

Solid Waste Disposal Frequently Asked Questions

Q: May I, as a homeowner, dispose of my own waste on my own property?

Yes. Under DEQ rules, **household waste** is any solid waste, including garbage, trash, and sanitary waste from septic tanks, derived from household waste. State law allows a person to dispose of his own household waste on his own property IF:

- a.** The disposal does not create a nuisance or a hazard to public health or the environment, and
- b.** The disposal does not violate a local government ordinance.

Q: What is the proper disposal method for such things as dirt and rock?

Uncontaminated dirt, rock, concrete, bricks, and solidified asphalt may be disposed of at locations that do not have a permit issued by DEQ IF the material is composed of ONLY uncontaminated dirt, rock, concrete, bricks, or solidified asphalt, the landowner consents to the disposal, and the disposal does not violate any other state or local laws or regulations.

Q: What is the current state disposal fee and how is that fee apportioned?

The state disposal fee is currently set at \$1.25 per ton of waste received at the landfill. This is a charge over and above the tipping fee charged by the landfill for use of the site. The landfill will be able to keep 12.5 cents per ton of waste received for administrative costs. This fee is the only source of funding for all of DEQ's activities in solid waste management and recycling.

Q: If an individual delivers his own waste to the landfill, does he still have to pay the \$1.25 state disposal fee?

Yes, but the actual state disposal fee required to be collected by the landfill, in addition to any landfill tipping fee, would be dependent on the size of the load. If the load weighs less than one ton, then the state disposal fee collected would be proportionately less than \$1.25.

Q: I take my waste to a transfer station, and they still charge a state disposal fee. I thought the fee only applied for waste delivered to a landfill.

Landfills are required to collect and remit the state waste disposal fee from all customers who use the landfill. When a transfer station delivers its waste to a landfill, the state disposal fee is charged to the transfer station. The transfer station is probably collecting the state disposal fee it will have to pay when the waste is finally delivered to the landfill.

