

# 4-Step Pre-incident Planning Process for Waste Management



The primary goal of planning should be to prepare the whole community to manage waste effectively.

- This process is designed to help communities prepare for managing waste from an incident, regardless of the hazard.

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## PRE-INCIDENT PLANNING for WASTE MANAGEMENT



Waste management is a critical part of the recovery from incidents, such as natural disasters, animal disease outbreaks, and acts of terrorism involving chemical, biological, or radiological agents. This brochure provides all-hazards waste management information for emergency planners, managers, and responders in the public and private sectors.

[epa.gov/homeland-security-waste](http://epa.gov/homeland-security-waste)

# Pre-incident planning is not a wasted effort.

## SMALL BUT SIGNIFICANT ACTIONS TAKEN PRIOR TO AN INCIDENT CAN HAVE A BIG IMPACT ON THE OVERALL RESPONSE.



Consult with stakeholders



Identify potential waste streams



Consider waste collection strategies



Determine locations or criteria for temporary waste management sites



Evaluate reuse and recycling programs



Create a waste management-focused community outreach plan



Select potential waste management facilities



Address health and safety considerations for waste management operations

## How does planning help?

- ✓ Saves valuable time/resources during a response
- ✓ Allows more efficient and effective waste management decision-making
- ✓ Encourages stakeholders at all levels to work together
- ✓ Boosts the community's resilience to disasters
- ✓ Reduces the risk that waste management activities will impact other response and recovery efforts

In 2011, tornados in Joplin, Missouri, generated about **3 million cubic yards of residential debris**, which would cover **3.25 professional football fields**.



The Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill discharged over **130,000,000 gallons of oil** into the Gulf of Mexico, enough to fill **200 Olympic-sized swimming pools**.