ADoptions Section

Environmental Protection

Air Quality, Energy, and Sustainability

Division of Sustainable Waste Management

Notice of Readoption

Recycling Rules

Readoption with Technical Changes: N.J.A.C. 7:26A


Authorized By: Shawn LaTourette, Commissioner, Department of Environmental Protection.

Effective Dates: September 9, 2022, Readoption; October 3, 2022, Technical Changes.

New Expiration Date: September 9, 2029.

Take notice that pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:14B-5.1, the Recycling Rules, N.J.A.C. 7:26A, are readopted and shall continue in effect for a seven-year period. The rules were scheduled to expire on December 3, 2022. The Department of Environmental Protection (Department) has reviewed these rules and has determined that the rules should be readopted because they are necessary, reasonable, and proper for the purpose for which they were originally promulgated. In accordance with N.J.S.A. 52:14B-5.1.c(1), timely filing of this notice extended the expiration date of the chapter seven years from the date of filing.

The Recycling Rules govern the operation and management of recycling facilities and apply to the use or reuse of material that would otherwise become solid waste, including the
This is a courtesy copy of this notice. The official version will be published in the October 3, 2022 New Jersey Register. Should there be any discrepancies between this text and the official version of the notice, the official version will govern.

Recycling of materials for use as fill material, aggregate substitute, fuel substitute, or landfill cover.

The rules apply to the following four classes of recyclable materials: Class A (non-putrescible recyclable materials, such as metal, glass, paper, plastic containers, and corrugated and other cardboard); Class B (non-putrescible recyclable materials, such as asphalt, construction/demolition debris, scrap tires, whole trees, and petroleum contaminated soil); Class C (compostable recyclable materials, such as food waste, biodegradable plastic, and yard trimmings); and Class D (recyclable materials, such as used oil, antifreeze, latex paints, and lights bulbs). They apply to universal waste, including batteries, pesticides, thermostats, lamps, mercury-containing devices, oil-based finishes, and consumer electronics, which otherwise must be disposed of as hazardous waste.

The Recycling Rules also govern the electronic waste recycling program. These rules establish a recycling system for the safe and environmentally sound management of certain electronic devices and components, including desktop or personal computers, computer monitors, portable computers, or televisions sold to consumers. The rules apply to manufacturers, retailers, and consumers of these devices, in addition to collectors, transporters, and authorized recyclers whose services are engaged under the manufacturers’ electronic waste collection plans.

The rules are readopted with technical changes to update Department contact information.

Full text of the technical changes follows (additions indicated in boldface thus; deletions indicated in brackets [thus]):


7:26A-1.4 Activities exempt from general or limited approval
(a) (No change.)

(b) The general requirements applicable to all exemptions set forth at (a) above are as follows:

1.-4. (No change.)

5. All persons operating pursuant to an exemption at (a) above except for small quantity handlers of universal waste operating pursuant to N.J.A.C. 7:26A-7.2 shall provide a written notice of such operation to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Sustainable Waste Management, Bureau of Recycling and Hazardous Waste Management, 401 East State Street, [P.O.] PO Box 420, Mail Code 401-02C, Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0420, the host municipality, and host county prior to the commencement of operations.

i.-iii. (No change.)

6.-8. (No change.)

SUBCHAPTER 2. FEES FOR A GENERAL OR LIMITED APPROVAL TO OPERATE A RECYCLING CENTER FOR CLASS B, CLASS C, AND CLASS D RECYCLABLE MATERIAL

7:26A-2.3 Payment of fees

(a) Payment of all fees for activities related to recycling shall be paid in U.S. dollars by certified check, government purchase order or check, or money order, payable to "Treasurer, State of New Jersey" and mailed or hand delivered to the following address, unless the Department authorizes some other means of payment:
SUBCHAPTER 3. APPROVAL OF RECYCLING CENTERS FOR CLASS B, CLASS C, OR CLASS D RECYCLABLE MATERIALS

7:26A-3.1 General requirements applicable to all recycling centers [which] that receive, store, process, or transfer Class B, Class C, or Class D recyclable material

(a) – (c) (No change.)

(d) The notice shall be published two times by the applicant with the second publication being no less than 15 days prior to the public hearing held by the applicable board of [chosen freeholders] county commissioners. The applicant shall forward a copy of the notice to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Division of [Solid and Hazardous Waste] Sustainable Waste Management, and to the municipality in which the recycling center will be operating, upon its publication.

7:26A-3.2 Application procedure for general approval to operate a recycling center for the receipt, storage, processing, or transfer of Class B, Class C, or Class D recyclable material

(a) – (b) (No change.)
(c) One original and two copies of the information required pursuant to (a) above shall be submitted to:

New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
Division of [Solid and Hazardous Waste] Sustainable Waste Management
401 East State Street, 2nd Floor, West Wing
[P.O.] PO Box 420, Mail Code 401-02C
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0420

(d) – (j) (No change.)

7:26A-3.4 Supplemental requirements for a general approval

(a) – (d) (No change.)

(e) A letter of credit, as specified [in N.J.A.C. 7:26A-3.4(c)] (e) above must be worded as follows, except that instructions in brackets are to be replaced with the relevant information and the brackets deleted:

Irrevocable Standby Letter of Credit
Commissioner, New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
c/o Division of [Solid and Hazardous Waste] Sustainable Waste Management
401 E. State Street, [P.O.] PO Box 0420
Mail Code 401-02C
Trenton NJ 08625-0420

...
7:26A-3.7 Application procedure for limited Class B recycling center approval to operate a recycling center for the storage, processing, or transfer of Class B recyclable material

(a) – (l) (No change.)

(m) One original and two copies of the information required pursuant to (a) and (k) above shall be submitted to:

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
Division of [Solid and Hazardous Waste] Sustainable Waste Management
401 East State Street, 2nd Floor, West Wing
[P.O.] PO Box 420, Mail Code 401-02C
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0420

(n) – (o) (No change.)

7:26A-3.10 Modifications of general or limited approvals

(a) – (e) (No change.)

(f) Within one week of any change to the end-market information submitted to the Department pursuant to N.J.A.C. 7:26A-3.2(a)7, the holder shall submit to the Department a written notification which details any change in the use of the recyclable material transferred from the recycling center to an end-market or in the end-market location to which the recyclable material is transferred. The written notification shall be sent to:

New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
Division of [Solid and Hazardous Waste] Sustainable Waste Management
401 East State Street, 2nd Floor, West Wing
7:26A-3.14 Appeal procedure

(a) (No change.)

(b) Requests for an administrative hearing shall be submitted to:

Office of Legal Affairs
ATTENTION: Adjudicatory Hearing Requests
Department of Environmental Protection
401 East State Street, 7th Floor, West Wing
[P.O.] PO Box 402, Mail Code 401-04L
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0402

and to:

New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
Division of [Solid and Hazardous Waste] Sustainable Waste Management
Bureau of Recycling and Hazardous Waste Management
401 East State Street, 2nd floor, West Wing
[P.O.] PO Box 420, Mail Code 401-02C
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0420

(c) – (g) (No change.)
SUBCHAPTER 4. DESIGN AND OPERATIONAL STANDARDS AND GENERAL RULES FOR RECYCLING CENTERS WHICH RECEIVE, STORE, PROCESS, OR TRANSFER CLASS A, CLASS B, CLASS C, AND CLASS D RECYCLABLE MATERIAL 7:26A-4.4 Tonnage reporting requirements

(a) (No change.)

(b) Except as otherwise provided [in] at N.J.A.C. 7:26A-1.4(b)4, all persons operating pursuant to an exemption set forth at N.J.A.C. 7:26A-1.4 shall provide recycling tonnage reports by March 1 of each year to the applicable municipalities, to the county and to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Division of [Solid and Hazardous Waste] Sustainable Waste Management, Bureau of Recycling and Hazardous Waste Management, 401 East State Street, [P.O.] PO Box 420, Mail Code 401-02C Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0420 for the previous calendar year. The report shall detail the amount of each source separated recyclable material, expressed in tons, cubic yards, cubic feet, or gallons received, stored, processed, or transferred. Those persons specifying this information in cubic yards shall also indicate the conversion ratio of the materials from cubic yards to tons. Those persons reporting the recycling of lamps shall also report the volume of the received materials in linear feet. Non-tubular lamps may be reported as individual units. Those persons reporting on mercury-containing equipment shall also report the number of devices received. Lamps or mercury containing equipment which are shipped using a hazardous waste manifest may be reported in pounds or gallons.

SUBCHAPTER 6. STANDARDS FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF USED OIL 7:26A-6.6 Standards for used oil transporter and transfer facilities
(c) Notification standards for used oil transporters and transfer facilities are as follows:

1. – 2. (No change.)

3. Owners or operators of used oil transfer facilities shall notify the Department, in writing, of the location of the transfer facility prior to conducting any used oil activities at the transfer facility. The notification shall be mailed to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Bureau of Hazardous Waste [and UST] Compliance and Enforcement, Mail Code 09-03, [P.O.] PO Box 420, Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0420.

(d) – (h) (No change.)

SUBCHAPTER 7. STANDARDS FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF CLASS D UNIVERSAL WASTE

7:26A-7.1 Incorporation by reference: standards for the management of universal waste

(a) – (b) (No change.)

(c) The following provisions of 40 [C.F.R.] CFR Part 273 are incorporated by reference with the specified changes:

1. – 4. (No change.)

5. 40 [C.F.R.] CFR 273.18(g) and 273.38(g), replace "appropriate regional EPA office" with "the Department of Environmental Protection's Division of [Solid and Hazardous Waste] Sustainable Waste Management" and replace "EPA regional office" with "Division of [Solid and Hazardous Waste] Sustainable Waste Management";

6. – 7. (No change.)

(d) – (f) (No change.)
7:26A-7.5 Management standards for large quantity handlers

(a) – (c) (No change.)

(d) A large quantity handler of universal waste shall submit a report to the Department in the form of a letter, by March 1st, of the types and amounts of universal waste which were received, stored, and shipped in the preceding calendar year. The report shall also indicate the municipality of origin of any universal waste that was shipped out-of-State for recycling. This report shall be submitted to the following address:

New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
Division of [Solid and Hazardous Waste] Sustainable Waste Management
Bureau of Recycling and Hazardous Waste Management
401 East State Street, 2nd Floor, West Wing
[P.O.] PO Box 420, Mail Code 401-02C
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0420

SUBCHAPTER 11. STANDARDS FOR MUNICIPALITIES

7:26A-11.2 Recordkeeping and reporting

(a) The governing body of each municipality shall, between January 1 and April 30 of each year, submit a recycling tonnage report on forms provided by the Department, or by electronic means, as approved by the Department to:

New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
Division of [Solid and Hazardous Waste] Sustainable Waste Management
SUBCHAPTER 13. ELECTRONIC WASTE MANAGEMENT

7:26A-13.9 Collection obligation determination

(a) – (d) (No change.)

(e) A manufacturer may comment on the collection obligation or any supporting data provided in the Preliminary Collection Obligation Report by submitting comments by April 1 of the year the Department provided the Preliminary Collection Obligation Report to the Department at the following address:

   Department of Environmental Protection
   Division of [Solid and Hazardous Waste] **Sustainable Waste Management**
   Bureau of Recycling and Hazardous Waste Management
   401 East State Street, 2nd Floor, West Wing
   Mail Code 401-02C
   [P.O.] PO Box 420
   Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0420.

(f) – (h) (No change.)

7:26A-13.12 Requests for administrative hearings
(a) Subject to the limits on third-party hearings at N.J.S.A. 52:14B-3.1 [through], 3.2, and 3.3, a party who believes it is aggrieved with respect to the Department’s decision to approve or disapprove the collection plan of a manufacturer or group of manufacturers may, within 20 calendar days after the date of the decision, request an administrative hearing by submitting the request, in writing, to:

Office of Legal Affairs
ATTENTION: Adjudicatory Hearing Requests
Department of Environmental Protection
401 East State Street, 7th Floor, West Wing
Mail Code 401-04L
[P.O.] PO Box 402
Trenton, NJ 08625-0402

and to:
Department of Environmental Protection
Division of [Solid and Hazardous Waste] Sustainable Waste Management
Bureau of Recycling and Hazardous Waste Management
401 East State Street, 2nd Floor, West Wing
Mail Code 401-02C
[P.O.] PO Box 420
Trenton, NJ 08625-0420.

(b) – (f) (No change.)