

Chapter 19 Section 3 Notes

Types of Hazardous Waste – toxic, corrosive, or explosive material; they may be cleaners, lubricants, or heavy metals

EPA Administers and Enforces the following:

- Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA)– passed in 1976 to regulate solid and hazardous waste disposal
 - requires hazardous waste producers to document how waste is handled
 - primary goals of RCRA: enforcing standards for hazardous waste treatment, recycling and recovery of natural resources, and hazardous waste cleanup
- The Superfund Act – passed in 1980 to set aside money for cleanup of hazardous waste sites
 - this law allows the EPA to sue the business owner and force the owner to pay for cleanup if the business owner illegally dumps hazardous waste
 - 1175 out of 1200 Superfund sites have been completely cleaned up

Hazardous Waste Management

- chemical treatment
- deep-well injection – pumping wastes into the ground below groundwater level
- surface impoundment – a method for disposing of hazardous waste by allowing it to settle out and evaporate in a pond with a sealed bottom

Remediation

- Biologically Treating Hazardous Waste – bacteria is sometimes used to clean up heavy metal waste
- Incinerating Hazardous Waste – often generates wastes that are more toxic than the original substance

Hazardous Wastes at Home

- Disposing of Household Hazardous Waste
- Motor Oil