

RCRA Orientation Manual

THIS MANUAL WAS DEVELOPED BY:

THE U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
OFFICE OF SOLID WASTE/COMMUNICATIONS, INFORMATION,
AND RESOURCES MANAGEMENT DIVISION
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
WASHINGTON, DC 20460

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Foreword	i
Chapter I: Introduction to the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act	I-1
Chapter II: Managing Solid Waste — RCRA Subtitle D	II-1
Chapter III: Managing Hazardous Waste — RCRA Subtitle C	III-1
Hazardous Waste Identification	III-3
Hazardous Waste Recycling and Universal Wastes	III-31
Regulations Governing Hazardous Waste Generators	III-41
Regulations Governing Hazardous Waste Transporters	III-51
Regulations Governing Treatment, Storage, and Disposal Facilities	III-55
Land Disposal Restrictions	III-91
Hazardous Waste Combustion	III-101
Permitting of Treatment, Storage, and Disposal Facilities	III-111
Corrective Action to Clean Up Hazardous Waste Contamination	III-123
Enforcement of Hazardous Waste Regulations	III-129
Authorizing States to Implement RCRA	III-139
Chapter IV: Moving Forward: Materials Management and Resource Conservation	IV-1
Chapter V: Miscellaneous Statutory Provisions	V-1
Federal Procurement Requirements	V-3
Medical Waste Regulations	V-9
Chapter VI: Other Environmental Statutes	VI-1
Legislative Framework for Addressing Hazardous Waste Problems	VI-3
CERCLA — The Hazardous Waste Cleanup Program	VI-9
Chapter VII: Public Participation	VII-1
Appendix A: Hazardous Waste Manifest	A-1
Appendix B: Land Disposal Restrictions Notification Requirements	B-1
Appendix C: Glossary	C-1
Appendix D: Acronyms and Abbreviations	D-1
Appendix E: OSW Organization Chart	E-1
Appendix F: Environmental Contacts	F-1

FOREWORD

This manual supersedes the *2006 RCRA Orientation Manual*. The *Manual* has proven to be a popular and valuable resource for anyone working with EPA's solid and hazardous waste management program. Since the manual's initial publication in 1990, the RCRA program has evolved dramatically. As a result of changes in the dynamics of solid and hazardous waste management, as well as changes in the regulatory expectations and demands of government, public, and private entities, the RCRA program has been modified through new regulations, policies, Agency-wide initiatives, and Congressional mandates. The *Manual's* revision reflects the progress that has been made in the program and documents its changes.

At this time, the RCRA Subtitle C hazardous waste regulatory framework is completely in place, and almost all states are implementing large portions of the program. EPA has achieved significant progress in establishing provisions to fully protect both ground water and air resources. Under Subtitle D, the establishment of municipal solid waste landfill criteria ensures adequate protection of human health and the environment from solid waste disposal practices. In addition, the Agency has significantly expanded initiatives to reduce the amount of waste generated and to make waste management more efficient.

Information about RCRA's past, present, and future are contained in two other documents. For a look ahead, *Beyond RCRA: Waste and Materials Management in the Year 2020* identifies trends that affect the future of waste management and resource conservation and also suggests general strategies for building the future RCRA program. For a look back at past successes, the report *25 Years of RCRA: Building on Our Past to Protect Our Future* commemorates RCRA's 25th Anniversary in October 2001 and highlights the accomplishments of RCRA's protective framework to date. In addition, *RCRA: Reducing Risk from Waste* provides an overview of RCRA including: the history of RCRA, the role of EPA and the states, the regulated community, and municipal and industrial waste issues.

