

Hazardous Waste Planning Fee – 2011

This information is for businesses and facilities that were assessed the 2011 Hazardous Waste Planning Fee.

Q: What is the Hazardous Waste Planning Fee?

A: Chapter 70.95C Revised Code of Washington (RCW) requires hazardous waste generators and hazardous substance users to prepare pollution prevention plans for the reduction of hazardous wastes and substances. Chapter 70.95E RCW requires facilities to pay an annual fee to support implementation of the planning requirements.

Q: Where does the money go?

A: Ecology uses the funds from the planning fee to provide assistance to facilities preparing pollution prevention plans. We also help facilities find ways to avoid or reduce hazardous waste generation and the use of hazardous substances.

After going through the planning process and implementing their plans, most facilities report increased worker safety, reduced compliance and liability costs, and cost savings from reduced chemical use and waste disposal.

Q: Who pays the fee?

A: Ecology collects the planning fee from facilities that generate more than 2,640 pounds of recurrent hazardous waste annually. For the 2011 fee, Ecology verified a facility's status as a fee payer by reviewing the information submitted on the 2009 Dangerous Waste Annual Report.

There are limited exemptions for planning and fee requirements.

Q: When is the 2011 fee due?

A: Facilities must pay the fee by July 1, 2011.

Payment and Contact Information

Where should I send the payment?

Mail the payment along with the tear-off billing coupon to:
Department of Ecology
Cashiering Unit
PO Box 47611
Lacey, WA 98504-7611

Please use the enclosed return envelope.

What if I need more information?

Call Bert Ponton 360-407-6731 or e-mail her at bpon461@ecy.wa.gov with questions about the planning law, the planning fee or fee calculation.

More information about pollution prevention programs is available on our Web site at www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/hwtr.

Special accommodations:

If you need this document in a format for the visually impaired, call the Hazardous Waste and Toxics Reduction Program at 360-407-6700. Persons with hearing loss, call 711 for Washington Relay Service. Persons with a speech disability, call 877-833-6341.

Q: How do I pay the fee?

A: We have enclosed a return envelope to help make payment easier. Make sure to enclose the tear-off billing coupon with your payment (credit cards cannot be used at this time).

Q: What happens if I pay late?

A: Ecology can charge a one percent interest rate per month on the amount of the fee according to RCW43.17.240.

Q: What happens if I do not pay?

A: Any account turned over for collection will be assessed a surcharge totaling 20 percent of the delinquent amount to recover the cost of collection, in addition to the delinquent amount owed.

Q: How is my fee calculated?

A: Chapter 173-305 Washington Administrative Code (WAC) outlines the formula used to calculate the planning fee. The formula considers the pounds of hazardous waste generated and reported on the 2009 Dangerous Waste Annual Report. For fee calculation purposes, the only type of hazardous waste counted is recurrent manifested waste, less recycling credits. Other waste types that are not counted include:

- Waste recycled on site
- Exempt wastes
- Treatment by generator wastes
- Permit by rule wastes
- Non-recurrent wastes

Fee calculation also considers the pounds of on-site toxic releases to air, land, and water, if any, reported on the 2009 Form R, Toxics Release Inventory Report.

The fee is based on a *rate per pound* calculated in two steps:

Step 1: Total pounds of extremely hazardous waste multiplied by 10;

plus the total pounds of dangerous waste;

plus the total pounds of toxic releases;

equals the total pounds reported by all facilities.

Step 2: Total fees allowed to be collected¹ divided by total pounds from Step 1 equals the current rate of \$0.1465473 (about fourteen cents) per pound.

The formula for an individual facility (or set of interrelated facilities preparing a single plan) using the current rate is:

Pounds of extremely hazardous waste multiplied by 10;

plus pounds of dangerous waste;

plus pounds of toxic releases;

multiplied by the current rate per pound;

equals the calculated fee for each individual facility (or set of interrelated facilities).

Chapter 70.95E RCW placed a maximum fee cap for an individual facility (or set of interrelated facilities). In 2011, the fee cannot exceed \$18,844 for any individual facility or set of interrelated facilities.

Therefore if the calculated fee for a facility (or set of interrelated facilities) exceeds \$18,844, the fee amount due will be \$18,844.

There is also a maximum fee cap for a facility generating at least 2,640 pounds but not more than 4,000 pounds of hazardous waste (toxic releases are not factored into this amount). The maximum fee cap for these facilities is \$60.00.

Toxics releases are also not factored into fee amounts for facilities that are below the 2,640 pound threshold.

Q: Can the fee amount be adjusted if I discover an error?

A: Yes. Call Bert Ponton with Ecology at 360-407-6731, or e-mail her at bpon461@ecy.wa.gov before July 1, 2011. She will review the information used to calculate your fee.

¹ The total for all facilities (statewide) cannot exceed \$1,884,445 in 2011.