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Alabama Department of Environmental Management

Solid Waste Management

Management of Demolition Waste

All debris resulting from demolition of residential, commercial and industrial buildings is regulated solid waste. Certain items, such as uncontaminated concrete, brick and blocks, aged asphalt and soil are not regulated and may be managed differently if separated; these items are not required to be disposed of in a permitted landfill.

Asbestos-containing materials require special care and handling. Contact the Special Services Section, Air Division, ADEM, 334-271-7879, for requirements for asbestos management. Asbestos-containing materials may be disposed of in any permitted landfill in Alabama with written approval from ADEM, following the special waste provisions found in ADEM regulations at ADEM Admin. Code 335-13-4-.26(2). The solid waste regulations are available on the ADEM Internet web site at https://adem.alabama.gov/sites/default/files/2026-01/Division13.pdf .

Materials containing lead-based paint, such as painted wood, metal, concrete, brick or blocks, must be disposed of properly. If the material comes from deconstruction, demolition or maintenance of a residential structure, the lead-based paint items may be disposed of in any permitted landfill. If the lead-based paint items come from deconstruction, demolition or maintenance of any other structure, the material must be disposed of in a lined landfill built with leachate collection and groundwater monitoring.

As a safeguard for the owner of property being demolished or the entity responsible for demolition of the structure, ADEM recommends the demolition contract should require that receipts be presented by the demolition contractor showing that demolition waste was taken to a permitted landfill. The incidence of illegal dumping of demolition debris in Alabama is very high, and creation of an illegal dump could result in enforcement action by ADEM against the person dumping, the person hiring the person dumping as well as the landowner where dumping occurs.

Questions regarding disposal of non-hazardous solid waste in Alabama should be directed to the Solid Waste Branch, ADEM, 334-274-4201. A list of permitted landfills in the State of Alabama is available on the ADEM Internet web site at: https://adem.alabama.gov/waste .