

## SOLVENT - CONTAMINATED WIPES EXCLUSION NEW REGULATIONS IN ILLINOIS

Illinois has adopted the new Federal regulations covering the management of solvent-contaminated wipes. This **excludes solvent-contaminated wipes from the definition of solid waste and hazardous waste** under certain conditions. This is a loosening of the EPA regulation for wipes, which includes shop towels, paper towels, rags, and absorbent pads.

### Solvent-contaminated wipes

sent for cleaning and reuse (i.e. to a laundry)	→	<b>not solid waste</b> , and therefore not a hazardous waste
sent for disposal (i.e. to landfill or for waste burning)	→	<b>not hazardous waste</b> , but still an Illinois Special Waste

The wipes that are covered:

- Wipes containing one or more F001 – F005 listed solvents.
- Wipes that exhibit a hazardous characteristic resulting from a solvent listed in 40 CFR 261 (this includes U and P hazardous waste designations along with F001-F005); typically this would only be ignitable or toxic characteristics.
- Wipes that exhibit only the hazardous characteristic of ignitability when containing one or more non-listed solvents.

The wipes cannot contain listed hazardous waste (other than solvents described above) and they cannot exhibit the characteristic of toxicity, corrosivity, or reactivity due to non-listed solvents or contaminants other than solvents. For wipes that are disposed, they cannot be hazardous due to the presence of trichloroethylene.

The generator will **still have management requirements**, including container standards and labeling, documentation, accumulation time limits, and control of free liquids. The wipes must go to an eligible laundry or disposal facility.

Note that Illinois EPA would still consider the non-hazardous wipes as an Illinois Special Waste, with requirements such as manifesting and hauling. The generator may prepare a Non-Special Waste determination to avoid Special Waste status, but your garbage waste hauler and the landfill may not accept this type of waste stream. For example, there may be a risk of spontaneous combustion problems in the garbage and landfill.

If you handle solvent-contaminated wipes and would like us to review if these regulations apply to you, or if you need guidance on the management of these wipes, please give us a call.

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