

United States
Environmental Protection
Agency

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Solid Waste and Emergency Response (5305W)



RCRA, SUPERFUND & EPCRA HOTLINE

(800) 424-9346

www.epa.gov/epaoswer/hotline

Hazardous Site
Cleanup

community
right-to-know
INFORMATION
SERVICE

emergency response

Oil Pollution Prevention

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
401 M Street S.W. 5305
Washington, D.C. 20460

Official Business, Penalty for Private Use \$300

Our Purpose

The RCRA, Superfund & EPCRA Hotline is a publicly accessible service that provides up-to-date information on several Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) programs. The Hotline responds to questions on the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), which includes the Underground Storage Tank (UST) program; the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA or Superfund); the Oil Pollution Act (OPA); the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA); and the accidental release prevention provisions of the Clean Air Act (CAA). The Hotline also responds to requests for relevant documents.

Using the Hotline

Anyone can call the Hotline -- it offers information to a broad audience including consultants, manufacturers, members of trade associations and environmental organizations, lawyers, health professionals, state and local government representatives, citizens, and other callers with diverse backgrounds and varying degrees of regulatory knowledge. The Hotline's automated message system supplies information on hot regulatory topics and directs each caller to the appropriate Hotline program area. Callers can speak to a Hotline staff member who specializes in the RCRA/UST or the EPCRA/Superfund/OPA/CAA§112(r) regulations. Those seeking to order EPA publications pertaining to any of the Hotline's program areas can speak to a Document Specialist.

RCRA, Superfund & EPCRA Hotline

National Toll Free (800) 424-9346
Washington, DC Area (703) 412-9810
TDD (800) 553-7672

Monday - Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. ET
Closed Federal Holidays

<http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/hotline>

Regulations

The Hotline's team of Information Specialists relies on federal regulations and various forms of EPA guidance to provide quick, accurate responses to questions on the following regulatory programs:

RCRA

Under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), EPA has created a complex regulatory framework addressing solid waste disposal and hazardous waste management. Questions on RCRA regulations often concern:

- hazardous waste generators and transporters
- biennial reporting for hazardous waste activities
- land disposal restrictions (LDR)
- municipal solid waste landfill criteria
- solid and hazardous waste recycling
- treatment, storage, and disposal facilities
- waste minimization and hazardous waste combustion
- federal procurement of products that contain recycled material.

The Hazardous and Solid Waste Amendments (HSWA) broadened the scope of RCRA, authorizing EPA to regulate underground storage tanks containing petroleum products or hazardous substances.

Superfund

The enactment of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) initiated the Superfund program, allowing EPA to identify and clean up abandoned or uncontrolled hazardous waste sites and to recover costs from parties responsible for the contamination. Superfund questions cover topics such as:

- the National Contingency Plan (NCP)
- the National Priorities List (NPL)
- liability, enforcement, and settlements
- reportable quantities for hazardous substances.

OPA

The Oil Pollution Act (OPA) expanded the scope of public and private planning and response activities associated with discharges of oil. EPA's oil spill program covers spill prevention, control, and countermeasures (SPCC) plans, facility response plans, notification of oil discharges, and liability.

EPCRA

Congress enacted the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA), also known as SARA Title III, to help communities prepare for chemical emergencies and to grant citizens and government officials access to information about potential chemical hazards. Topics commonly addressed include:

- emergency planning
- hazardous chemical inventory reporting
- public access to chemical information
- toxic chemical release reporting and the Form R
- the toxic release inventory (TRI) database.

CAA§112(r)

Section 112(r) of the amended Clean Air Act (CAA) mandates a new federal focus on the prevention of chemical accidents. The objective of §112(r) is to prevent serious chemical accidents that have the potential to affect public health and the environment. The risk management planning requirements of CAA§112(r) complement and support EPCRA. The regulations promulgated pursuant to CAA§112(r) are known as the risk management program regulations, and include requirements for:

- hazard assessments
- chemical accident prevention programs
- emergency response programs
- risk management plans.

Electronic Accessibility

A number of regulatory outreach materials can be found on the Internet home page, located at: www.epa.gov/epaoswer/hotline

On the home page you will find the "RCRA, Superfund & EPCRA Hotline Guide to Electronic Resources," which provides information on EPA's public-access Internet servers, bulletin board systems, and electronic mailing lists. The Guide also provides instructions for subscribing to the Hotline listserver, which transmits regulatory updates and program information.

Documents

You may place orders for many EPA documents that pertain to Hotline program areas by speaking with our trained Document Specialists. Document Specialists have access to comprehensive, current information on EPA documents. Selected documents are available through EPA's Fax-on-Demand Service or can be found on the Internet. Instructions for ordering or accessing these documents are available through the Hotline.

Referrals

Hotline Information Specialists strive to answer every question by reviewing a vast array of resources. Some questions, however, are not within the scope of the Hotline's services. Information Specialists cannot answer questions which require interpretation of EPA regulations or policies, demand legal analysis, involve unresolved issues, or pertain to state-specific requirements. Such questions are referred to the appropriate EPA office, federal or state agency, or other source. The Hotline maintains current information on a wide array of contacts for such situations.

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