

What does CESQG stand for?

CESQG is an acronym, from the Environmental Protection Agency, meaning Conditionally Exempt Small Quantity Generator. These are businesses that produce small amounts of hazardous waste that can be disposed of at the Regional Collection Center (RCC), for a fee.

What is a hazardous waste?

A hazardous waste is any solid, liquid, or contained gas that is being disposed of, burned, or recycled, and that is known to be harmful to human health and the environment when not managed properly.

How do you know if your businesses waste is hazardous?

Currently there are more than 500 wastes that are classified as hazardous. Your waste is considered hazardous if it appears on one of four lists published in the Code of Federal Regulations or meets certain characteristic properties.

What are the characteristics of a hazardous waste?

There are four characteristics that help identify hazardous waste.

1. Ignitability – If it catches fire under certain conditions. Examples are paints and certain degreasers and solvents.
2. Corrosivity – If the waste corrodes metals or has a very high or low pH it is hazardous. Examples are rust removers, acid or alkaline cleaning fluids, and battery acid.
3. Reactivity – It is unstable and explodes or produces toxic fumes, gases, and vapors when mixed with water or under other conditions such as heat or pressure.
4. Toxicity – If it is harmful or fatal when ingested or absorbed, or it leaches toxic chemicals into the soil or ground water when disposed of on land, it is toxic. Examples are wastes that contain high concentrations of heavy metals, such as cadmium, lead, or mercury.

How does your business know if they qualify for the CESQG program?

There are three basic requirements to be eligible to participate in the CESQG program.

1. Your business cannot produce more than 220 lbs of hazardous waste per month. This is approximately half of a 50-gallon drum, four 5-gallon buckets, OR 20 one-gallon cans.
2. Your business cannot store over 2,200 lbs of hazardous waste on site at one time.
3. Your business cannot contain more than 2.2 lbs of acutely hazardous waste at any time. This is approximately one quart of hazardous material. Acutely hazardous wastes can be found listed on the attached EPA P-List.

- Approximately 600,000 pounds of material is collected at the RCC each year.

- No tax money is used for Metro Waste Authority programs or services.

Regional Collection Center

1105 Prairie Drive SW
Bondurant, IA 50035
515-967-5512
515-967-1772 fax
www.mwatoday.com

Hours:

Tuesday - Friday
8 a.m. - noon
by appointment

Metro Waste Authority

300 East Locust Ste 100
Des Moines, Iowa 50309
515-244-0021
515-244-9477 fax
www.mwatoday.com

Mission Statement

Metro Waste Authority is the leader in environmental stewardship and cost-effective waste management.

What are the requirements for storing hazardous waste on site?

The storage requirements for CESQG's are outlined in the attached EPA Guide for Small Businesses.

What does your business have to do in order to register for the CESQG program?

A registration packet, which is available at the RCC, must be completed and returned for review. A waste inventory must also be completed and returned.

When can I drop off my waste?

Waste can be dropped off by appointment Tuesday through Friday at the Regional Collection Center.

How do I get my waste to the RCC?

Waste produced by CESQG's can be transported by the business however there are specific DOT requirements that must be followed when transporting hazardous waste. We can provide you with information about transporting the materials yourself, or we can provide information about our pick-up service, which is available for a fee.

What happens if I exceed any of the CESQG limitations?

Businesses that produce hazardous waste over the accepted amount will be re-classified as a SQG or a LQG. Businesses that are SQG or LQG must use a licensed disposal contractor. We can provide assistance in identifying a contractor.

Once I am registered as a CESQG how long does that registration last, and what steps do I have to take to re-register for the program?

Registrations last for a one-year time period. When the registration expires the company must be re-evaluated and re-registered. RCC employees can assist with the registration and re-registration

What is the cost for participating in the CESQG program?

Generally you can expect a 40% reduction in price over a contracted hazardous waste disposal company.