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Disposal of Waste Coal

This guidance document has been produced by the Nebraska Department of Water, Energy, and Environment (DWEE) to provide information on the disposal of waste coal. DWEE considers waste coal to be a special waste. It may be disposed of at a permitted Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) landfill or buried at the site of the train derailment. Burial at the derailment site is the preferred disposal option and requires prior approval by DWEE as required by Nebraska [Title 132 – Integrated Solid Waste Management Regulations](#).

For on-site burial of waste coal:

1. A “Special Waste Characterization and Land Disposal Request Form” must be submitted to DWEE with all relevant information filled out.
2. A disposal trench must be excavated. The trench should generally measure 4 to 10 feet deep and 10 to 20 feet wide.
3. The trench must be lined with the equivalent of a 20-mil plastic liner sheet.
4. The bottom liner sheet must be covered with 6 inches of fine dirt to prevent damage during the placement of the waste coal.
5. The coal must be deposited and then covered with the equivalent of a 20-mil plastic liner sheet.
6. The enclosed coal must be covered with 2 feet of earthen material cover and graded to facilitate surface water runoff.

RESOURCES:

- DWEE Home Page <https://dwee.nebraska.gov/>

Contacts:

- DWEE Main Number (402) 471-2186
- DWEE Toll Free Number (877) 253-2603
- DWEE Hazardous Waste Compliance Assistant (402) 471-8308
- Email questions to: DWEE.moreinfo@nebraska.gov

DWEE Publications:

- DWEE Form – “Special Waste Characterization and Land Disposal Request Form”
Forms are available on the DWEE website by clicking “Visit Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy (DEE),” selecting “Forms,” and “Publications, Grants & Forms.”
- [Title 132 – Nebraska Integrated Solid Waste Management Regulations](#)
Titles are available on the DWEE website by clicking “Visit Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy (DEE),” selecting “Resources and Services,” “Laws & Regulations,” and “Rules & Regulations.”

Produced by: Nebraska Department of Water, Energy, and Environment, 245 Fallbrook Blvd. Ste.100, Lincoln, NE 68521; (402) 471-2186. To view this and other information related to our agency, visit our website at <https://dwee.nebraska.gov/>.