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MONTEREY REGIONAL WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Home of the Last Chance Mercantile

PROBLEM AND SPECIAL WASTE ACCEPTANCE CRITERIA

The Monterey Regional Waste Management District ("District") accepts difficult-to-handle wastes and special wastes at the Monterey Peninsula Landfill. Wastes that are classified as "Problem Wastes" include bulky, stringy or oversized waste, and waste requiring immediate destruction and burial at the landfill. The District also accepts wastes that require special processing prior to recycling.

1. BULKY, STRINGY OR OVERSIZED WASTE

Typical municipal solid waste disposed at the landfill face is pushed and spread in two-foot layers and compacted. This process achieves a minimum in-place waste density of 1,500 pounds per cubic yard, while leaving a relatively smooth, compacted surface. At the end of the day, daily cover material is placed over the compacted waste, as required by State regulations.

Some types of bulky, stringy or oversized waste materials require special handling at the landfill. Bulky and stringy materials often become wrapped up in the undercarriage of the heavy equipment, requiring extra time to manually clean out the machine at the end of the day. Handling costs are also higher at the landfill for these types of waste materials because they are difficult to handle and require special efforts by a bulldozer or compactor in order for the material to be effectively crushed prior to being spread, compacted, and buried. This takes extra time and attention by the heavy equipment operator. Also, the use of landfill space is higher for some types of waste materials. Regular municipal solid waste is relatively easy to spread and compact at the landfill. For certain types of bulky, stringy or oversized wastes, it is not possible to achieve as high an in-place density as regular solid waste. Therefore, the problem waste consumes an inordinate amount of landfill space, and is more expensive to landfill on a per cubic yard basis. The disposal fee for bulky, stringy or oversized wastes is at the Problem Waste rate of \$90.00 per ton, with a \$25.00 minimum charge.

Examples of hard-to-handle bulky or over-sized materials include:

- Mobile Homes.
- Boats with engines removed (pull-off/push-off service is an additional \$100.00 fee).
- Beams/utility poles/logs in excess of 12 feet in length.
- Treated lumber (chromium, copper, arsenic, creosote, etc.) restricted to the lined portions of the landfill.
- Oversized concrete debris (in excess of 36 inches in any dimension).
- Building demolition debris with tangled wires, insulation, and/or large timbers/beams.
- Agricultural fumigation film plastic (pull-off/push-off service is an additional \$50.00 fee).
- Mattresses/box springs (mixed loads of mattresses/box springs and waste are charged the Basic Solid Waste Rate of \$47.00 per ton PLUS a surcharge of \$10.00 for each mattresses/box springs, \$20.00 each for King Size mattresses/box springs).
- Tree stumps, rounds, and root balls (in excess of one foot in diameter, 2 feet at the root ball): charged the lesser of the Problem Waste rate of \$90.00 per ton, or the Basic Stump Rate of \$23.00 per ton PLUS a surcharge of \$5.00 per diameter foot.

2. WASTE REQUIRING IMMEDIATE DESTRUCTION AND DIRECT BURIAL

Some types of waste require immediate destruction and direct burial at the landfill. The waste material must be pushed to a specially prepared hole at the toe of the active landfill face, compacted, and buried in place. This takes extra time and attention by the heavy equipment operator. The disposal fee for waste materials requiring immediate destruction and direct burial is at the Problem Waste rate of \$90.00 per ton, with a \$25.00 minimum charge.

Examples of waste materials requiring immediate destruction and direct burial include:

- Non-friable asbestos, such as asbestos cement Transite pipe (requiring minimum compaction/breakage during burial).
- Loose/light materials subject to being wind-blown, such as loose papers, plastic bags, Styrofoam, and ash.
- Medical waste (“Red Bags”).
- Dead animals.
- Squid and fish waste.
- Out-of-specification manufactured products and food (requiring immediate destruction and burial).
- Confidential documents (requiring immediate destruction and burial).

3. WASTE REQUIRING SPECIAL PROCESSING PRIOR TO RECYCLING

State regulations prohibit the burial of tires, appliances (white goods), CRTs (televisions and computer monitors), e-waste, batteries, and lamps in landfills. The District incurs costs associated with the special processing requirements of these Problem Wastes that have been banned from landfill disposal. Some of these Problem Wastes are assessed a special processing surcharge, as discussed below.

- Tires: The District sends tires off-site for processing and recycling. Mixed loads of tires and refuse are charged the Basic Solid Waste Rate of \$47.00 per ton PLUS a per tire surcharge varying from \$2.00 per car or pickup truck tire (under 30 inches) up to \$150.00 for very large tires (over 60 inches). Loads of tires only are charged a per-ton rate of \$200.00 per ton. Customers disposing of 10 or more scrap tires at a time must be registered as a waste tire hauler with the California Integrated Waste Management Board.
- Appliances Containing Mercury Switches: Appliances containing Mercury switches (such as washers, dryers, dishwashers, and portable heaters) must be processed by the District prior to recycling as scrap metal. The special processing surcharge for removing the Mercury switches is \$5.00 per unit.
- Appliances with Refrigerant: Appliances containing dichlorodifluoromethane (Freon 12) (such as refrigerators, freezers, and air conditioning units) must be processed by the District prior to recycling as scrap metal. The special processing surcharge for removing the Freon is \$20.00 per unit.
- Cathode Ray Tubes (CRTs) and Other E-Waste: The District sends CRTs (such as televisions and non-flat panel computer monitors) and other e-waste (such as personal computers, printers, FAX machines, scanners, VCRs, DVD players, stereo systems, radios, etc.) off-site for recycling. CRTs and other e-waste can be dropped off at the Last Chance Mercantile free of charge.
- Batteries and Lamps: Household batteries (such as alkaline AA, AAA, C, & D cells, carbon-zinc, silver button, mercury, rechargeable nickel-cadmium), automotive lead acid batteries, and lamps (such as fluorescent tubes, high intensity discharge lamps, sodium vapor lamps) can be dropped off at the District’s Household Hazardous Waste Facility free of charge.

4. WASTES NOT ACCEPTED BY THE DISTRICT

- Whole car/truck bodies, recreational vehicles, motorcycles
- Infectious medical waste
- Radioactive waste
- Friable Asbestos
- Waste that is defined as hazardous under RCRA or CCR Title 22.