



**Standard Operating Procedure:  
General Construction Site Waste**

Date: 2024/05/01

Version: 1

Review Frequency: Annual

**Reasons for Procedure**

This procedure has been developed to ensure all project-related waste transportation and disposal activities are performed in accordance with all applicable Federal, State, and local waste management regulations. The procedure is also intended to protect the County properties and the surrounding environment from potential impacts from project-related waste management activities.

**1.0 Purpose**

To eliminate potential impacts of general construction waste transportation and disposal.

**2.0 Scope**

These procedures apply to the collection, handling, transportation and disposal of general construction waste by construction and demolition contractors, subcontractors and their employees working on the County’s or MCPS’s behalf. The table below summarizes what wastes are managed according to this SOP.

General Construction Waste <sup>(1)</sup>	NOT General Construction Waste
Non-recyclable packing materials such as Styrofoam, plastic wrapping, strapping/banding, etc.	Compressed gas cylinders or aerosol canisters
Putrescible waste (food and other organic waste). Food-contaminated packaging.	Liquids of any kind (motor oil, refrigerants, lubricants, solvents, drywall mud, paint, water from cleaning tools or equipment, etc.)
“Household” Recyclable Materials (such as glass and plastic bottles, cardboard, aluminum cans, clean food packaging, etc.)	Hazardous wastes
Other non-hazardous construction site trash (e.g., nails, screws, fasteners, plastics, fabrics, etc.)	Special wastes (asbestos and lead paint)
Carpeting, non-ACM tiles, etc.	
Empty/cured paint cans, solvent cans, caulking tubes, glues, drywall mud buckets.	
Cured paint wastes (brushes, rollers, drop cloth, roller/drip pans)	

Notes: General Construction Waste may also be referred to as Municipal Solid Waste (MSW).

### **3.0 Responsibility**

All County and MCPS staff are responsible for preventing illicit discharges from their operations.

#### **3.1 Managers and Supervisors**

The contractor (and subcontractor) managers and supervisors are responsible for ensuring all of their staff involved with generating or managing waste are trained on the procedures outlined in the most recent version of this SOP. Managers and supervisors are responsible for maintaining waste disposal records.

#### **3.2 Personnel Performing Activities**

Staff contractors, subcontractors, and their employees are responsible for the proper temporary storage, containment, and disposal of all waste generated during construction and/or demolition. Contractor personnel must follow the procedures outlined in this SOP. If personnel are unsure of the proper procedures, they should contact their supervisor.

### **4.0 Procedures**

#### **4.1 Siting Waste Storage Area(s)**

- 4.1.1 Where feasible, locate dumpsters away from the project boundary and sensitive areas. Sensitive areas may include air intakes, stormwater drop inlets, curb inlets, wetland areas, sensitive vegetation, and ponds, streams and other waterways.
- 4.1.2 Locate waste storage areas away from critical pathways including pedestrian and vehicular access, overhead utilities, fire hydrants, and generators.
- 4.1.3 Maintain adequate ingress/egress to storage areas to allow adequate loading of waste materials for removal from the site.
- 4.1.4 Wherever feasible, place waste storage on an impervious surface. Where none is present, plastic sheeting can be used to provide an impervious surface for erodible or sensitive materials if needed.

#### **4.2 Waste Storage**

- 4.2.1 Ensure all waste generated is disposed of promptly in the correct waste container.
- 4.2.2 Light bulbs/lamps should be managed intact under all circumstances and should not be crushed for any reason. Bulbs/lamps should be segregated and stored for disposal in a designated container, which will prevent breakage, and in accordance with appropriate universal waste guidance.
- 4.2.3 "Household recyclable materials" should be placed in recycling bins when available.
- 4.2.4 Liquid containing cans/containers must be completely emptied of their contents by being thoroughly used or disposed separately as liquid waste by appropriate means. Residual materials should be dried/cured completely and disposed along with the container. This includes: paints, solvents, glues, caulk, gypsum mud, etc.
- 4.2.5 Equipment containing fluids (e.g., spray application apparatus, piping/tubing/hoses, mixing equipment) must be fully drained of these products

## General Construction Site Waste

prior to disposal in general construction trash. In addition, equipment designated for disposal or recycling must have a tag placed on it that is signed and dated by a site supervisor or designated staff certifying that all fluids have been removed.

- 4.2.6 No material covered under this SOP may be disposed of by being dumped down any storm sewer drain. In some cases material within a certain pH range may be disposed of down the sanitary sewer with prior authorization from the receiving WWTP authority. Contact the County or MCPS environmental staff for questions regarding proper handling or disposal of these waste materials. All employees and contractors must receive approval from County or MCPS environmental staff at least one week in advance before dumping any material covered under this SOP down any sanitary sewer.
- 4.2.7 Cover all dumpsters and waste containers at the end of every day or when not in active use. Dumpster covers may include hard covers provided by the contractor, tarps secured with cords or straps, or any reasonable means to protect the dumpster contents from exposure to rainwater. Smaller waste containers (“trash cans”) placed throughout the site for daily use shall have lids which are kept on to prevent windblown trash, except when trash is being placed in the can.
- 4.2.8 Ensure waste disposed of as general construction waste is solid waste and does not include hazardous or special wastes.
  - 4.2.8.1 Hazardous wastes generated by the contractor will be managed by the contractor according to required Federal, state and local regulations.
  - 4.2.8.2 The contractor will notify the University Project Construction Administrator upon discovery of a hazardous waste generated by the facility for information on proper handling and disposal of the hazardous waste.
  - 4.2.8.3 Special wastes include asbestos containing materials (ACMs) and Lead-based Paint (LBP). These special materials should be managed according to the appropriate Federal, state and local regulations.
  - 4.2.8.4 The contractor shall immediately notify the Project Construction Administrator in the event petroleum contamination or potential hazardous waste is discovered comingled with general construction waste(s).

### 4.3 Waste Storage Area Inspections

- 4.3.1 Routine inspections of waste storage areas should occur by contractor (or subcontractor) staff on a daily basis before the close of each work day. Allow sufficient time for implementing corrective measures as necessary.
- 4.3.2 Waste disposal dumpsters should not be leaking. In particular, note and correct any leaking container before allowing transportation offsite. Immediately address any track-in/track-out of waste materials during load-out activity.
- 4.3.3 Inspect storage areas before and after significant storm events.

## General Construction Site Waste

- 4.3.4 Inspectors should note any improper waste disposal which may include liquid wastes or hazardous waste. Remove improper wastes to the appropriate storage area.
- 4.3.5 Wastes should be confined to the limits of its container/area. There should be no overflowing waste.
- 4.3.6 Inspect access, ingress/egress for any impedances.
- 4.3.7 Dumpsters should be closed/covered at the end of each workday and particularly before any storm event.
- 4.3.8 Whether during a formal inspection or not, correct waste management deficiencies when observed. If assistance is needed, report the deficiencies to the site supervisor.

### 4.4 **Waste Hauling to Off-Site Disposal Facility**

General construction waste must be disposed at the Montgomery Regional Solid Waste Authority or another licensed, permitted Municipal Solid Waste landfill. The contractor is expected to maintain records of waste disposal invoicing and/or bill of lading for documentation to quantify off-site waste disposal.

## 5.0 **Review of Procedure/Training**

The contractor (and subcontractor) managers and supervisors are responsible for reviewing this procedure with all applicable staff immediately upon start of work on site and refresher training shall be provided as often as needed to ensure compliance.

## 6.0 **Regulatory Impacts**

### 6.1 **Waste Management Regulations**

General construction waste collection, handling, transportation and disposal is regulated by the DEQ Solid Waste Management regulations, 9 VAC 20- 81.

### 6.2 **Stormwater Regulations**

Illicit discharges, including construction materials, are prohibited by the MS4 permit. This offense is punishable by civil and criminal penalties as illicit discharges constitute a threat to the public health, safety, and welfare, and are deemed public nuisances.

\*Printed versions of SOPs with previous review dates are considered current as long as the version number is the same as the current version. Current versions of all SOPs are maintained on the County Stormwater Resources website.