

**Forest Service Manual
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Forest Service Manual 7400 – Public Health and Pollution Control Facilities

Chapter 7460 - Solid Waste Systems

Amendment: 7400-2000-1

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Duration: This amendment is effective until superseded or removed.

Approved by: Mike Dombeck, Chief

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Responsible Staff:

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Digest: Following is an explanation of the changes throughout the directive by section.

Posting Instructions: This is a technical amendment that converts the format and style of this FSM title from Applixware to the current corporate word processing application. Since this amendment replaces all text except Interim Directives (ID's), do not check for the last transmittal received for this title; instead place this transmittal sheet at the front of the title. DO NOT remove ID's when posting this amendment. ID's are not being reformatted at this time.

Please read the new posting instructions (above) carefully.

7400: The entire amendment text has been reformatted and replaced, so that the amendment text on the Service-wide Directives Home Page in the Forest Service Web/Intranet (<http://fsweb.wo.fs.fed.us/directives/index.html>) corresponds with the amendment text on the Forest Service Directives Home Page in the Forest Service World Wide Web/Internet (<http://www.fs.fed.us/im/directives>).

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Although some minor typographical and technical errors have been corrected, substantive direction has not been changed.

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See FSM 2130 for authorities, objectives, policies, and responsibilities for management of the environmental effects of solid waste.

7460.2 - Objective

See FSM 2130.2.

7460.3 - Policy

See FSM 2130.3.

7460.31 - Guidelines Related to Solid Waste Systems

(FSM 2130.1).

7460.32 - Solid Waste Management Guidelines for Beverage Containers

All facilities and installations owned by, leased to, or under the jurisdiction of the Forest Service, must comply with these guidelines (FSM 2720, 6440, and 2130).

7460.33 - Land Disposal on National Forest Land

(FSM 2130.31).

7460.4 - Responsibility

See FSM 2130.4.

7460.5 - Definitions

Significant terms used in this chapter are defined below.

1. Cover Material. Soil or other suitable material is spread and compacted on the top and side slopes of disposed solid waste in order to: control vectors, gases, erosion, litter, fires, and infiltration of precipitation; to support vegetation; provide trafficability; or to ensure an aesthetic appearance.

2. Disposal. The discharge, deposit, injection, dumping, spilling, leaking, or placing of any solid waste or hazardous waste into or on any land or water so that such solid waste or hazardous waste or any constituent thereof may enter the environment or be emitted into the air or discharged into any waters, including groundwaters.

3. Landfill. A facility for the disposal of solid waste involving the placement of solid waste on or into the land surface, and usually involving compaction and covering of the disposed solid waste, and which is not a landspreading or surface impoundment facility.

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4. Open Burning. The combustion of solid waste without (a) control of combustion air to maintain adequate temperature for efficient combustion, (b) containment of the combustion reaction in an enclosed device to provide sufficient residence time and mixing for complete combustion, and (c) control of the emission of the combustion products.

5. Open Dump. A facility for the disposal of solid waste that does not comply with the "Criteria for Classification of Solid Waste Disposal Facilities" (40 CFR, part 257).

6. Sanitary Landfill. A facility for the disposal of solid waste that complies with the "Criteria for Classification of Solid Waste Disposal Facilities" (40 CFR, part 257).

7. Solid Waste. Includes (a) any garbage, refuse, or sludge from a waste treatment plant, water supply treatment plant, or air pollution control facility; (b) other discarded material, including solid, liquid, semisolid, or contained gaseous material resulting from industrial, commercial, mining, and agricultural operations and from community activities; and (c) construction debris disposed of in landfill facilities.

Solid waste does not include solid or dissolved material in domestic sewage or other significant pollutants in water resources, such as silt, dissolved or suspended solids in industrial wastewater effluents, dissolved materials in irrigation return flows, or other common water pollutants; or pumped vault-toilet waste.

8. Solid Waste Management. The systematic administration of activities that provide for the collection, source separation, storage, transportation, transfer, processing, treatment, and disposal of solid waste.

9. Solid Waste Management Facility. This includes (a) any resource recovery system or component thereof, (b) any system, program, or facility for resource conservation, and (c) any facility for the treatment of solid wastes, including hazardous wastes, whether or not such facility is associated with the facilities generating such wastes.

7461 - Maintenance of Technical Information and Regulation for Solid Waste System Operations

The Regional Forester and/or the Forest Supervisor shall assemble and maintain the Federal, State, and local requirements for the storage, collection, transport, processing, and disposal of solid wastes applicable to the area. They shall incorporate and/or reference these requirements in special-use applications and permits for major developments or sanitary landfills, as well as National Forest projects.

7462 - Requirements and Standards for Solid Waste Systems

7462.1 - Storage Requirements

Storage of solid wastes that contain food wastes from after generation and before collection for ultimate recovery or disposal shall pose no fire, health or safety hazards, nor provide food or

harborage for vectors. In general, covered or closed containers will meet these requirements. Use of 1 cubic yard and larger metal containers must meet the safety and stability criteria established in the "Ban of Unstable Refuse Bins," (16 CFR, part 1301) as set forth by the Consumer Product Safety Commission. In addition, all refuse bins shall be marked with safety marking decals as described in ANSI standard Z245.3, "Safety Requirements for the Stability of Refuse Bins." Bins shall be placed on a hard, level, weather-resistant surface as required by the standard.

7462.2 - Collection Requirement

Collect solid wastes containing food wastes at least once every 7 days. In other words, the total time elapsed between generation of wastes and recovery or disposal is 7 days.

7462.3 - Transport Requirement

Use only enclosed vehicles for collection and transportation of solid waste or make adequate provisions for suitable cover, so that there is no possibility of spillage during transit.

7462.4 - Processing of Solid Wastes

The use of landfilling methods to dispose of solid wastes may not always be appropriate. State law or local ordinances may require source separation or recycling of certain waste materials. Even where not required by law, these methods may provide a feasible and economic way to minimize the volume of wastes for disposal, and should be investigated. The alternative techniques of compaction, shredding, and baling deserve consideration where volume reduction is required.

7462.41 - Beverage Container Guidelines

The Solid Waste Management Guidelines for Beverage Containers (40 CFR, part 244) require that Federal facilities establish a system for the return of beverage containers in order to achieve the environmental benefits of reduced solid waste and litter and to conserve energy and material resources. To motivate the consumer to return empty containers to the retail dealer, the GBC require that the consumer pay a minimum deposit of 5 cents on each beverage container. However, the GBC also recommend that Federal facilities apply higher deposit levels in localities where higher levels are common and lower deposit levels where the local area has an established return system with a minimum deposit level of less than 5 cents. The dealer refunds the deposit when the consumer returns the container.

1. Nonimplementation Plans. The guidelines allow for the filing of nonimplementation reports when there are certain conditions and circumstances that make compliance with the requirements listed above impracticable. The Forest Service decision process for nonimplementation requires documentation in the environmental assessment report format as a minimum (FSM 1950). The unit, facility, or individual requesting nonimplementation shall prepare a nonimplementation plan that includes all necessary and available documentation and data.

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a. The following conditions are considered valid reasons for approval of nonimplementation:

(1) Situations in which, after a trial implementation, there is no cost-effective way to meet the objectives of the GBC (40 CFR, part 244.100(d)).

(2) Situations in which there is no viable way to avoid excessive irrecoverable costs to the facility or agency (40 CFR, part 244.100(d)).

b. Regional Foresters shall determine that nonimplementation is appropriate on a case-by-case basis. The GBC (sec. 244.100(d)) specify the three following conditions necessary for the achievement of the GBC. Consider these conditions when making a determination about implementation.

(1) That consumers continue to purchase beverages from dealers at Federal facilities.

(2) That empty containers be returned and then reused or recycled.

(3) That the costs of implementation are not prohibitive.

2. Test. It may be possible to provide the necessary supporting documentation for nonimplementation without a test or trial implementation; however, it is difficult in most cases to substantiate claims without actual data. If there has been a trial implementation, include in the nonimplementation report a description of the test, the kind of alternatives tried, and the reasons for rejecting the various alternatives.

3. Approval. The Regional Forester shall determine the appropriateness of a nonimplementation report and, if acceptable, shall approve it.

7462.5 - Standards and Criteria for Land Disposal

The solid waste management practices identified and described in the "Guidelines" (40 CFR 241) provide the standards for land disposal on National Forest System lands. In most situations, compliance with the Criteria (40 CFR 257) is possible through application of the recommended practices outlined in the Guidelines. See FSM 2130 for the definitions of Criteria and Guidelines.

7462.51 - Land Disposal of Septic Tank Pumpings

The land disposal of septic tank pumpings is subject to the Criteria (40 CFR 257). Additional precautions for the protection of public health and the environment may be necessary on a case-by-case basis.

7462.52 - Land Disposal of Hazardous Wastes

Land disposal facilities for hazardous wastes must comply with 40 CFR, parts 260 thru 267.

7462.53 - Disposal of Unprocessed Woodwastes

When logging debris and debris from land clearing operations are transported to a landfill site, consider them to be solid wastes subject to the Criteria (40 CFR 257).

7463 - Inspection of Solid Waste Systems

7463.1 - Storage, Collection, Transport, and Processing Facilities

Annually review and inspect all solid waste systems on National Forest lands, including special use permittees, to ensure compliance with the most current Federal, State, and local regulations. Close any portion of a solid waste system found to be detrimental to either environmental quality or the health and safety of the public or operators, or found to be in violation of Federal, State, or local regulations to use until deficiencies have been corrected. Pay particular attention to the frequency of collection, to maintenance, and to the cleanliness of storage facilities.

7463.2 - Land Disposal Facilities

Inspect solid waste disposal facilities on Forest Service managed lands at least once a year for compliance with current Federal, State, and local regulations.

1. For those facilities and operations found not to comply with appropriate regulations, establish a schedule for correction of deficiencies. Direct special consideration and attention towards compliance with approved operational plans, acceptance and disposal of only those wastes designated as approved for specific sites, cover frequency, and compliance with State and local requirements.

2. Inspect each seasonally operated landfill immediately before seasonal shutdown. This inspection is to ensure proper preparation of the disposal sites to carry them through the nonuse season without detrimental effects on environmental quality.

7463.3 - Waste Disposal Facilities Off National Forest Lands

Inspect each disposal site receiving Forest Service generated waste to ascertain that Forest Service waste is not contributing to degradation of public health or environmental quality standards. State or local authorities should conduct inspections of solid waste disposal facilities off National Forest Lands. If the disposal site is not in compliance with Federal, State, and local regulations, seek alternative disposal sites or methods.