Hazardous Waste Information for Furniture Manufacturers, Finishers & Refinishers

Massachusetts Law requires companies that produce hazardous waste to store and dispose of this waste in a special manner. Any one, other than a household, who produces, transports, recycles, treats or disposes of hazardous waste must notify the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) and meet certain requirements as specified in the hazardous waste regulations [310 CMR 30.000].

This fact sheet provides highlights of the regulations and will assist you in completing the Application for EPA Identification Number.

**Definition of a hazardous waste:**

Federal and state hazardous waste laws define waste as “hazardous” if it is ignitable (has a flash point of 140° F or less), corrosive (pH of less than 2.5 or greater than 12.5), reactive, or toxic (as determined by a laboratory test). Other wastes are listed by name in the regulations.

**Typical hazardous wastes from furniture manufacturing or finishing:**

**Ignitable Wastes**
- Stripping sludges
- Rags and other cleanup materials contaminated with paint, lacquer, solvent or sludge
- Spent dipping solutions, such as methylene chloride
- Nitrocellulose overspray and residue (gun cotton)
- Surplus or off-spec paints, lacquers, solvents

**Corrosive Wastes**
- Spent acid or alkaline baths

Some rinse waters may also be hazardous and should not be put down the drain. No rinse waters can be disposed down the drain to a septic system without a permit.

**Highlights of the Massachusetts Hazardous Waste Regulations [310 CMR 30.000]**

As a generator of hazardous waste you can be liable for any clean-up costs resulting from mismanagement of your waste, at your location, while it is in transit or at the receiving facility. To comply with the regulations and to decrease your risks:

- Identify and count the volume of your hazardous waste
- Store each type of waste in a separate container
- Keep containers closed except to add or remove waste
- Label each container or tank with:
  - HAZARDOUS WASTE
  - THE NAME OF THE WASTE
  - TYPE OF HAZARD
  - Add the date accumulation began if you are not a Very Small Generator.
- Train your employees to handle hazardous wastes safely
- Report spills of hazardous waste and hazardous materials to MassDEP
• Ship your waste with a licensed hazardous waste transporter (If you qualify as a Very Small Quantity Generator, you may be able to bring your waste to a community hazardous waste collection.)
• Keep records of where it goes for at least three (3) years

Your generator “status” is determined by the amount of hazardous waste you generate in a month’s time:

Very Small Quantity Generator (VSQG) – less than 27 gallons a month
Small Quantity Generator (SQG) – between 27 & 270 gallons a month
Large Quantity Generator (LQG) – more than 270 gallons a month

Consult the Summary of Requirements for Small Quantity Generators for more details.

Completing the Application for EPA Identification Number:

SIC (Standard Industrial Classification)

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Type of Business</th>
<th>SIC</th>
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<tr>
<td>Built-in cabinets</td>
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<td>Carpentry</td>
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Waste Codes (Section C of the EPA application)

Ignitable wastes                  D001
Corrosive wastes                  D002
Surplus lacquers, solvents        F003, F005

For more information:

• Visit: https://www.mass.gov/hazardous-waste-management
• Call the Business Compliance Assistance Line at (617) 292-5898 for help.
• To report a spill of oil or hazardous material, call the MassDEP Emergency Response line at (888) 304-1133.