



## Road Sweepers Guidance

Road sweepings can contain mixed waste materials, including leaves, grit, mud, litter, glass, oils, paper, plastics, and cans. The residues may contain heavy metals, other contaminants (e.g. road salt) or de-icing chemicals and have high leachable organic content.

If not managed correctly road sweeper waste can have a detrimental effect on the environment. Regulations place a duty on Persimmon to ensure that this waste is handled, treated and or disposed of correctly.



**The priority should always be to dispose of road sweeping waste off-site.** Adopting this approach poses the least risk to the environment.

Where this is not reasonably practicable, sites can manage road sweeper waste as described in the steps outlined below.

The **hierarchy of control** in relation to the management road sweeper waste is:

1. Dispose of road sweepings off-site (at a suitably permitted facility)
2. Store on site in an area / container which is impermeable, until such time as there is sufficient volume to have removed from site (note: typical road sweeper tanks can hold approximately 2,000 litres) and remove as waste (see step 1 above)

Sites **cannot** import waste / residues from other developments (e.g. where road sweepers have visited other developments prior to our site) – this will be considered an illegal waste activity. Therefore, road sweepers must arrive on site empty.

### Temporary storage of road sweepings

Provided the steps outlined below are followed, the temporary storage of sweepings (pending removal from site) is allowed.

Road sweeping waste must:

- only be deposited and stored in an area provided with an impermeable base / layer with sealed drainage e.g. suitably dedicated lined pit, container etc.
- only be tipped in a dedicated area provided with signage;
- be stored no longer than 3 months;
- be kept in a secure place with no public access;
- not be imported from other developments;
- not cause a risk to the environment (e.g. water, air, soil, plants, animals etc.).

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The storage of road sweeper waste must not pose a risk to the environment. It must be contained within a system provided with sealed drainage. The setup must be impermeable and cannot leak.

The storage area must not be:

- located within 50m of a spring, well or borehole;
- within 10m of a watercourse; ditch or drainage channel; drains / manholes;
- in at areas at risk of flooding.

## Examples of poor road sweeper waste storage areas



**Poorly lined tipping pit which does not provide adequate containment**



**Open excavation filled with road sweeper waste**



**Buried skip which is not a sealed system and is overflowing**



**Deep open excavation which allows water to ingress to ground**

Any pit / container must be regularly inspected for defects and well-maintained. This must be recorded on the Weekly Site Manager Checksheet.

Managing road sweepings in this manner requires careful planning and should be done in consultation with the local Group Health, Safety and Environment Advisor.

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## Removal of sweeping waste from site

Any road / street sweepings generated from site must be removed by a suitably authorised person / company. They must be a registered waste carrier and dispose of the waste at a suitably permitted facility.

Waste transfer notes (WTNs) must be provided for the removal of waste from site. WTN's must include the correct European Waste Code or List of Wastes code which is **20 03 03** ("street cleaning residues"). For further advice on waste transfer please refer to the Waste Management Standard.

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