

## APPENDIX G

# **Solid Waste Management Glossary**

# SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT BOARD

## GLOSSARY

**Aeration** - The process of exposing to air, bulk material, such as compost. Forced aeration refers to the use of blowers in compost piles.

**Aerobic** - A biochemical process or condition occurring in the presence of oxygen.

**Air Classification** - A process in which a stream of air is used to separate mixed material according to the size, density, and aerodynamic drag of the pieces.

**Algal Bloom** - Population explosion of algae (simple one-celled or many-celled, usually aquatic, plants) in surface waters. Algal blooms are associated with nutrient-rich run-off from composting facilities or landfills.

**Anaerobic** - A biochemical process or condition occurring in the absence of oxygen.

**Ash** - Non-combustible residue resulting from a thermal process, classified as fly ash (light and exits combustion chamber through water vapor stream) or bottom ash (heavy and falls to bottom of combustion chamber).

**Baler** - A machine used to compress recyclables into bundles to reduce volume. Balers are often used on newspaper, plastics, and corrugated cardboard.

**Biodegradable Material** - Waste material which is capable of being broken down by microorganisms into simple, stable compounds such as carbon dioxide and water. Most organic wastes, such as food wastes and paper, are biodegradable.

**Bottle Bill** - A law requiring deposits on beverage containers (see Container Deposit Legislation).

**Broker** - An individual or group of individuals that act as an agent or intermediary between the sellers and buyers of recyclable materials.

**Buffer Zone** - Neutral area which acts as a protective barrier separating two conflicting forces. An area which acts to minimize the impact of pollutants on the environment or public welfare. For example, a buffer zone is established between a composting facility and neighboring residents to minimize odor problems.

**Bulking Agent** - A material used to add volume to another material to make it more porous to air flow. For example, water treatment sludge may act as a bulking agent when mixed with municipal solid waste.

**Bulky Waste** - Large items of refuse including, but not limited to, appliances, furniture, and auto parts, which cannot be handled by normal solid waste processing, collection and disposal methods.

**Buy-Back Center** - A facility where individuals bring recyclables in exchange for payment.

**Centralized Yardwaste Composting** - System utilizing a central facility within a politically defined area with the purpose of composting yardwastes.

**Class A Solid Waste Facility** - A commercial solid waste facility which handles an aggregate of between ten thousand (10,000) and thirty thousand (30,000) tons of solid waste per month. Class A facility includes two or more Class B solid waste landfills owned or operated by the same person in the same county, if the aggregate tons of solid waste handled per month by such landfills exceeds nine thousand nine hundred ninety-nine (9,999) tons of solid waste per month.

**Class B Solid Waste Facility** - A commercial solid waste facility which receives, or is expected to receive, an average daily quantity of mixed solid waste equal to or exceeding one hundred (100) tons each working day, or serves, or is expected to serve a population equal to or exceeding forty thousand (40,000) persons, but which does not receive or is expected to receive solid waste exceeding an aggregate of ten thousand (10,000) tons per month. Class B solid waste disposal facilities do not include construction/ demolition facilities: Provided, That the definition of Class B facility may include such reasonable subdivisions or subclassifications as the director may establish by legislative rule proposed in accordance with the provisions of W.Va. Code § 29A-1-1 et seq.

**Class C Solid Waste Facility** - A commercial solid waste facility which receives, or is expected to receive, an average daily quantity of mixed solid waste of less than one hundred (100) tons each working day, and serves, or is expected to serve a population of less than forty thousand (40,000) persons. Class C solid waste disposal facilities do not include construction/ demolition facilities.

**Class D Solid Waste Facility** - Any commercial solid waste facility for the disposal of only construction/demolition waste and does not include the legitimate beneficial reuse of clean waste concrete/masonry substances for the purpose of structural fill or road base material.

**Clean Air Act** - Act passed by Congress to have the air "safe enough to protect the public's health" by May 31, 1975. Required the setting of National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for major primary air pollutants.

**Clean Water Act** - Act passed by Congress to protect the nation's water resources. Requires EPA to establish a system of national effluent standards for major water pollutants, requires all municipalities to use secondary sewage treatment by 1988, sets interim goals of making all U.S. waters safe for fishing and swimming, allows point source discharges of pollutants into waterways only with a permit from EPA, requires all industries to use the best practicable technol-

ogy (BPT) for control of conventional and non-conventional pollutants and to use the best available technology (BAT) that is reasonable or affordable.

**Co-composting** - Simultaneous composting of two or more diverse wastestreams.

**Commercial Waste** - Waste materials originating in wholesale, retail, institutional, or service establishments such as office buildings, stores, markets, theaters, hotels and warehouses.

**Commingled Recyclables** - A mixture of several recyclable materials into one container.

**Compactor** - Power-driven device used to compress materials to a smaller volume.

**Compost** - The relatively stable decomposed organic material resulting from the composting process. Also referred to as humus.

**Composting** - The controlled biological decomposition of organic solid waste under aerobic conditions.

**Construction/Demolition Waste** -Waste building materials, packaging, and grubbing waste resulting from construction, remodeling, repair, and demolition operations on houses, commercial and industrial buildings, and other structures and pavements, including, but not limited to: wood, plaster, metals, asphaltic substances, bricks, blocks and concrete, other masonry materials, trees, brush, stumps, and other vegetative materials, but shall not include asbestos waste.

**Container Deposit Legislation** - Laws that require monetary deposits to be levied on beverage containers. The money is returned to the consumer when the containers are returned to the retailer. Also called "Bottle Bills."

**Corrugated Paper** - Paper or cardboard manufactured in a series of wrinkles or folds, or into alternating ridges and grooves.

**Cullet** - Clean, generally color-sorted, crushed glass used to make new glass products.

**Curbside Collection** - Programs where recyclable materials are collected at the curb, often from special containers, to be brought to various processing facilities.

**Decomposition** - Breaking down into component parts or basic elements.

**Detinning** - Recovering tin from “tin” cans by a chemical process which makes the remaining steel more easily recycled.

**Dioxins** - Heterocyclic hydrocarbons that occur as toxic impurities, especially in herbicides or when trash is burned.

**Diversion Rate** - A measure of the amount of waste material being diverted for recycling compared with the total amount that was previously thrown away.

**Drop-off Center** - A method of collecting recyclable or compostable materials in which the materials are taken by individuals to collection sites and deposited into designated containers.

**eCycling (electronics recycling)** - The reuse or recycling of end-of-life electronic materials.

**Enterprise Fund** - A fund for a specific purpose that is self-supporting from the revenue it generates.

**Farm Dump** - Refers to the placement of farm waste such as old equipment, household garbage, fence posts and wire, etc. on the farmer’s property in an open pile.

**Ferrous Metals** - Metals that are derived from iron. They can be removed using large magnets at separation facilities.

**Flow Control** - A legal or economic means by which waste is directed to particular destinations. For example, an ordinance requiring that certain wastes be sent to a landfill is waste flow control.

**Garbage** - Spoiled or waste food that is thrown away, generally defined as wet food waste. It is used as a general term for products discarded.

**Gob** - That portion of coal which is difficult to utilize in a conventional combustion chamber; however, today 30% of this previously unusable gob generates power because of available technology.

**Ground Water** - Water beneath the earth’s surface that fills underground pockets (known as aquifers) and moves between soil particles and rock, supplying wells and springs.

**Hammermill** - A type of crusher or shredder used to break up waste materials into smaller pieces.

**Hazardous Waste** - Waste material that may pose a threat to human health or the environment, the disposal and handling of which is regulated by federal law.

**Heavy Metals** - Hazardous elements including cadmium, mercury and lead which may be found in the wastestream as part of discarded items such as batteries, lighting fixtures, colorants and inks.

**High Grade Paper** - Relatively valuable types of paper such as computer printout, white ledger and tab cards. Also used to refer to industrial trimmings at paper mills that are recycled.

**Household Hazardous Waste** - That waste resulting from products purchased for household use which, because of their characteristics, may pose potential hazards to human health or the environment when improperly treated, disposed or otherwise managed.

**Humus** - Organic materials resulting from decay of plant or animal matter. Also referred to as compost.

**Incinerator** - An enclosed device using controlled flame combustion to thermally break down solid waste, including refuse-derived fuel, to an ash residue that contains little or no combustible materials.

**Incinerator Ash** - The remnants of solid waste after combustion, including non-combustibles (e.g., metals and soot).

**Industrial Waste** - Materials discarded from industrial operations or derived from manufacturing processes.

**Inorganic Waste** - Waste composed of matter other than plant or animal (i.e. contains no carbon).

**In Shed** - Waste generated from sources within the watershed in which the solid waste disposal facility is located.

**Institutional Waste** - Waste materials originating in schools, hospitals, prisons, research institutions and other public buildings.

**Integrated Solid Waste Management** - A practice of using several alternative waste management techniques to manage and dispose of specific components of the municipal solid wastestream. Waste management alternatives include source reduction, recycling, composting, energy recovery and landfilling.

**In-Vessel Composting** - A composting method in which the compost is continuously and mechanically mixed and aerated in a large, contained area.

**IPC - Intermediate Processing Center** - Usually refers to the type of materials recovery facility (MRF) that processes residentially collected mixed recyclables into new products available for market; often used interchangeably with MRF.

**Landfill** - Any solid waste facility for the disposal of solid waste on or in the land for the purpose of permanent disposal. Such facility is situated, for the purpose of this rule in the county where the majority of the spatial area of such facility is located.

**Leachate** - Liquid that has percolated through solid waste or another medium and has extracted, dissolved or suspended materials from it, which may include potentially harmful materials. Leachate collection and treatment is of primary concern at municipal waste landfills.

**Magnetic Separation** - A system to remove ferrous metals from other materials in a mixed

municipal wastestream. Magnets are used to attract the ferrous metals.

**Mandatory Recycling** - Programs which by law require consumers to separate trash so that some or all recyclable materials are not burned or dumped in landfills.

**Manual Separation** - The separation of recyclable or compostable materials from waste by hand sorting.

**Materials Recovery Facility (MRF)** - Any solid waste facility at which source-separated materials or materials recovered through a mixed waste processing facility are manually or mechanically shredded or separated for purposes of reuse and recycling. Does not include a composting facility.

**Mechanical Separation** - The separation of waste into various components using mechanical means, such as cyclones, trommels, and screens.

**Methane** - An odorless, colorless, flammable and explosive gas produced by municipal solid waste undergoing anaerobic decomposition. Methane is emitted from municipal solid waste landfills.

**Microorganisms** - Microscopically small living organisms that digest decomposable materials through metabolic activity. Microorganisms are active in the composting process.

**Monofill** - A sanitary landfill solely for one type of waste.

**MSW Composting** - Municipal Solid Waste Composting - The controlled degradation of municipal solid waste including after some form of preprocessing to remove non-compostable inorganic materials.

**Mulch** - Ground or mixed yardwastes placed around plants to prevent evaporation of moisture and freezing of roots and to nourish the soil.

**Municipal Solid Waste (MSW)** - Includes non-hazardous waste generated in households, commercial and business establishments,

institutions and light industrial process wastes, agricultural wastes, mining waste and sewage sludge. In practice, specific definitions vary across jurisdictions.

**NIMBY** - Acronym for “Not In My Back Yard” - Expression of resident opposition to the siting of a solid waste facility based on the particular location that is proposed.

**Organic Waste** - Waste material containing carbon. The organic fraction of municipal solid waste includes paper, wood, food wastes, plastics and yardwastes.

**Out of Shed** - Waste generated from sources outside the watershed in which the solid waste disposal facility is located.

**Participation Rate** - A measure of the number of people participating in recycling program compared to the total number that could be participating.

**Pathogen** - An organism capable of causing disease.

**Percolate** - To ooze or trickle through a permeable substance. Ground water may percolate into the bottom of an unlined landfill.

**Pollution Control Residuals** - End products of the thermal process which includes hot combustion gases composed primarily of nitrogen, carbon dioxide, water vapor (flue gas) and non-combustible residue (ash).

**Post-Consumer Recycling** - The reuse of materials generated from residential and commercial waste, excluding recycling of material from industrial processes that have not reached the consumer, such as glass broken in the manufacturing process.

**Putrescible** - Organic matter partially decomposed by microorganisms and producing a foul smell.

**Rehabilitation Environmental Action Plan (REAP)** - Program created under the Department of Environmental Protection which combined the pre-existing cleanup programs from

the Division of Natural Resources and the PPOD program from DEP.

**Recyclables** - Materials that still have useful physical or chemical properties after serving their original purpose and that can, therefore, be reused or remanufactured into additional products.

**Recycle or Recycling** - The process by which recovered products are transformed into new products, and includes the collection, separation, recovery and sale or reuse of metals, glass, paper, tires, lead-acid batteries and other materials.

**Residential Waste** - Waste materials generated in single and multiple-family homes.

**Residue** - Materials remaining after processing, incineration, composting or recycling have been completed. Residues are usually disposed of in landfills.

**Resource Recovery** - A term describing the extraction and utilization of materials and energy from the wastestream. The term is sometimes used synonymously with energy recovery.

**Retention Basin** - An area designed to retain run-off and prevent erosion and pollution.

**Reuse** - The use of a product more than once in its same form for the same purpose; e.g., a soft drink bottle is reused when it is returned to the bottling company for refilling.

**Roll-off Container** - A large waste container that fits onto a tractor trailer that can be dropped off and picked up hydraulically.

**Secondary Material** - A material that is used in place of a primary or raw material in manufacturing a product.

**Sludge** - Any solid, semi-solid, residue, or precipitate separated from or created by a municipal, commercial, or industrial waste treatment plant, water supply treatment plant, or air pollution control facility; or any other such waste having similar origin.

**Soil Liner** - Landfill liner composed of compacted soil used for the containment of leachate.

**Source Reduction** - The design, manufacture, acquisition and reuse of materials so as to minimize the quantity and/or toxicity of waste produced. Source reduction prevents waste either by redesigning products or by otherwise changing societal patterns of consumption, use and waste generation.

**Source Separation** - The segregation of specific materials at the point of generation for separate collection. Residents source separate recyclables as part of a curbside recycling program.

**Special Waste** - Refers to items that require special or separate handling, such as household hazardous wastes, bulky wastes, tires and used oil.

**Subtitle C** - The hazardous waste section of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA).

**Subtitle D** - The solid, non-hazardous waste section of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA).

**Superfund** - Common name for the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) to clean up abandoned or inactive hazardous waste dump sites.

**Tipping Fee** - A fee, usually dollars per ton, for the unloading or dumping of waste at a landfill, transfer station, recycling center or waste-to-energy facility; also called a disposal or service fee.

**Tipping Floor** - Unloading area for vehicles that are delivering municipal solid waste to a transfer station or municipal waste combustion facility.

**Tire Derived Fuel (TDF)** - A tire that is shredded and processed into a rubber chip ranging in size from 1 to 4 inches. Depending on the requirements of the users, TDF may also be processed to remove bead and radial wires. TDF has an

energy content ranging from 14,000 to 15,500 BTU per pound.

**Transfer Station** - A combination of structures, machinery, or devices at a place, or facility where solid waste is taken from collection vehicles and placed in other transportation units (such as a "walking floor," or other method of transfer for movement to another solid waste management facility. Provided, when the initial generator of solid waste disposes of said waste into a container such as a roll-off, greenbox or bin which is temporarily positioned (not more than five days) at a specific location for transport by a transportation unit, such container is not considered a transfer station. Under any circumstances, leachate, litter and windblown materials must be properly managed.

**Trash** - Material considered worthless, unnecessary or offensive that is usually thrown away. Generally defined as dry waste material it is a synonym for garbage, rubbish, or refuse.

**Tub Grinder** - Machine to grind or chip wood wastes for mulching, composting or size reduction.

**Variable Container Rate** - A charge for solid waste services based on the volume of waste generated measured by the number of containers set out for collection.

**Volume Reduction** - The processing of waste materials so as to decrease the amount of space the materials occupy, usually by compacting or shredding (mechanical), incineration (thermal), or composting (biological).

**Waste Exchange** - A computer catalog network that redirects waste materials back into the manufacturing or reuse process by matching companies generating specific wastes with companies that use those wastes as manufacturing inputs.

**Waste Reduction** - Reducing the amount or type of waste generated. Sometimes used synonymously with Source Reduction.

**Wasteshed** - Geographically organized areas for the purpose of managing solid waste.

**Wastestream** - A term describing the total flow of solid waste from homes, businesses, institutions and manufacturing plants that must be recycled, burned or disposed of in landfills; or any segment thereof, such as the “residential wastestream” or the “recyclable wastestream.”

**Wetland** - Those naturally occurring areas, as defined under 40CFR232.2(r), that are inundated or saturated by surface water or groundwater at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions. “Wetlands” generally include swamps, marshes, bogs, and similar areas.

**White Goods** - Large household appliances such as refrigerators, stoves, air conditioners and washing machines.

**Windrow** - A large, elongated pile of composting material.

**Yardwaste** - Leaves, grass clippings, prunings and other natural organic matter discarded from yards and gardens. Yardwastes may also include stumps and brush, but these materials are not normally handled at composting facilities.