



**Ohio Administrative Code**  
**Rule 3745-51-02 Definition of waste.**  
**Effective: January 16, 2026**

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**(A)**

(1) A "waste" is any discarded material that is not excluded by paragraph (A) of rule 3745-51-04 of the Administrative Code or that is not excluded by variance granted under rules 3745-50-23 and 3745-50-24 of the Administrative Code or that is not excluded by a non-waste determination under rules 3745-50-23 and 3745-50-15 of the Administrative Code.

(2) A "discarded material" is any material which is:

(a) Abandoned, as explained in paragraph (B) of this rule; or

(b) Recycled, as explained in paragraph (C) of this rule; or

(c) Considered inherently waste-like, as explained in paragraph (D) of this rule; or

(d) A military munition identified as a waste in rule 3745-266-202 of the Administrative Code.

(B) Materials are waste if the materials are abandoned by being:

(1) Disposed of; or

(2) Burned or incinerated; or

(3) Accumulated, stored, or treated (but not recycled) before or in lieu of being abandoned by being disposed, burned, or incinerated; or

(4) Sham recycled, as explained in paragraph (G) of this rule.



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(C) Materials are wastes if the materials are recycled- or accumulated, stored, or treated before recycling- as specified in paragraph (C) of this rule.

(1) Used in a manner constituting disposal.

(a) Materials noted with an asterisk in column 1 of the table in this rule are wastes when the materials are:

(i) Applied to or placed on the land in a manner that constitutes disposal; or

(ii) Used to produce products that are applied to or placed on the land or are otherwise contained in products that are applied to or placed on the land (in which cases the product remains a waste).

(b) However, commercial chemical products listed in rule 3745-51-33 of the Administrative Code are not wastes if the products are applied to the land and that is the ordinary manner of use.

(2) Burning for energy recovery.

(a) Materials noted with an asterisk in column 2 of the table in this rule are wastes when the materials are:

(i) Burned to recover energy; or

(ii) Used to produce a fuel or are otherwise contained in fuels (in which cases the fuel remains a waste).

(b) However, commercial chemical products listed in rule 3745-51-33 of the Administrative Code are not wastes if the commercial chemical products are fuels.

(3) Reclaimed. Materials noted with an asterisk in column 3 of the table in this rule are wastes when reclaimed unless the wastes meet the requirements of paragraph (A)(17), (A)(23), (A)(24), or (A)(27) of rule 3745-51-04 of the Administrative Code. Materials noted with a dash in column 3 of the table in this rule are not wastes when reclaimed.



(4) Accumulated speculatively. Materials noted with an asterisk in column 4 of the table in this rule are wastes when accumulated speculatively.

(D) Inherently waste-like materials. The following materials are wastes when the materials are recycled in any manner:

(1) Hazardous wastes numbers F020, F021 (unless used as an ingredient to make a product at the site of generation), F022, F023, F026, and F028.

(2) Secondary materials fed to a halogen acid furnace that exhibit a characteristic of a hazardous waste as described in rules 3745-51-20 to 3745-51-24 of the Administrative Code, or are listed as a hazardous waste as described in rules 3745-51-30 to 3745-51-35 of the Administrative Code, except for brominated material that meets the following criteria:

(a) The material shall contain a bromine concentration of at least forty-five per cent; and

(b) The material shall contain less than a total of one per cent of toxic organic compounds listed in the appendix to rule 3745-51-11 of the Administrative Code; and

(c) The material is processed continually on-site in the halogen acid furnace via direct conveyance (hard piping).

(3) The director will use the following criteria to add wastes to the list of inherently waste-like materials:

(a)

(i) The materials are ordinarily disposed of, burned, or incinerated; or

(ii) The materials contain toxic constituents listed in the appendix to rule 3745-51-11 of the Administrative Code and these constituents are not ordinarily found in raw materials or products for which the materials substitute (or are found in raw materials or products in smaller concentrations)



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and are not used or reused during the recycling process; and

(b) The materials may pose a substantial hazard to human health and the environment when recycled.

(E) Materials that are not waste when recycled.

(1) Materials are not wastes when the materials can be shown to be recycled by being:

(a) Used or reused as ingredients in an industrial process to make a product, provided the materials are not being reclaimed; or

(b) Used or reused as effective substitutes for commercial products; or

(c) Returned to the original process from which the materials were generated, without first being reclaimed or land disposed. The materials shall be returned as a substitute for feedstock materials. In cases where the original process to which the material is returned is a secondary process, the materials shall be managed such that there is no placement on the land. In cases where the materials are generated and reclaimed within the primary mineral processing industry, the conditions of the exclusion in paragraph (A)(17) of rule 3745-51-04 of the Administrative Code apply rather than this provision.

(2) The following materials are wastes, even if the recycling involves use, reuse, or return to the original process [as described in paragraph (E)(1) of this rule]:

(a) Materials used in a manner constituting disposal, or used to produce products that are applied to the land; or

(b) Materials burned for energy recovery, used to produce a fuel, or contained in fuels; or

(c) Materials accumulated speculatively; or

(d) Materials listed in paragraphs (D)(1) and (D)(2) of this rule.



(F) Documentation of claims that materials are not wastes or are conditionally exempt from regulation. Respondents in actions to enforce regulations adopted under Chapter 3734. of the Revised Code who raise a claim that a certain material is not a waste, or is conditionally exempt from regulation, shall demonstrate that there is a known market or disposition for the material, and that the material meets the terms of the exclusion or exemption. In doing so, the respondent shall provide appropriate documentation (such as contracts showing that a second person uses the material as an ingredient in a production process) to demonstrate that the material is not a waste, or is exempt from regulation. In addition, owners or operators of facilities claiming that the facilities actually are recycling materials shall show that the facilities have the necessary equipment to do so.

	Use Constituting Disposal [paragraph (C)(1) of rule 3745-51-02 of the Administrative Code]	Energy Recovery/Fuel [paragraph (C)(2) of rule 3745-51-02 of the Administrative Code]	Reclamation [paragraph (C)(3) of rule 3745-51-02 of the Administrative Code] [except as provided in paragraph (A)(17), (A)(23), (A)(24), or (A)(27) of rule 3745-51-04 of the Administrative Code for processing secondary materials]	Speculative Accumulation [paragraph (C)(4) of rule 3745-51-02 of the Administrative Code]
	1	2	3	4
Spent materials	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)
Sludges (listed in rule 3745-51-31 or 3745-51-32 of the Administrative Code)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)
Sludges exhibiting a characteristic of hazardous waste	(*)	(*)	--	(*)
By-products (listed in rule 3745-51-31 or 3745-51-32 of the Administrative Code)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)
By-products exhibiting a characteristic of hazardous waste	(*)	(*)	--	(*)



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Commercial chemical products listed in rule 3745-51-33 of the Administrative Code	(*)	(*)	--	--
Scrap metal that is not excluded scrap metal [see paragraph (A)(13) of rule 3745-51-04 of the Administrative Code]	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)

(G) Sham recycling. A hazardous secondary material found to be sham recycled is considered discarded and a waste. Sham recycling is recycling that is not legitimate recycling, as defined in rule 3745-50-17 of the Administrative Code.