



Aerosol Cans

Hazardous Waste Determination

Hazardous waste determinations of all wastes are the responsibility of the generator.

Aerosol containers are considered to be "empty," and thus exempt from the New Hampshire Hazardous Waste Rules (Env-Hw 100-1100), under the following conditions:

- When the pressure inside the aerosol container approaches atmospheric pressure (i.e., when the propellant gas is unable to spray any more material from the aerosol can).
- When all waste (i.e., paint) has been removed by using the product for its intended use.

Often waste generators must dispose of aerosol containers that do not satisfy the "empty" container requirements of the New Hampshire Hazardous Waste Rules. Such containers may contain residual propellants that render the containers "reactive" hazardous wastes (Env-Hw 403.05).

The cans may also contain residual waste contents which may be a "characteristic" hazardous waste (Env-Hw 403), and/or a "listed" hazardous waste (Env-Hw 402). Once generated, waste aerosol containers that contain hazardous waste and/or residual propellants, should be disposed of in accordance with the New Hampshire Hazardous Waste Rules. For a link to this section of the rules go to: [Env-Hw 400 Identification & Listing of Hazardous Wastes](#).

For questions on hazardous waste determinations, contact the Hazardous Waste Compliance Bureau at (603) 271-2942 or [email](#).

Updated: 2020