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## Treated Wood Disposal

This guidance document has been produced by the Nebraska Department of Water, Energy, and Environment (DWEE) to provide information on the disposal of treated wood such as fence posts, railroad ties, and telephone poles that commonly contain pentachlorophenol, creosote, chromium, or arsenic.

Treated wood must be disposed of at a permitted Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) or Construction and Demolition (C&D) landfill. If possible, cut the wood into lengths of eight feet or less before disposal. Landfills may choose not to receive treated wood and should be contacted before disposal. Treated wood that has been painted with lead-based paint is subject to a hazardous waste determination. For more information on hazardous waste determinations, see the DWEE guidance document titled "Waste Determinations & Hazardous Waste Testing."

Burning is not a permitted means of disposal. The process of burning creates new compounds that can lead to surface and groundwater contamination. Burial and chipping are also not permitted means of disposal for treated wood.

Treated wood may be reused as landscaping timbers, fencing materials, guardrails, guardrail posts, and structural supports such as pole barns. Do not reuse wood in a manner where it may come into contact with drinking water or animal and human food supplies.

### **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](mailto:DWEE.moreinfo@nebraska.gov)

### **DWEE Publications:**

- [Title 128 – Nebraska Hazardous Waste Regulations](#)
- [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."*

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