



## Waste Guidance

Many types of waste are generated on a farm, including hazardous waste, which if not managed correctly can pose a serious safety threat to farmers and livestock and have a negative impact on the environment.

### Farm Waste Management

#### 1. Prevent

Identify farm materials and products that can be reused or areas where waste can be avoided e.g., by using/purchasing less, using alternative materials (less hazardous) or better storage to prevent wastage.

#### 2. Reduce

Where waste cannot be avoided then consider how it may be reduced e.g., repairing products, bulk buying to avoid packaging or herd management to reduce the need for veterinary medicine.

#### 3. Recycle

Many wastes can be recycled including paper, cardboard, metals, glass and plastics. If in doubt, contact your local authority to find out what materials can be recycled in your locality. Contact details can be found on [www.mywaste.ie](http://www.mywaste.ie).

## Waste Collectors

- Waste should only be collected by authorised waste collectors who hold a waste collection permit from the National Waste Collection Permit Office (NWCPO).
- On the NWCPO website you can check if an operator has a permit or find an operator that is permitted for a particular waste type in your area.  
See [www.nwcpo.ie/permitsearch.aspx](http://www.nwcpo.ie/permitsearch.aspx).

## Illegal Dumping

- Members of the public can report environmental pollution, fly-tipping, and illegal dumping of waste to a confidential complaints line (24-hour lo-call telephone number: 1800-365-121).
- A mobile phone app “See it? Say it!” allows users to upload a photo and GPS location to their local authority. The app is available for iPhone and Android users and can be downloaded from your app store.



Waste Type	Management
<b>Farm plastics</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Farm plastics include sheeting, netting, bale twine, bale wrap, bale bags, fertiliser and feed bags, drums etc.</li> <li>• The Irish Farm Film Producers Group (IFFPG) recycle farm plastics at designated bring centres or you can arrange a collection from your farm.</li> <li>• Keep used silage wrap as clean and dry as possible and avoid contamination with slurry, manure or soil.</li> <li>• Empty plant protection product (PPP) containers must be triple rinsed after use before they can be recycled.</li> <li>• To find out collection locations and to book a farmyard collection visit <a href="http://www.farmplastics.ie">www.farmplastics.ie</a>.</li> </ul>
<b>Tyres</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Waste Management (Tyres and Waste Tyres) Regulations include obligations for farmers.</li> <li>• To dispose of waste tyres (used on silage pits) farmers must register with Circol ELT at <a href="http://www.circolelt.ie/waste-tyres/farm-tyres/">www.circolelt.ie/waste-tyres/farm-tyres/</a> and report all tyres which move on or off the farm.</li> <li>• Any waste tyres removed off a farm must be carried out by an authorised waste collector. Circol ELT has a network of Circol ELT Registered Collectors which can be accessed at: <a href="http://www.circolelt.ie/membership/collector-list/">www.circolelt.ie/membership/collector-list/</a></li> <li>• For more information visit <a href="http://www.epa.ie/our-services/compliance--enforcement/waste/tyres/">www.epa.ie/our-services/compliance--enforcement/waste/tyres/</a></li> </ul>
<b>Scrap Metal</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scrap metal should only be collected by authorised waste collectors who hold a waste collection permit from the National Waste Collection Permit Office (NWCPO) see <a href="http://www.nwcpo.ie/permitsearch.aspx">www.nwcpo.ie/permitsearch.aspx</a>.</li> </ul>
<b>Soil and Stone</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• You are permitted to move soil and stone within the same field, but not off-site.</li> <li>• If soil is transported off site it must be disposed of at an authorised waste facility unless you apply to the EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) for a waste licence or apply for an Article 27, which classifies the material as a by-product.</li> <li>• To qualify for either of these options you must apply in advance of transporting the soil and stone. They cannot be applied for retrospectively.</li> <li>• If you do not qualify for either of these options. You must use an NWCPO authorised waste collection to transport the soil and stone. See <a href="http://www.nwcpo.ie/permitsearch.aspx">www.nwcpo.ie/permitsearch.aspx</a>.</li> <li>• Farmers should contact the Environment Section of their Local Authority if they have any questions.</li> </ul>

Hazardous Waste Type	Management
Chemicals (expired/used/partially used pesticides, herbicides, fungicides, insecticides).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keep stock of chemicals and medicines to a minimum.</li> <li>• Label all hazardous waste.</li> <li>• Never mix hazardous waste materials.</li> <li>• Never include hazardous waste in general waste disposal.</li> <li>• Hazardous waste must be collected by a NWCPD registered hazardous waste permit collector.</li> <li>• Some local civic amenity sites will accept small quantities of some hazardous waste. Check with your local site. Contact details can be found on <a href="http://www.mywaste.ie">www.mywaste.ie</a>.</li> </ul>
Medicines (expired/used/partially used doses, dips, wormers, needles, dry cow tubes and syringes).	
Waste paints and paint tins.	
Coolants and antifreeze.	
Oil and air filters.	
Brake fluid and brake pads.	
Waste engine and hydraulic oil.	
Aerosols.	
Contaminated gloves, rags, clothes and overalls used when administering medicines, spraying pesticides, handling oils or any other hazardous materials.	
Grease guns and containers.	
Used silicone guns.	
Fluorescent light bulbs.	
Asbestos and asbestos sheeting.	
Creosote.	



Hazardous Waste Type	Management
Portable batteries.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All shops that sell portable batteries (e.g., AA, AAA) are required to take-back waste batteries for free.</li> </ul>
Tractor/car and farm fence batteries.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Some batteries can be accepted at civic amenity sites, check with your local site.</li> <li>Contact the battery supplier or retailer to take back the batteries.</li> </ul>
WEEE (Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment) -Waste electronic and electrical equipment (equipment that requires a battery or plug to work and is no longer operational).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Household WEEE can be brought to a civic amenity site and be recycled for free.</li> <li>Any WEEE that is used in on the farm or for commercial use can be returned to the producer. The producer cannot charge for this take back.</li> <li>The farmer should contact the producer (if known) or the supplier (to find out who the producer is) to request and arrange take back. In many cases, the supplier will take back the WEEE on behalf of the producer.</li> <li>WEEE Ireland organise several public collection days in various locations throughout the year. For a list of locations and for more information visit <a href="http://www.weeeireland.ie/">www.weeeireland.ie/</a>.</li> <li>For more information on WEEE visit <a href="http://www.epa.ie/our-services/compliance--enforcement/waste/weee/">www.epa.ie/our-services/compliance--enforcement/waste/weee/</a>.</li> </ul>
End of life vehicles.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>End of life vehicles are hazardous waste and need to be brought to an Authorised Treatment Facility (ATF) for disposal, some recyclers can also collect.</li> <li>Owners have a legal responsibility to get a certificate of destruction from the disposal facility. This guarantees that the vehicle cannot be put back on the road.</li> <li>ELVES (end of life vehicle compliance scheme) is the approved End-of-Life-Vehicle (ELV) compliance scheme for Ireland. See <a href="http://www.elves.ie">www.elves.ie</a> for more information.</li> </ul>

## Agricultural Green Waste

The burning of waste is controlled by the Waste Management (Prohibition of Waste Disposal by Burning) Regulations 2009. The purpose of these regulations is to abolish the practice of burning waste.

A temporary exemption allows farmers to burn agricultural green waste\* until 1st March 2023 and from 1st September 2023 to 30th November 2023. This will be the final year the extension will be granted.

**For more information visit [www.ifa.ie/policy-areas/burning-of-agriculture-green-waste-information-note/](http://www.ifa.ie/policy-areas/burning-of-agriculture-green-waste-information-note/)**

\*The burning of agriculture waste exemption relates solely to material consisting of uncontaminated (free of dangerous substances, preservatives or other artificial impregnation or coating) wood, trees, tree trimmings, leaves, brush, or other similar waste generated by agricultural practices.