

COMPLIANCE ADVISORY

UPDATE

Making You Aware of Incentives and Compliance Assistance Opportunities

Compliance & Enforcement

Issued: August 28, 2019

#2019-06

DEP to Present Free Seminar on the Hazardous Waste Pharmaceutical Rule

Who is affected by this initiative?

Healthcare Facilities, Hazardous Waste Generators, Transporters, Treatment Storage and Disposal Facilities, Regulated Medical Waste Generators, Reverse Distributors and Environmental Consultants should find this seminar helpful in maintaining compliance with the Hazardous Waste regulations.

All New Jersey Healthcare Facilities that generate hazardous waste pharmaceuticals will be affected by these new regulations. For purposes of these regulations, a **Healthcare Facility** is any person providing preventative, diagnostic, therapeutic, rehabilitative, maintenance or palliative care, counseling, services, assessment or procedures related to physical or mental conditions, or functions of a human or animal; or any person who distributes, sells, or dispenses pharmaceuticals, including over-the-counter medicines, dietary supplements, homeopathic drugs, or prescriptions. Healthcare Facilities include, but are not limited to, wholesale distributors, third-party logistics providers serving as forward distributors, military medical logistics facilities, hospitals, psychiatric hospitals, ambulatory surgical centers, health clinics, physicians' offices, optical and dental providers, chiropractors, long-term care facilities, ambulance services, pharmacies, long-term care pharmacies, mail-order pharmacies, retailers of pharmaceuticals, and veterinary clinics and hospitals.

This definition does not include pharmaceutical manufacturers, reverse distributors, or reverse logistics centers. In addition, the regulations include exemptions for Very Small Quantity Generators of hazardous waste who generate hazardous waste pharmaceuticals as part of their waste stream.

Why would I need help?

The USEPA published new regulations titled "Management Standards for Hazardous Waste Pharmaceuticals and Amendment to the P075 Listing for Nicotine" in the Federal Register on February 22, 2019. Since New Jersey incorporates certain Federal hazardous waste rules by reference, the regulation became effective nationally and in New Jersey, on August 21, 2019.

The rule has significantly changed the way hazardous waste pharmaceuticals are handled. Previously, all hazardous waste pharmaceuticals were required to be handled like all other hazardous wastes. All NJ healthcare facilities are now required to manage their hazardous waste pharmaceuticals in compliance with this rule.

One of the biggest impacts resulting from this new rule is that FDA-approved over-the-counter nicotine replacement therapies (i.e., nicotine patches, gums and lozenges) will no longer be considered hazardous waste when discarded. The rule also bans the sewering of hazardous waste pharmaceuticals.

COMPLIANCE ADVISORY

What compliance assistance is available?

On **October 9, 2019**, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection's Compliance & Enforcement Program will present a **free seminar** on the Pharmaceutical Rule. EPA staff that helped draft the rule will present an extensive overview of the rule at this seminar. It will be held from **9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.** in the auditorium at the:

New Jersey Forensic Science Technology Center 1200 Negron Drive Hamilton, NJ 08691

For directions to the New Jersey Forensic Science Technology Center open: http://www.njadvocacyinstitute.com/051410-Forensic-Science-Technology-Center.pdf

Seats are limited. Please reserve your seat by completing the online registration at: http://events.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=soqviyhab&oeidk=a07egj6azecf8ee0b4a

Who should I contact with questions?

Bret Reburn, Bureau of Hazardous Waste Compliance & Enforcement at (609) 292-4862 or Bret.Reburn@dep.nj.gov

Where can I get more information?

NJDEP Hazardous Waste Compliance and Enforcement Field Offices:

Northern Field Office - 7 Ridgedale Avenue; Cedar Knolls, NJ 07927; (973) 656-4470 Central Field Office - 9 Ewing Street; Trenton, NJ 08625; (609) 943-3019 Southern Field Office - 2 Riverside Drive; Suite 201; Camden, NJ 08103; (856) 614-3658

General rule information:

https://www.epa.gov/hwgenerators/final-rule-management-standards-hazardous-waste-pharmaceuticals-and-amendment-p075

NJDEP Hazardous Waste Training Opportunities:

http://www.state.nj.us/dep/enforcement/cetraining.html

Contact NJDEP: http://www.nj.gov/cgi-bin/dep/contactdep.pl

DEP Data Miner: http://www.nj.gov/dep/opra/online.html

To comment on this advisory: http://www.nj.gov/dep/enforcement/survey.html

Please note this advisory is intended to be a summary explanation of a department initiative. It does not include all potentially applicable requirements. If you have any questions related to compliance with this initiative, please contact the Enforcement number listed above.