



DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT, GREAT LAKES, AND ENERGY
MATERIALS MANAGEMENT DIVISION

Medical Waste Producers Pocket Reference

Part 138 of Public Health Code, Public Act 368 of 1978

This Pocket Reference is a quick reference tool for owners and operators of medical waste producing facilities.

This Pocket Reference is to be used as a tool to evaluate compliance with the primary requirements of Part 138 of Act 368.

This Pocket Reference in no way replaces the need for owners and operators of medical waste producing facilities to understand the law.

For more detail on:

- the law,
- the registration process, or
- medical waste handling, go to

www.michigan.gov/eglemedwaste

MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
Medical Waste Regulatory Program

**For Questions or to Report Concerns About
Medical Waste Handling Contact:**

800-662-9278

DEQ Internet: www.michigan.gov/deqmedwaste
E-mail: medicalwaste@michigan.gov

QUICK COMPLIANCE REFERENCE

I. REGULATED MEDICAL WASTE (MW) INCLUDES:

- Cultures and stocks of infectious agents.
- Human and animal blood and body fluids.
- Sharps.
- Pathological waste (organs, tissues, etc.).
- Contaminated animal waste infectious to humans.

II. CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION

Required for facilities that produce any volume of medical waste, and expires every 3 years; renewal applications are sent to facilities automatically. Registration fees vary between \$50 to \$150 per renewal depending upon the facility type. Initial applications are also available on the MW Web site for new applicants.

III. MEDICAL WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN

Required of all medical waste producing facilities. Must list and describe the type(s) of medical waste produced and method(s) of packaging, storage, treatment, and disposal used for each medical waste type. The facility must have on file on the premises and make available to the DEQ during inspections. A sample plan is on the MW Web site.

IV. EMPLOYEE SAFETY & RECORD OF TRAINING

Proper personal protective equipment and universal precautions should be practiced at all times to prevent risk of infection and exposure to employees. A record of training for all employees handling medical waste at the facility must be documented in accordance with the facility Medical Waste Management Plan and made available upon inspection for a minimum of 3 years.

V. PACKAGING & STORAGE

Appropriate bags, containers, and packaging should be in use at all times for proper medical waste segregation and safety. See Part 138 of Act 368 for the packing and storage requirements and a list of disposal vendors online at www.michigan.gov/deqmedwaste. Medical waste may be stored at a producing facility no longer than 90 days (including sharps). The storage period begins on the date when the container use is initiated.

VI. SHIPMENT RECORDS

Documentation that verifies regulated medical waste is removed from the facility and properly treated and disposed every 90 days is required to be made available upon inspection for a minimum of 3 years.

**To report an environmental emergency involving
WATER, LAND, AIR, WETLANDS, DAMS, or
IMPROPER DISPOSAL
call our 24-hour Pollution Emergency Alerting System
(PEAS)**

1-800-292-4706

**FOR POLLUTION EMERGENCIES
CALL THE POLLUTION EMERGENCY ALERTING SYSTEM**