

Chemicals, containers, liquid and solid non-organic wastes including fuel and oil shall be disposed of in an environmentally appropriate manner at authorised off-site locations, in accordance with waste disposal regulations and EPA guidelines¹.

The forest owner/manager shall ensure that a record is kept of the disposal of chemicals, containers, liquid and solid non- organic waste products including fuel and oil waste, that shall include the following:

- the name/ type of the materials
- how they are safely stored
- the quantity/volume of materials
- how they are safely transported to legal disposal sites
- the name and location of the legal disposal sites
- the date of delivery to such sites

This record shall include disposal of waste from the Management Unit (MU) by contractors or other third parties.

[The forest owner/manager is responsible for ensuring that contractors are aware of their responsibilities to keep records of all disposal of operational and chemical wastes. Where the forest owner employs their own workers, the responsibility is on the forest owner to maintain this record].

Waste management / disposal records or disposal dockets shall be kept for verification.

For all operational activity the following procedure shall be adopted:

- Prepare written contracts which clearly define the contractors responsibilities in respect of waste management. No operational waste should be left on site
- Ensure a pre-commencement meeting is held and checklist is completed – the checklist includes a check for availability of pollution control kits which should be held in each machine and at fuel storage locations
- Check suitability of pollution control kits including availability of any solutions for repairs to fuel tanks / bowsers, and disposal sack for collecting used materials
- Check condition of machinery and equipment brought to site for the contract. Evidence of fuel or oil leaks shall be rectified before work commences
- Ensure the Emergency Plan template is completed and copy held by all machine operators
- Environmental Protection training for contractors is advised.

In the event of chemical, fuel or oil spillage these guidelines should be followed:

- Switch off and make safe all machinery
- Suspend all operational activity
- Deploy pollution control equipment at the earliest opportunity
- Call for assistance / notify the site manager
- Site manager shall take responsibility for notifying the relevant authorities if necessary
- Contaminated materials, including spill kits and affected soil, shall be collected, clearly labelled and conveyed to an authorised waste disposal facility
- Pollution control materials shall be replaced before resuming work
- Effect repairs to machines or equipment to manufacturers standards to minimise the risk of recurrence

A record shall be kept by the forest owner/manager or contractor of all spillages of chemicals, fuel and oil, the actions taken listed, and the outcomes evaluated. The evaluation shall result in the inclusion in the above Policy and Procedure of any recommendations for the revision of the procedure or its implementation.

¹ See 7 STEPS: GOOD PRACTICE GUIDE FOR EMPTY PESTICIDE CONTAINERS
https://www.pcs.agriculture.gov.ie/media/pesticides/content/sud/Good_Practice_Guide_for_empty_pesticide_containers.pdf

Redundant Materials

Any redundant materials (e.g. tree shelters, fencing, culvert pipes, high seats) identified during site visits or operations as 'redundant' should be marked for removal from site as soon as practicable.

Redundant materials and operational waste should be disposed of in an environmentally appropriate manner at authorised off-site locations², in accordance with waste disposal regulations and EPA guidelines.

² An Example of waste disposal facility is <https://farmplastics.ie/>