

Disposal And Management Of Biomedical Waste For Waste Disposal Grounds



This fact sheet outlines disposal methods for the portion of biomedical waste identified by the Saskatchewan Biomedical Waste Management Guidelines as acceptable for disposal, without treatment, at a waste disposal ground. Additional conditions may be specified in a facility's permit to operate issued pursuant to The Municipal Refuse Management Regulations. The Saskatchewan Biomedical Waste Management Guidelines can be found at www.environment.sk.ca under Programs and Services/Waste Management.

The guidelines identify unrecognizable human anatomical waste, dried items that have been in contact with human blood and body fluids and sharps (other than identified infectious sharps) as biomedical waste that can be disposed of at a waste disposal ground without prior treatment. Human blood, body fluids and microbiological laboratory wastes that have been treated in a waste treatment facility can also be disposed of at a waste disposal ground. This fact sheet does **not** apply to encapsulated biomedical waste.

In order to accept biomedical waste without prior treatment at a waste disposal ground the operator of the facility should meet the requirements outlined in the Saskatchewan Biomedical Waste Management Guidelines. The following procedures should also be followed:

- 1) The operator/owner of the waste disposal ground and the generator of the biomedical waste should enter into an agreement that outlines disposal procedures and schedules.
- 2) A pit should be excavated in a dedicated area of the waste disposal ground. It should be separate from the working face and inaccessible to the public.
- 3) The biomedical waste should be transported separately from general wastes. Segregation is needed to ensure the biomedical waste is placed in a designated area and is not directly compacted.
- 4) The biomedical waste should be placed in the pit and immediately covered with sufficient soil after each disposition. Compaction of the material should be minimized and conducted only after sufficient cover has been deposited.
- 5) A record should be kept of the biomedical waste accepted and disposed of. The record should include the type materials disposed of and its location in the waste disposal ground. Records should be maintained for the life of the facility and considered in any proposal for closure.

There are a number of requirements the operator should incorporate into the design and operation of the waste disposal ground before accepting this material. They include:

- providing an all weather access to the site and working areas for waste delivery and site vehicles.
- supervising the site to control the deposition of waste.
- providing a segregation area for biomedical waste with a record of the volumes accepted, generator names and the locations of the deposition sites.
- surface and ground water control.
- maintain a compact, but adequately sized, site to ensure the material is covered after deposition.
- construct a final cover after each phase of the waste disposal ground is completed to ensure the integrity of the waste disposal ground.

Contact a local Ministry of Environment Environmental Project Officer for more information.



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