



MANAGEMENT OF MISCELLANEOUS PAINT WASTES

NORTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
DIVISION OF WASTE MANAGEMENT

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This management outline is written to assist generators in the proper handling and disposal of paint filters and miscellaneous dry paint wastes. These wastes may be hazardous due to the presence of heavy metals (common ingredients in industrial paints) or the characteristic of ignitability (solvent-based paints), or both.

Waste Determination. A review of the product's (paint, thinner, etc.) Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) may help to determine if the filters or miscellaneous dry paint wastes may be hazardous or nonhazardous. If the review indicates that there are no heavy metals (lead, chromium, cadmium, etc.) or solvents, it is unlikely that the filter and miscellaneous dry paint waste would be hazardous. Solvents may include xylene, toluene, mineral spirits, methyl ethyl ketone, and nonflammable solvents such as trichloroethylene.

The North Dakota Hazardous Waste Management Rules require generators of wastes to characterize their waste as hazardous or nonhazardous either by using the Toxicity Characteristic Leaching Procedure (TCLP) or by applying knowledge of the waste. If no MSDS are available or review of the MSDS indicate there are metals and/or solvents listed as the ingredients, the Department recommends the waste determination be made as follows:

1. Apply knowledge of the hazardous characteristic of the waste in light of the materials or process used; or
2. Testing
 - a. TCLP - EPA Test Method 1311 or equivalent for the following: lead, chromium, cadmium, mercury, benzene, methyl ethyl ketone, trichloroethylene.
 - b. Ignitability:
 - (1) Liquid waste - ASTM Standards D-93-791, D-93-80 or D-3278-78, or equivalent (ignitable if flashpoint is less than 140°F).
 - (2) Solid waste - It is ignitable if, when ignited, it burns so vigorously that it creates a hazard or it spontaneously ignites.

Disposal. Disposal is dependent upon the characterization of the waste.

If the filters or miscellaneous dry paint wastes are determined to be nonhazardous, these wastes may be landfilled at a permitted municipal waste or industrial waste landfill, contingent upon acceptance by the landfill. Municipal waste landfills may accept limited amounts of industrial wastes, and may therefore reject this type of waste.

If the waste is determined to be hazardous, the waste must be disposed of at a permitted hazardous waste management facility and must be included in your hazardous waste inventory. The Department has a list of hazardous waste management companies that can assist you in the proper disposal of hazardous waste.