

## Waste Management

**Prepare:** Quiet location? No distractions? Talk aids ready?

**Reason:** Good housekeeping is an essential part of site safety.

**Why:** Accumulated waste materials and substances can turn into risks to health and safety in several ways.

**Outline:** This talk will cover the risks to health and safety resulting from poor housekeeping.



### General Precautions

- Separate different types of waste into separate skips if there is such a system.
- If there is a COSHH skip make sure that all used containers of substances are put in it. Do not mix with general waste.
- Remove all nails from scrap timber to avoid foot injuries to other people.
- Securely bag or bundle lightweight waste to prevent it being scattered by the wind.
- Waste created at height must be returned to ground level in a safe manner, not thrown down.

**Q: Where would you dispose of used substance containers on this site?**

### Skips

- If a skip is to be positioned in the road a Council permit is required.
- A skip on the road must be coned off at all times with adequate lights at night.
- Do not overload skips – load up to the top of the sides.
- Do not attempt to ride in a skip, waste material could move and injure you.

### NOTES

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- Accumulations of combustible material could provide the fuel for a large fire.
- Dispose of combustible waste in the skips or bins provided as soon as practical after you create it.
- Do not dispose of used LPG cylinders or aerosol cans in with general waste.
- The burning of waste materials is banned on most sites – do not light bonfires and do not light fires in skips.

**Q: Where on this site should waste timber and cardboard be disposed of?**

### Special Waste

- Special arrangements have to be made for the removal of certain hazardous substances, such as asbestos from site.
- These substances must not be mixed in with general waste.

### Food Waste

- Discarded food waste will encourage the presence of rats and other vermin.
- The presence of rats brings with it the possibility of catching Weil's disease.
- Dispose of food waste in secure bins – do not leave it lying about.

**Q: How can the presence of rats be discouraged?**

**Do you have any questions for me?**

#### Sources

<https://www.hse.gov.uk/statistics/pdf/fatalinjuries.pdf>

<https://www.hse.gov.uk/statistics/industry/construction.pdf>