



Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Job Site Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Start Time: \_\_\_\_\_ Finish Time: \_\_\_\_\_ Foreman/Supervisor: \_\_\_\_\_

## Topic 66: Hazardous Waste: Knowing Your Material

**Introduction:** Hazardous waste refers to discarded substances in solid, liquid, or gaseous form that can harm humans, other living organisms, or the environment. OSHA 29CFR 1910.120 defines hazardous material as any substance which requires a Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS). The Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response (HAZWOPER) standard requires a written "Safety and Health Program" be developed and implemented that will protect employees who are exposed to hazardous-waste, do hazardous-waste cleanup, or who respond to hazardous-waste emergencies.

**The written safety and health program for handling hazardous waste and worker protection must include:**

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Site evaluation</li> <li>■ Organizational structure</li> <li>■ Comprehensive work plan</li> <li>■ Site control</li> <li>■ Site-specific safety and health plan</li> <li>■ Education and training</li> </ul> |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Medical surveillance</li> <li>■ Hazard control and personal protective equipment (PPE)</li> <li>■ Air and personnel monitoring</li> <li>■ Informing employees and contractors</li> <li>■ Handling hazardous materials</li> </ul> |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Decontamination</li> <li>■ Emergency response</li> <li>■ Illumination</li> <li>■ Sanitation at temporary workplaces</li> <li>■ Evaluating new technology</li> </ul> |  |
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**Hazard Communication** — ensures employees know about worksite chemical hazards and how to protect themselves from those hazards.

- **Hazard determination:** Identify and list all hazardous substances at the site, including hazardous substances to which employees may be exposed during their non-routine tasks and hazardous substances in unlabeled pipes.
- **Labeling:** Label on-site containers of hazardous chemicals with the chemical's name and a warning about its hazards.
- **MSDSs:** A material safety data sheet must cover each hazardous chemical used on site.
- **Employee training:** Inform and train employees who work with hazardous chemicals prior to their assignments or if work processes change.
- **Informing employees:** Employees must be informed about the properties of hazardous substances to which they may be exposed.



**Site evaluation** — When employees begin work at a site, a qualified person must do a preliminary site evaluation to provide the following information:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Identify the chemical hazards to which employees may be exposed.</li> <li>■ Determine what safety and health controls will protect employees from the chemical hazards.</li> <li>■ Site hazards including the physical or chemical properties of hazardous substances and how employees could be exposed to them.</li> <li>■ The risks associated with exposure to hazardous substances.</li> <li>■ Where hazardous substances could leak or disburse.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Site location, size, topography, and access routes.</li> <li>■ Employees' tasks and the time it will take for completion.</li> <li>■ Capabilities of emergency responders, including their availability and response times.</li> <li>■ What personal protective equipment employees will wear.</li> <li>■ Soon after employees begin working at the site, a qualified person should do an additional, detailed site evaluation.</li> </ul> |
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**Personal Protective Equipment:** If employees use personal protective equipment during hazardous-waste operations, ensure the following:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Equipment is selected to protect employees from site-specific hazards.</li> <li>■ Employees maintain and store equipment properly.</li> <li>■ All affected personnel understand the equipment's limitations.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Appropriate decontamination/disposal of equipment.</li> <li>■ Employees are trained to use, wear, and inspect equipment.</li> <li>■ Personal protective equipment fits employees who use it.</li> </ul> |
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**Emergency response** — Emergencies are unpredictable but response can be effective with proper planning. Observe the following guidelines:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Planning and coordinating with off-site responders.</li> <li>■ Personnel roles, lines of authority, and communication procedures.</li> <li>■ Emergency situations and how to prevent them.</li> <li>■ Safe distances and places of refuge.</li> <li>■ Site control and security.</li> <li>■ Evacuation routes and procedures.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Emergency decontamination procedures.</li> <li>■ Emergency medical treatment and first aid.</li> <li>■ Emergency communication procedures.</li> <li>■ Necessary emergency equipment, including PPE.</li> <li>■ Emergency-response plan evaluation criteria.</li> </ul> |
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**Training requirements** — Emergency-response training must be documented and cover the following topics:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Elements of the emergency-response plan.</li> <li>■ Procedures for handling emergencies.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Personal protective equipment necessary for emergencies.</li> <li>■ How to recognize hazards that may endanger workers.</li> </ul> |
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**Conclusion:** Do not just put the "Safety and Health Program" away and forget about it until an emergency occurs.

To make the plan effective, rehearse the plan's procedures regularly and integrate the plan with the emergency response plans of local, state, and federal agencies. Keep the plan current with periodic reviews and updates.



## Work Site Review

Work-Site Hazards and Safety Suggestions: \_\_\_\_\_

Personnel Safety Violations: \_\_\_\_\_

**Employee Signatures:** \_\_\_\_\_  
*(My signature attests and verifies my understanding of and agreement to comply with, all company safety policies and regulations, and that I have not suffered, experienced, or sustained any recent job-related injury or illness.)*

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**Foreman/Supervisor's Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

*These guidelines do not supercede local, state, or federal regulations and must not be construed as a substitute for, or legal interpretation of, any OSHA regulations.*