



# SOLVENT-CONTAMINATED DISPOSABLE WIPES

*Florida adopted the rule for the management of solvent-contaminated wipes in accordance with the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act. The rule revises the definition of solid waste to conditionally exclude solvent-contaminated wipes that are laundered and reused. It also revises the definition of hazardous waste to conditionally exclude solvent-contaminated wipes that are disposed.*

## Label

- » Containers must be labeled “Excluded Solvent-Contaminated Wipes” during accumulation, storage and transportation.

## Storage

- » Containers must be non-leaking and closed. There must be complete contact between the fitted lid and the rim, except when wipes are being added or removed.
- » During accumulation, closed containers do not have to be sealed. Containers must be sealed when the container is full, when wipes are no longer being added or when the container is being transported. Containers are sealed when the lid is properly and securely attached to the container and all openings are securely bound or closed to prevent leaks and emissions.
- » Wipes may not accumulate for longer than 180 consecutive days for each container. After 180 days, the wipes must be properly disposed.

## Prior to Transport

- » Wipes and containers must not contain free liquids as determined by the Paint Filter Liquids Test (EPA Methods Test 9095B).
- » “No free liquids” condition: Facilities may use mechanical wringers, solvent extraction technologies or process knowledge to meet the standard to ensure that if the Paint Filter Liquids Test were performed, the wipes would pass.

**Wipes may not accumulate for longer than 180 consecutive days for each container. After 180 days, the wipes must be properly disposed.**

## Eligible Handling and Disposal Facilities

- » Municipal solid waste landfills regulated by 40 CFR 258 or hazardous waste landfills regulated by 40 CFR parts 264 or 265.
- » Combustors regulated by section 129 of the Clean Air Act or hazardous waste combustors, boilers or industrial furnaces regulated by 40 CFR parts 264, 265 or subpart H.

## Record Keeping

- » Documentation must be maintained for three years that includes:
  - Name and address of the handling facility receiving the wipes.
  - Paperwork that shows the 180-day accumulation time limit is being met.
  - Description of the process being used to meet the “no free liquids” condition.

# Solvent-Contaminated Wipes Rule

## Conditional Exclusion

Wipes that are contaminated with a solvent, such as brake cleaner or paint thinner, are not considered a solid waste if they are managed under the conditions listed below.

Wipes that meet the following conditions after use or after cleaning up a spill may be excluded:

- » Contain one or more F001-F005 listed solvents or corresponding P- or U-listed solvents (40 CFR 261.31 and 261.33). This is not a complete list.
  - Acetone
  - Benzene (D018)
  - N-Butanol
  - Chlorobenzene (D021)
  - Creosols (D023, D024, D025)
  - Cyclohexane
  - 1,2-Dichlorobenzene
  - Ethyl acetate
  - Ethyl benzene
  - 2-Ethoxyethanol
  - Isobutyl alcohol
  - Methanol
  - Methyl ethyl ketone
  - Methyl isobutyl ketone
  - Methylene chloride
  - Nitrobenzene (D036)
  - Pyridine (D038)
  - Tetrachloroethylene (D039)
  - Toluene
  - 1,1,2-Trichloroethane
  - Trichloroethylene (D040)\*
  - Xylenes
- \* *Trichloroethylene-contaminated wipes should NOT be disposed of in trash. They must be handled by a laundry service or as a hazardous waste.*
- » Exhibit a hazardous waste characteristic from a solvent listed in 40 CFR 261 (listed with corresponding D waste code above).
- » Exhibit only the hazardous waste characteristic for ignitability (flashpoint <140F) when containing one or more non-listed solvents (e.g., mineral spirits and paint thinners).

## Not excluded

Solvent-contaminated wipes that cannot be excluded from the solid waste rule include those that:

- » Contain listed hazardous waste other than solvents
- » Exhibit the characteristic of corrosivity (D002)
- » Exhibit the characteristic of reactivity (D003)
- » Are contaminated with some heavy metals that are above toxicity characteristic leaching procedure levels, which include:
  - D0004 arsenic
  - D006 cadmium
  - D008 lead
  - D010 selenium
  - D005 barium
  - D007 chromium
  - D009 mercury
  - D011 silver

Non-excluded wipes and shop towels would need a hazardous waste determination as required in 40 CFR 262.11.

Hazardous waste wipes and shop towels must be handled and disposed according to the applicable regulations in 40 CFR 260 through 270.

Non-hazardous waste wipes and shop towels may be disposed or sent to a drycleaner or laundry for cleaning and reuse.

## Rules and Regulations

Florida rule: 62-730.020 and 62-730.030, Florida Administrative Code

Federal rule: 40 Code of Federal Regulations 261.4(a)(26) and (b)(18) for the management of solvent-contaminated wipes under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act