



Massachusetts  
Department  
of  
ENVIRONMENTAL  
PROTECTION

## fact sheet

# 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)**

<u>Type of Business</u>	<u>SIC</u>
Built-in cabinets	2434
Carpentry	1751
Free-standing cabinets	5712
Furniture stripping	7641
Household furniture	2511
Office furniture	2521
Millwork	2431
Wood preserving	2491
Wood products	2499

#### **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.

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This information is available in  
 alternate format by calling our  
 ADA Coordinator at  
 (617) 574-6872.

