



Facilities are Encouraged to Schedule Voluntary Medical Waste Compliance Inspections

Contact: Andrew Shannon, Medical Waste Regulatory Program, at 517-335-1146

To ensure compliance with the Medical Waste Regulatory Act (MWRA), Part 138 of the Public Health Code, 1978 PA 368, as amended, the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality's, Medical Waste Regulatory Program (MWRP) conducts inspections of facilities that generate, store, or decontaminate regulated medical waste. The MWRP strongly encourages regulated facilities to request an inspection in order to evaluate and ensure compliance with the requirements of the MWRA. These voluntary inspections are intended to be advisory and consultative, with enforcement actions taken only if absolutely warranted. Requests for inspection can be made by contacting Andrew Shannon at 517-335-1146 or John Gohlke at 517-241-1320, or by e-mail at medicalwaste@michigan.gov. A typical inspection includes the following:

1. Review of records, including registration records, medical waste management plan, medical waste shipping paper receipts and/or documentation of proper medical waste disposal, and employee training records that document training regarding the safe and proper handling of regulated medical waste.
2. A verbal discussion and review of waste-handling procedures including generation, containment, packaging, storage and disposal of medical waste.
3. An inspection of all areas where medical waste is generated. Inspections will track the waste from where it is generated to its treatment and disposal point (cradle to grave).
4. An inspection of general waste areas to ensure medical waste is not being mixed with general waste and improperly discarded.
5. A final exit interview where noncompliant items, if applicable, will be discussed and an appropriate schedule for corrective action established.

Upon completion of the inspection, the facility will receive a summary of the inspection with documentation to support any necessary corrective action.