

Non- Waste Framework Directive (NWFD) exemptions



Temporary storage at a collection point

What are the NWFD exemptions?

There are some exemptions that do not have to be registered. These are called non-Waste Framework Directive exemptions.

Although you do not have to register these exemptions you still must comply with the terms and conditions of the exemptions.

There are three of these exemptions,

- Temporary storage at the place of production;
- Temporary storage of waste at a place controlled by the producer; and
- Temporary storage at a collection point (this guidance note relates to this exemption).

What is the purpose of this exemption?

This exemption allows the temporary storage of waste, (other than asbestos or any substances that have a flash point of less than 21°C), at a [collection point](#) for the purposes of recovering or disposing of the waste elsewhere.

What types of activities can I do?

You can only collect and store waste in a [secure container](#) at a [collection point](#).

[Collection](#) is the gathering of waste, including the preliminary sorting and storage of waste for the purposes of transport to a waste treatment facility. These operations may include:

- battery recycling boxes;
- waste medicines collected by pharmacies;
- take-back schemes in shops for consumer goods;
- local community [collection points](#) such as schools and supermarkets.

You can also carry out some treatments on the waste to help with storage and collection. Examples of these activities are given in ['What else do I need to know?'](#)

Where can I carry out this activity?

You can store waste at a [collection point](#).

What can't I do?

You can't:

- collect waste as your main business activity;

customer service line

08708 506 506

www.environment-agency.gov.uk

incident hotline

0800 80 70 60

floodline

0845 988 1188

- receive payment for collecting the waste;
- store mixed wastes.

How much waste can I store?

- The total quantity of Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) waste stored at any one time must not exceed 30 cubic metres;
- For non-hazardous waste that is not WEEE and is to be recovered elsewhere, no more than 50 cubic metres can be stored at any one time;
- No more than five cubic metres of wastes other than those mentioned above may be stored at any one time.

What conditions apply to the storage of waste?

- If more than one type of waste is stored then the different types must not be mixed.
- The waste must not contain or consist of any asbestos or any substance that has a flash point of less than 21°C.
- You can only store waste temporarily. As a general rule, wastes should not be stored for longer than three months.
- All wastes must be stored in [secure containers](#).

What else do I need to know?

You do not need to register this exemption.

You must comply with the conditions and limits set in this exemption. Non-compliance is an offence.

Ancillary treatments

You can carry out some treatment operations to make the waste you have produced easier to store and collect for its recovery or disposal elsewhere. These are called 'ancillary treatments'.

Any ancillary treatment carried out must not result in a change in the characteristics of the waste. The treatment carried out must be purely to help with the transport or collection of different wastes. The following are examples of some of the treatments that can be considered ancillary to the collection of waste:

- compaction of paper and cardboard in order to increase the amount of waste that can be stored within a container;
- shredding confidential papers for security purposes;
- crushing or compacting large items to allow easier loading;
- separating recyclables such as paper, card, plastic and glass from mixed wastes into separate storage containers.

What wastes can be used under this exemption?

You can store any wastes that do not contain or consist of:

- asbestos; or
- any substance that has a flash point of less than 21°C.

Definitions

‘collection’ means the gathering of waste, including the preliminary sorting and preliminary storage of waste for the purposes of transport to a waste treatment facility.

‘collection point’ means a place that is used for the collection of waste by an establishment or undertaking where the establishment or undertaking does not receive payment for collecting the waste or collect waste as its main business activity.

‘place of production’ means, in relation to any waste, the place where the waste was originally produced.

‘secure container’ means a container is secure in relation to waste kept in it if all reasonable precautions are taken to ensure that the waste cannot escape from it and members of the public are unable to gain access to the waste.

‘NWFD exemption’

Schedule 25 of the Regulations includes waste operations that are not waste recovery or disposal operations within the meaning of the Waste Framework Directive. These are referred to as non-Waste Framework Directive exemptions. They do not need to be registered, as registration is a requirement of the Waste Framework Directive. The exemptions however, are necessary. Without them, a person carrying out those operations will be in contravention of S33(1)(a) Environmental Protection Act 1990, as the deposit of waste must be carried out either in accordance with an environmental permit or exemption.

The full **‘Glossary of terms’** can be viewed [here](#)