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An Overview of the Characteristics Hazardous Waste

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Description

Hazardous-waste management refers to the collection, treatment, and disposal of waste that, if managed poorly, can endanger human health and safety as well as the environment. Hazardous wastes might be solids, liquids, sludges, or confined gases, and they are typically produced by chemical, manufacturing, and other industrial processes. They may cause damage as a result of insufficient storage, transportation, treatment, or disposal. Improper hazardous-waste storage or disposal regularly contaminates surface water and groundwater sources, as well as being a cause of hazardous land contamination. People who live in houses constructed near old and abandoned trash disposal sites may be especially exposed. Governments strictly control hazardous-waste management in order to address present issues and prevent future harm from hazardous wastes. It's possible that sal locations are particularly vulnerable.

The biological, chemical, and physical features of hazardous wastes are used to classify them. Toxic, reactive, ignitable, corrosive, infectious, or radioactive compounds result from these qualities. Even in minute or trace concentrations, toxic wastes are poisonous. They might have immediate consequences, such as death or severe sickness, or they can have long-term consequences, such as irreversible injury. Some are carcinogenic, meaning they cause cancer over a long period of exposure. Others are mutagenic, producing significant biological alterations in the progeny of people and wildlife who have been exposed to them [1-3].

Chemically unstable, reactive wastes react aggressively with air or water. They can create explosions or release poisonous gases. Ignitable wastes burn at low temperatures and can quickly become a fire danger. Strong acidic or alkaline wastes are examples of corrosive waste. They use a chemical process to destroy solid material and live tissue when they come into touch with them. Used bandages, hypodermic needles, and other items from hospitals and biological research institutes are examples of infectious trash.

Ionizing energy is emitted by radioactive waste, which can damage living creatures. Because certain radioactive elements can survive in the environment for thousands of years before totally decomposing, waste management is a major problem. The treatment and disposal of radioactive material, on the other hand, is not the duty of local governments. Because of the magnitude and complexity of the subject, radioactive waste management—particularly nuclear fission waste management—is typically treated as a separate technical endeavor from other types of hazardous-waste management, as mentioned in the article nuclear reactor [4,5].

Conflict of Interest

None.

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