

The California Medical Waste Management Act was passed by Legislature in 1990. The San Mateo County Board adopted a resolution in 1991, authorizing the Environmental Health Division to act as the local enforcement agency for the Medical Waste Management Act, California Health and Safety Code Sections 117600-118360.

The MWMA sets very specific requirements for handling, treating, storing and disposing of medical waste. Typical generators of medical waste include hospitals, clinics, physicians, dentist, assisted living facilities, research laboratories, and veterinarians. Medical waste includes sharps, bio-hazardous waste, chemotherapy, pathology and pharmaceutical waste.

San Mateo County Environmental Health is charged with the responsibility for ensuring that all businesses that produce these types of waste are registered as generators (large and small) and conduct routine inspections to ensure they comply with MWMA requirements.

We know that adhering to the California Medical Waste Management Act results in less mishandling of medical waste, provides a safer work environment, and ultimately, contributes to a healthier community. If you generate any of the medical waste described, and have not registered with San Mateo County Environmental Health, Medical Waste Program, please do so.

To help you navigate through the registration process, and understand the relevant requirements, we include the following resources:

- Pre Application Questionnaire
- Certification for non-medical waste generators
- Registration/Permit Application for medical waste generators
- Fee Schedule

For complete information about The Medical Waste Management Program go to the [California Department of Public Health](#).

If you have any questions about the Medical Waste Program in San Mateo County, please contact Darrell Cullen at (650) 464-3825 or dacullen@smcgov.org.

