

**Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE)
Notice to Medical Waste Collection, Storage, Transfer, and Treatment Facilities
Regarding Operation During COVID-19 Michigan State of Emergency**

You are receiving this notice because our records indicate your site collects, stores, handles, or treats medical waste from various medical waste producing facilities in Michigan.

The Materials Management Division (MMD) of EGLE is aware that sites may be experiencing an impact from a reduced workforce necessary to maintain normal operations. We are encouraging sites that manage medical waste and other waste to proactively plan for the possibility that normal waste management practices may be interrupted.

All regulated sites are encouraged to take actions necessary to ensure compliance with environmental regulations and requirements to protect public health, safety, and the environment. Collection, storage, treatment, and handling sites need to plan and be prepared for management of medical waste during the State of Emergency to minimize the risks associated with extended storage times, excess volumes of medical waste, and proper containment of the medical waste to prevent contamination risks to employees and the public.

However, in the instance that noncompliance is unavoidable due directly to impacts from COVID-19, please contact the staff listed below to talk with the MMD about requests for potential regulatory relief. You will be asked to provide an email with specific information related to request(s) including:

- Facility name, address, and contact information and medical waste registration number (if known).
- A concise statement supporting request for regulatory relief.
- Anticipated duration of need of regulatory relief.
- A description of the regulatory relief that is being requested (i.e., collection/storage practices, treatment modifications, increased storage time, etc.).
- The site must maintain records adequate to document activities related to the regulatory relief, including details of the sites best efforts to comply with the existing requirements.
- Additional information, such as photo documentation may be requested.

Note that during the State of Emergency, EGLE or Local Health Department staff will not perform an on-site inspection of your facility unless warranted by a complaint or incident reported by employees or the public that poses a risk of contracting a disease due to improper management of medical waste.

If you have any questions or need to request regulatory relief, please contact Mr. Andrew Shannon, Program Coordinator, Medical Waste Regulatory Program, at 517-230-9800 or ShannonA1@Michigan.gov; or Ms. Rhonda Oyer, Manager, Solid Waste Section, MMD, at 517-897-1395 or OyerR@Michigan.gov.