

Trash Compactors and Water Quality

This educational document serves to fulfill a City of Burleson storm water permit requirement set by TCEQ.



When excess liquids are placed in the trash compactor, they leak out. This results in decomposing organic matter that pools around the compactor.

If enough liquid leaks, or if it is carried by rain, the decomposing organic matter can reach the storm water system.

The storm water system flows directly into streams and lakes without being treated. Rotting organic matter in the storm drains can cause foul odors, impact water quality, and even cause fish to die.

Train team members to dispose of liquid waste (such as expired juices, tea, coffee, etc.) down sink drains so that it goes into the sanitary sewer system and will reach a wastewater treatment plant. Check regularly for leaks around the compactor.



Do not dispose of hazardous materials such as ammonia, automotive fluids, or batteries in the trash compactor. Refer to Safety Data Sheets to learn how to dispose of hazardous materials safely.