public hearing will be held upon request.

Many of the required forms are available on-line under the heading *Solid Waste* at <http://www.dnr.mo.gov/forms/index.html> For more information about the specific permits, *Environmental Permits and How to Obtain Them* may be helpful, and is also located online. To receive a paper copy of any solid waste application forms, please contact the Solid Waste Management Program at (573) 751- 5401.

### **Waste diversion through the three R's : Reduce, Reuse, Recycle**

According to the *Missouri Policy on Resources Recovery*, Missouri emphasizes reducing waste disposal and taking full advantage of resource recovery opportunities. Resource recovery means following the hierarchy of waste management:

- First – reduce the amount of solid waste created
- Second – reuse, recycle and compost solid waste to the greatest extent feasible
- Third – recover energy from solid waste
- Fourth – incinerate or dispose of waste in a permitted landfill

Legislation in 1990 focused Missouri's solid waste management efforts by setting a goal to divert at least 40% of its waste from disposal. The department provides technical bulletins and other guidance documents to assist individuals, businesses, and local governments in achieving the goal. Technical and financial assistance is also available from the department.

To encourage recycling, composting and other alternatives to disposal, solid waste management laws and regulations minimize the permitting requirements for these activities. For example, source separated recycling facilities and yard waste composting facilities are not

required to obtain a solid waste permit to operate. The department does advise that anyone interested in pursuing these types of activities should contact the Solid Waste Management Program at (573) 751-5401.