

WET TRASH 101

What happens when rain mixes with garbage?



RAIN + EXPOSED WASTE = AVOIDABLE CONTACT WATER

The issue is the pathway: rain reaches waste, water contacts residue, containment determines whether it escapes, and pavement determines where it goes next.



RAIN GETS IN

Open lids, overflow, uncovered waste and damaged containers allow precipitation to contact waste.



WASTE GETS WET

Cardboard, food waste, paper, residue and loose material can hold water or release pollutants.



WATER GETS OUT

Leaks, holes, failed seams, splash and overflow can move contact water onto the enclosure pad.



PAVEMENT CARRIES IT

Slope, gutters, trench drains and storm inlets determine where the water goes next.



SOURCE CONTROL STOPS IT

Close lids, prevent overflow, repair leaks, sweep loose waste and keep wash water out of storm drains.

Sources: U.S. EPA industrial stormwater guidance; CASQA SC-34 Waste Handling & Disposal. Site-specific rules vary.

WET TRASH 101

Three facts, five quick checks, and the claims we do not make.

0.623 GAL

Approx. water from 1 inch of rain on 1 square foot.

8.34 LB/GAL

Approx. weight of water.

KEEP IT DRY

Recovered-paper specs include moisture limits.

THE 60-SECOND CHECK



CLOSE EVERY LID

Make sure lids can close fully.



PICK UP LOOSE TRASH

Remove material wind or runoff can move.



CHECK FOR LEAKS

Look for holes, wet staining or dripping.



PREVENT OVERFLOW

Service capacity should allow lids to close.



KEEP DRAINS CLEAR

Do not sweep litter into a storm drain.

WHAT RESPONSIBLE EDUCATION DOES NOT CLAIM

- A roof alone does not guarantee compliance.
- Not every gallon of rain becomes hauled weight.
- Not every wet recycling load is landfilled.
- Local costs, pollutant loads and savings need local data.

Adopt-A-Dumpster™ public education. Keep rain out. Keep waste in. Protect what is downstream.