

New way of reporting hazardous waste

Sweden needs to have better control of its hazardous waste. To achieve this, there are new requirements for companies and organisations to report their hazardous waste to a new waste register from 1 November 2020.

New rules from 1 August and 1 November

An expanded requirement to keep records of waste came into force on 1 August, affecting all companies and organisations that produce, transport, collect, process and broker or trade in hazardous waste. From 1 November, these organisations are to begin reporting recorded data on their hazardous waste to a new waste register maintained by the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency.

The latest statistics show that more than two million tonnes of hazardous waste are generated annually in Sweden. But this number is unreliable, and the statistics are only updated every two years. Everyone who submits data to the new waste register contributes to providing a clearer picture of how hazardous waste moves through the country. This helps ensure that waste is disposed of properly.

Does my company have hazardous waste?

Almost all organisations produce some form of hazardous waste, such as electronics, fluorescent lamps and various paint and chemical waste. Hazardous waste requires special handling, as it can be flammable, corrosive or toxic to people and the environment.

1. Record details continuously

There is already an obligation to record information about hazardous waste that arises in an organisation. This is still the case and the requirement is being expanded somewhat. As a waste producer, you must continuously record and document information on quantities and types of waste, along with other details, in chronological order and be able to present these at the request of regulatory authorities.

2. Report no later than two days after recording the information

Information about hazardous waste must be recorded before it is transported away from the organisation. You must then report recorded information about the hazardous waste no later than two business days after the record has been created. It is your recorded information that must be reported. As a waste producer, you must also provide information about your organisation, such as contact information, organisation registration number, and your organisation's CFAR number from Statistics Sweden's business register.

3. Report using the e-service or API

All organisations can submit information via the e-service using digital credentials. Organisations that must report frequently to the waste register can link their

administrative systems to the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency's API for submitting information directly.

[Report using the e-service at www.naturvardsverket.se/avfallsregister](http://www.naturvardsverket.se/avfallsregister)

Determine the correct waste code

To simplify reporting, it is good to determine the most common waste types and their waste codes for your organisation. The first time you report, it will probably take some time, but save the codes and information to make it easier the next time. It is important to use the correct waste codes since they ensure the waste is handled properly.

Background

These rule changes follow the EU Circular Economy Package with changes to several directives related to waste. Sweden must follow the rules that have been jointly decided at the EU level and must ensure that hazardous waste is handled in an appropriate manner. All Member States are to set up an electronic register for hazardous waste data to improve control and traceability.