



INFORMATION SHEET

OKLAHOMA CITY AIR LOGISTICS CENTER

TINKER AIR FORCE BASE, OKLAHOMA



HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Chemicals affect our everyday lives. They are used to produce almost everything we use, from paper and plastics, to medicines and food, to gasoline. Some occur naturally in the earth or atmosphere, and others are made by humans. If we use and dispose of them properly, they can enhance our quality of life. But if we use or dispose of them improperly, they can have harmful effects on humans, plants, and animals.

WHAT IS A HAZARDOUS WASTE?

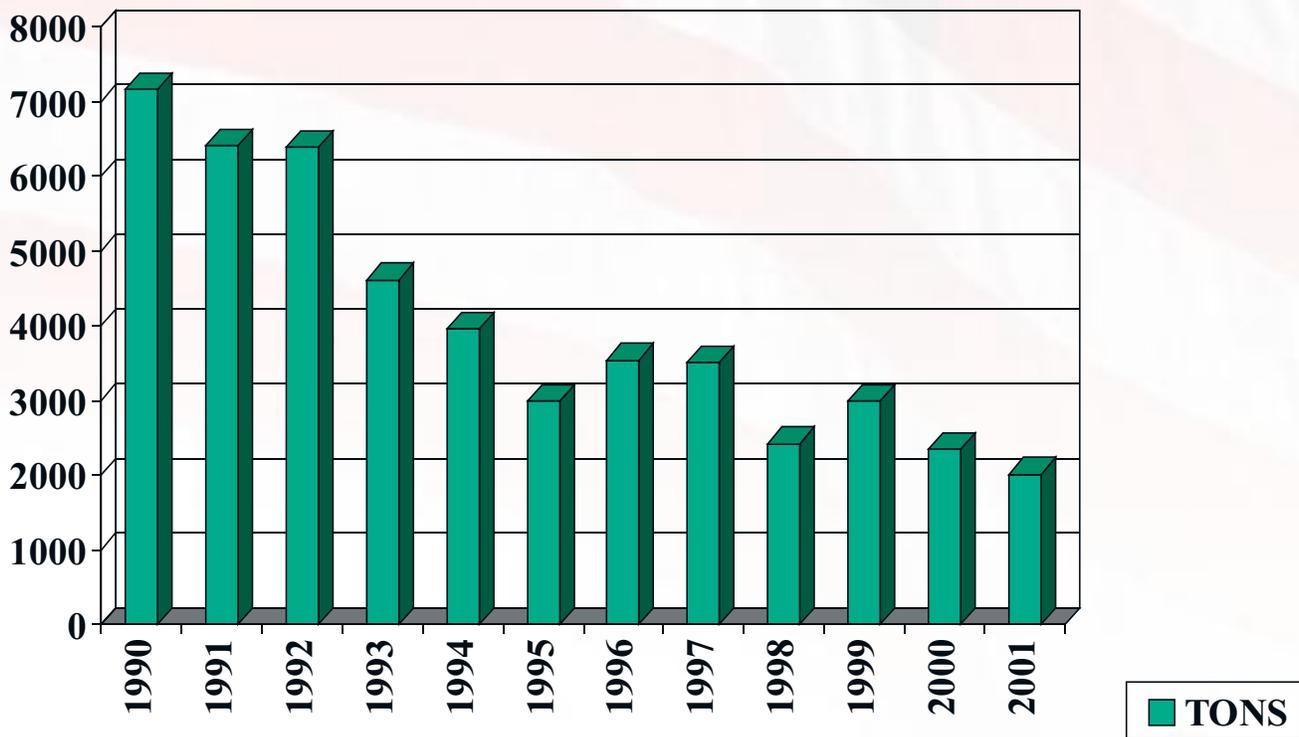
Hazardous waste is often a byproduct of a manufacturing process — material left after products are made. Some hazardous wastes come from our homes — such as old batteries, bug spray cans, and paint thinners. Regardless of where they come from, hazardous wastes must be disposed of properly or they will create health risks and damage the environment.

TINKER'S HAZARDOUS WASTES

Tinker Air Force Base's critical need to keep aircraft maintained and flying in support of the warfighter requires the use of special technologies and certain chemicals. The graph below shows Tinker's hazardous waste generation since 1990. Some of the processes that generate hazardous wastes on base include:

- Ground maintenance of aircraft
- Maintenance of buildings and equipment
- Blasting media
- Paint application
- Paint removal and stripping
- Electroplating operations
- Surface preparation work

HISTORY OF TINKER'S HAZARDOUS WASTE GENERATION



The Environmental Management (EM) Directorate, created in 1985, manages environmental issues at Tinker.

For more information, contact:

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<http://www-ext.tinker.af.mil/em>

HAZARDOUS WASTE TRACKING AT TINKER

The purpose of Tinker's Hazardous Waste Program is to track all hazardous wastes from the time they're generated on base (when a container is issued for a particular waste) until each waste is accepted at a proper disposal facility. Environmental Management personnel track hazardous and nonhazardous solid wastes requiring disposal through a Hazardous Materials Management System–Hazardous Waste Module.

Working closely with Unit Environmental Coordinators in the base industrial shops, hazardous waste personnel see that everyone is informed of changes in hazardous waste regulations and policies. The Unit Environmental Coordinators do quarterly inspections of waste accumulation points across base.

SIZE OF TINKER'S HAZARDOUS WASTE PROGRAM

- 1,215 hazardous waste collection sites
- 498 specific waste types

NUMBER OF TINKER'S HAZARDOUS WASTE PERSONNEL

- 38 Unit Environmental Coordinators
- 309 Shop Supervisors
- 415 Hazardous Waste Drum Monitors



HAZARDOUS WASTE PROGRAM PERSONNEL MAINTAIN ACCOUNTABILITY FOR ALL HAZARDOUS WASTES GENERATED AT TINKER THROUGH THE HAZARDOUS MATERIALS MANAGEMENT SYSTEM–HAZARDOUS WASTE MODULE.



ALL PERSONNEL ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR PROPERLY LABELING ALL HAZARDOUS WASTE DRUMS AND KEEPING THEM IN THEIR APPROPRIATE STORAGE AREAS ACCORDING TO STATE AND FEDERAL LAWS.



IN A WASTE STAGING AREA IN BUILDING 3001, ALL DRUMS ARE LABELED WITH DIFFERENT WASTES. ALL THE DRUMS ARE COMPATIBLE AND UNDER ONE CONTROL.

Annual hazardous waste disposal at Tinker has been reduced by 73 percent, from 16.5 million pounds to 4 million pounds. Hazardous materials are reclaimed, recovered, reused, recirculated, and recycled.