



INTEGRATED
WASTE
MANAGEMENT
BOARD

Scavenging, Salvaging and Storage at Solid Waste Facilities and Operations

FACT SHEET

For the following:

- ✓ **Solid Waste Landfills (Disposal Facilities)**
- ✓ **Construction and Demolition and Inert Debris Transfer/Processing Facilities**
- ✓ **Transfer/Processing Facilities, Transfer Operations**
- ✓ **Inert Debris Engineered Fill Operations**

The California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB) provides this information as a tool for solid waste business and industry employees to use while conducting day-to-day operations. By using this fact sheet, the CIWMB hopes to increase the reader's understanding of the laws related to scavenging and salvaging and to define the difference between the two.



Title 27, California Code of Regulations (CCR), Section (§) 20710. CIWMB- Scavenging, Salvaging, and Storage.

- (a) Scavenging is prohibited at any disposal site.
- (b) Salvaging as approved by the EA (enforcement agency) shall be conducted in a planned and controlled manner and shall not interfere with other aspects of site operations, including the expeditious entry and egress of vehicles at the site.
- (c) Salvaged materials generated on-site or imported shall be placed for storage in a specified, clearly identifiable area segregated



from the working face. Salvaged materials shall be arranged so as to minimize risk of fire, health and safety hazard, vector harborage, or other hazard or nuisance, and be limited to a volume and storage time as approved by the enforcement agency.

14 CCR §17409.3. Scavenging and Salvaging

Each operation or facility shall meet the following requirements:

- (a) Scavenging shall be prohibited;
- (b) Salvaging of materials, such as metal, paper, glass and cardboard is permitted as an integral part of the operation, subject to conditions established by the EA, the local land use authority, or other approving agencies.
- (c) Salvaging activities shall be conducted in a planned and controlled manner and not interfere with other aspects of site operation. Activities shall be conducted so as not to interfere with expeditious entry and exit of vehicles delivering waste to the transfer or processing operation or facility. Salvaging



activities conducted at a transfer/processing operation or facility shall be confined to specified, clearly identified areas of the operation or facility, and controlled to prevent health, safety or nuisance problems;

- (d) storage of materials salvaged from solid wastes shall be ancillary to the activities of the operation or facility unless such storage is planned as an integral part of the operation. Materials salvaged on-site shall be stored away from other activity areas in specified, clearly identifiable areas as noted in the facility plan or transfer/processing report. They shall be arranged to minimize risk of fire, health and safety hazard, vector harborage, or other hazard or nuisance, and limited to a specified volume and/or duration as described in the enforcement agency notification, facility plan, or transfer/processing report.

27 CCR §20710 specifies the standards for scavenging, salvaging, and storage at solid waste landfills and inert debris engineered fill operations. 14 CCR §17409.3 specifies the standards for construction and demolition and inert debris transfer/processing facilities, transfer operations and transfer/processing facilities.

Salvaging means the controlled removal of waste material for utilization (14 CCR §17225.61). Scavenging means the uncontrolled and/or unauthorized removal of solid waste materials (14 CCR §17225.63).



Salvaging is distinguished from scavenging in that salvaging is an allowed activity that is identified and described and is conducted by facility or operation staff. Scavenging is the unauthorized and uncontrolled removal of materials from the waste stream. Any salvaging

activities conducted at your facility or operation should be described in the report of facility information. Salvaging must be approved by the local enforcement agency (LEA) and must be conducted in a planned and controlled manner. It must not interfere with the expeditious entry and exit of vehicles at the site.

The storage of salvaged materials should not interfere with other operations and the height and volume of stored salvage, especially piles of salvaged metals, should not be conducive to possible safety, health, vector, or fire problems.



The facility should maintain records of removal frequency for each type of material being stored. Removal frequencies may vary but should be reasonable and account for the amount and type of material being stored as well as proximity to markets for that material or commodity.

Note: California Penal Code §402(b) (Appendix D) requires that doors be removed or latches disabled from discarded white goods to prevent children from becoming entrapped. White goods are large appliances such as refrigerators, dishwashers, stoves, and washing machines.

27 CCR §20720 specifies non-salvageable items for solid waste landfills and inert debris engineered fill operations. 14 CCR §17408.4 does so for construction and demolition and inert debris transfer/processing facilities, transfer operations, and transfer/processing facilities. Drugs, cosmetics, foods, beverages, hazardous chemicals/wastes, poisons, medical wastes, syringes, needles, pesticides and other similar materials capable of impairing public health shall not be salvaged unless approved by the LEA and the local health agency.

It is recommended that any approval by the LEA to salvage items be placed in the operating record.



For further guidance on this issue, please contact your LEA. If you are not sure who your LEA is, please visit our LEA Directory web page at www.ciwmb.ca.gov/LEACentral/LEADirectory/. You can also contact the

California Integrated Waste Management Board's Waste Compliance and Mitigation Program for additional information at (916) 341-6360.

Related Statutes and Regulations

- 14 CCR §17225.61, 17408.4
- 27 CCR §20720
- California Penal Code §402(b) (Appendix B)



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