

Environmental Science Chapter 12: Study Guide

Section 1

- Definitions

Solid Waste

Municipal Solid Waste

Leachate

Biodegradable Material

Landfill

- Know at least three examples of solid waste
- Be able to explain why we create so much solid waste
- Know the two basic kinds of waste and examples of each
- Know what we throw away and what category your household trash would fall under
- Know the three locations where trash is sent
- Know the differences between a modern day landfill and conventional dumps
- Know the two main problems that landfills face
- Know the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) and what it did
- Know the disadvantages of adding all of the safeguards to landfills
- Know what an incinerator is and what it is designed to do
- Know the advantages and disadvantages of using an incinerator

Section 2

- Definitions

Compost

- Know the three options for dealing with solid waste
- Be able to list at least three examples of how to produce less waste
- Know what recycling products can save
- Know why recycling is important in producing materials
- Know the series of activities that occur when you recycle
- Know why buying recycled products is a good idea
- Know what yard waste and food scraps can be used to make rather than being dumped in a landfill
- Know how much of the waste we create can be eliminated
- Know the two types of “degradable” plastics and why they are not actually biodegradable
- Be able to list at least three ways in which you, as an individual, can help with the waste problem
- Know if truly biodegradable plastics are available
- Know the Case Study *Paper or Plastic?*

Section 3

- Definitions

Hazardous Waste

Deep-well Injection

Surface Impoundment

- Know where chemicals are used in the manufacturing process
- Know at least three examples of hazardous waste
- Know the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) and what it did
- Know the Superfund Act and what it did

- Know how we can manage hazardous waste
- Know the problems of using incinerators to manage hazardous waste
- Know where most of the hazardous waste is disposed of and what the main methods of disposal are
- Know the disadvantages of disposing hazardous waste
- Know why disposal of hazardous waste is actually storage of hazardous waste
- Know the term NIMBY and how it relates to dumping waste on a global scale
- Know what happens to household hazardous waste
- Know the benefits of household hazardous waste recycling centers
- Know one of the most discarded household hazardous wastes, what problems it can cause for the environment and what people can do about recycling it
- Know the Case Study *Love Canal: A Toxic Nightmare*

India: World's Shipping Toxic Waste Dump article

- Know the main points of the article
- Know why the dumping of ships in India is becoming a problem for residents and environmental groups
- Know what the Basel Convention is
- Know how ship owners are bypassing regulations and laws