

Department of Environment and Local Government

Disposal of Lead Paint & Lead Painted Materials Guideline

The following guideline is intended to provide direction for the disposal of dried lead paint and lead painted objects in New Brunswick.

Background

There are 6 regional solid waste landfills in New Brunswick. These landfills must operate according to the terms and conditions of an Approval to Operate issued by the Department of Environment and Local Government. The landfills are responsible for the disposal of all solid waste generated in the Province, unless a landfill's Approval to Operate prohibits the waste from being disposed of at the landfill.

New Brunswick also has permitted construction and demolition debris disposal sites (C&D Sites) that hold a valid Approval to Operate issued by the Department of Environment and Local Government to accept for disposal inert debris associated with the construction, renovation or demolition of a building or structure.

The Department of Environment and Local Government recognizes the potential negative impact that lead can have on the environment and human health. Consequently, the department wishes to minimize potential pathways that may reintroduce lead back into the environment. Therefore, the Department of Environment and Local Government has established disposal guidelines to help ensure that lead painted items are disposed of appropriately.

Testing Criteria

In order to dispose of an object that is known (or suspected) to contain lead paint, a leachate extraction test must be completed on a representative sample (or samples) of the paint to determine its leachable lead concentration.

The leachate extraction test must be done using the Toxicity Characteristic Leaching Procedure, Method 1311 that appears in the United States Environmental Protection Agency Publication SW-846 entitled "Test Method for Evaluating Solid Waste, Physical/Chemical Methods", as amended from time to time, or an equivalent test method approved by the department.

For consideration of an object containing lead paint to be disposed of at C&D Site, the concentration of lead in the paint must also be determined.

Disposal Options

If the results of a leachate extraction test are above 5 milligrams per litre (mg/L) for lead then the object in question is considered leachable toxic and therefore must be disposed through the services of an approved hazardous waste disposal company. Disposal at a C&D Site, Municipal Transfer Station or a Regional Solid Waste Landfill is not permitted.

If it has been determined that the object containing lead paint is not leachable toxic, then it may be disposed of at a Regional Sanitary Landfill or taken to a Municipal Transfer Station if appropriate.

If it has been determined that the lead paint contains a total lead concentration of less than 1000 milligrams per kilogram (mg/kg or ppm) then the object may also be disposed of at a C&D Site approved by the Department of Environment and Local Government. However this only applies to objects containing lead paint that is tightly bound to the object it is covering (i.e. not flaking, chipping or peeling). Regardless of test results, no lead painted objects that are flaking, chipping or peeling may be disposed of at a C&D Site.

Recycling

The Department encourages recycling of materials whenever practically possible. Lead-painted steel (for example) may be taken to a licensed salvage yard.

Contact

For more information, a list of approved C&D Sites, municipal solid waste transfer stations, municipal solid waste landfills, or approved hazardous waste disposal companies in your area or to inquire whether this is the most recent version of the guideline, please contact the Department of Environment and Local Government – Impact Management Branch at (506) 453-7945.