

**PABLO**

# **INTRODUCTION TO ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES**

## **Waste Management**

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## **SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT**

**HISTORY OF WASTE MANAGEMENT**





# Types of Waste





Municipal Waste





Bulky Waste





Bio Waste





Wood Waste







WEEE Waste





Harzadous Waste







Industrial Waste





Demolition Waste







Car Waste





## Paper Waste

# **Facts about Sanitation in Ghana**

Poor sanitation and bad hygiene costs Ghana USD290m yearly – World Bank

Approximately 19,000 people including 5,100 children under the age of five die each year of diarrhoea, nearly 90% of which is directly attributed to poor water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services.

Faecal contamination of the environment is the root cause of an annual average of 1,800 cases of cholera affecting people

## **Introduction**

Large amount of waste is generated each day and it is estimated that about 2,800 metric tons of MSW are generated daily in Accra alone.

Waste collection involves picking of waste from the sources, hauling and offloading at transfer stations or disposal sites.

Collection, transfer and transportation plays a critical role in the general waste management system.

It takes about 60-80% of the cost of waste management and thus the need for proper management of the collection system.

## **Introduction**

Waste collection methods depend on the area in question such as residential, commercial, industrial or agricultural set-up.

Each method requires a compatible container with different sizes and vehicle for the activities.

Separation of recyclable components at source is very important to aid recycling.

Individuals send recyclable waste to drop-off, take back and recycling centres to enhance waste management.



Special vehicles are used to collect recyclable, special and commingled wastes

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## **Definition of waste management**

Solid waste management refers to the collecting, storing, treating, and disposing of solid material that is discarded or is no longer useful.

Improper disposal of MSW can create unsanitary conditions, which can lead to environmental pollution and outbreak of vector-borne disease.

## **Sources of solid wastes**

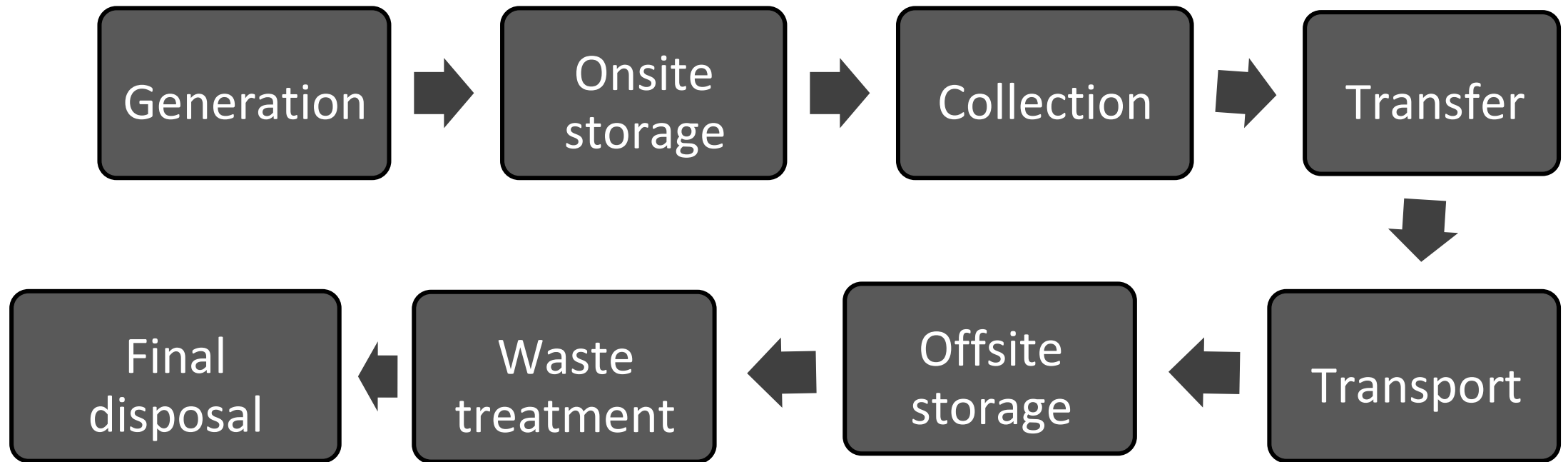
Households; agricultural fields; industries and mining, hotels and catering; roads and railways; hospitals and educational institutions; cultural centers and places of recreation and tourism, etc.

## **Classification of Solid Wastes**

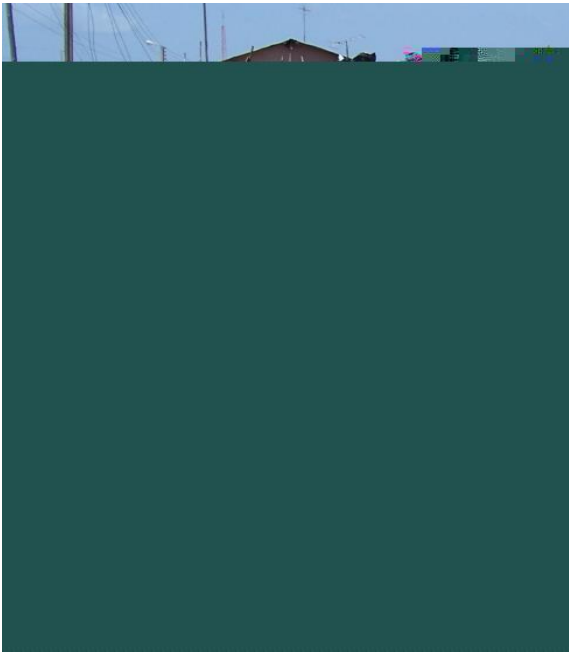
1. Municipal Waste
2. Hospital Waste

### 3. Hazardous Waste

# Waste collection stages



**Instrument for waste collection**





**Container for recyclables**

**Haul container**

**stationary container**

# Container types



1.100 L container



120 L bins



# **Ways for effective Solid Waste Management**

- Sanitary landfills
- Composting
- Landfills
- Incineration and pyrolysis (combustion in the absence of oxygen)
- Vermiculture or earthworm farming
- Bioremediation or the use of micro-organism (bacteria and fungi)
- Reuse, reduce, and recycle

# Solid Waste Management

## *Waste management*

- high waste approach
- Burying, burning, shipping

## *Waste prevention*

- low waste approach

## *Reduce, reuse, recycle*

### What Can You Do?

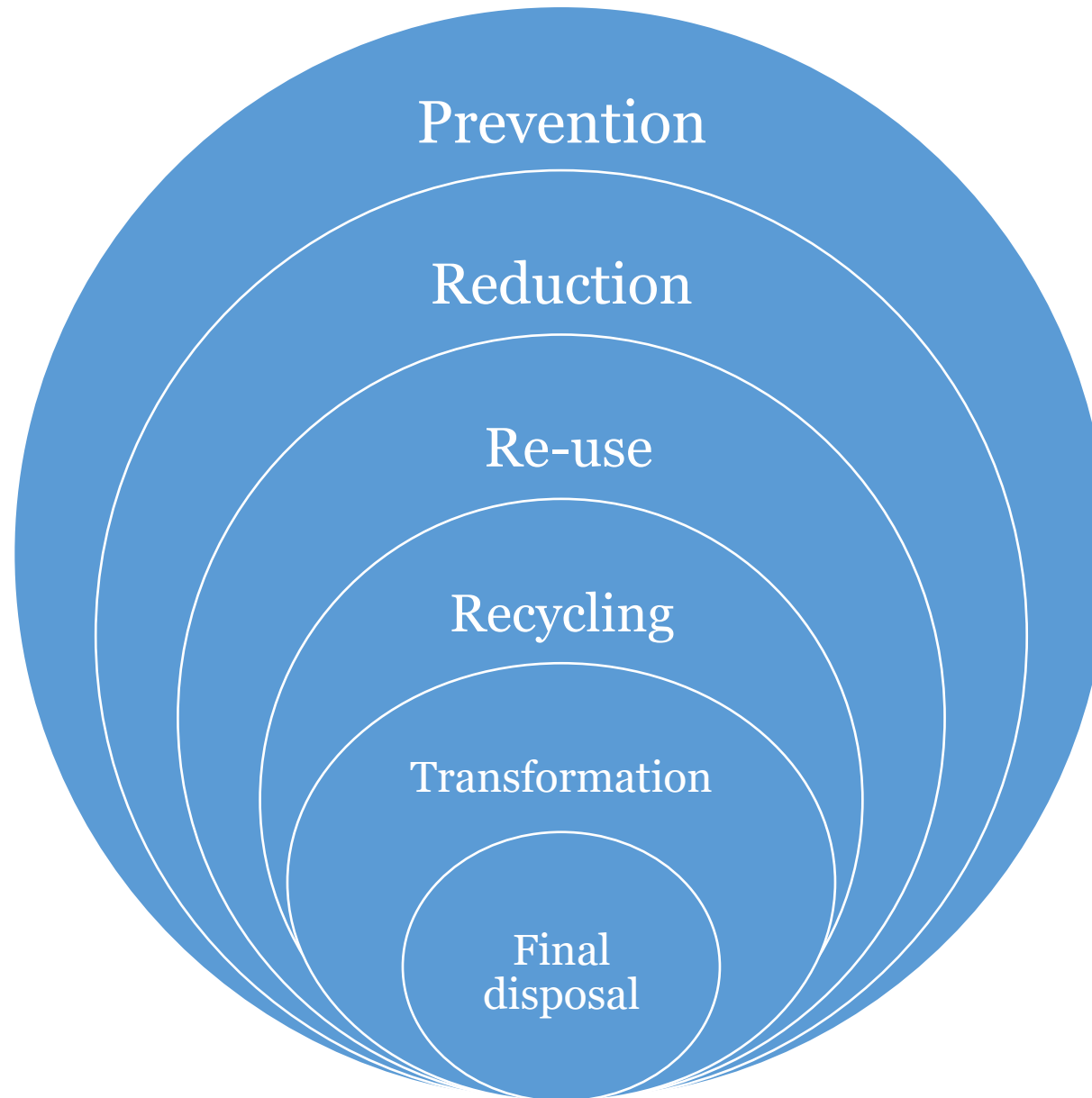
#### Solid Waste

- Follow the four R's of resource use: Refuse, Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle.
- Ask yourself whether you really need a particular item.
- Rent, borrow, or barter goods and services when you can.
- Buy things that are reusable, recyclable, or compostable, and be sure to reuse, recycle, and compost them.
- Do not use throwaway paper and plastic plates, cups, and eating utensils, and other disposable items when reusable or refillable versions are available.
- Use e-mail in place of conventional paper mail.
- Read newspapers and magazines online.
- Buy products in concentrated form whenever possible.



***Nature does not generate waste.***

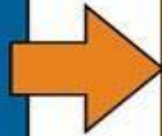
# **Waste management hierarchy**



## 1st Priority

### Primary Pollution and Waste Prevention

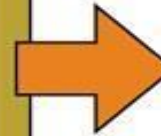
- Change industrial process to eliminate use of harmful chemicals
- Purchase different products
- Use less of a harmful product
- Reduce packaging and materials in products
- Make products that last longer and are recyclable, reusable, or easy to repair



## 2nd Priority

### Secondary Pollution and Waste Prevention

- Reuse products
- Repair products
- Recycle
- Compost
- Buy reusable and recyclable products



## Last Priority

### Waste Management

- Treat waste to reduce toxicity
- Incinerate waste
- Bury waste in landfills
- Release waste into environment for dispersal or dilution



## Important of reuse

- Extends resource supplies
- Saves energy and money
- Reduces pollution
- Creates jobs
- Reusable products

## What Can You Do?

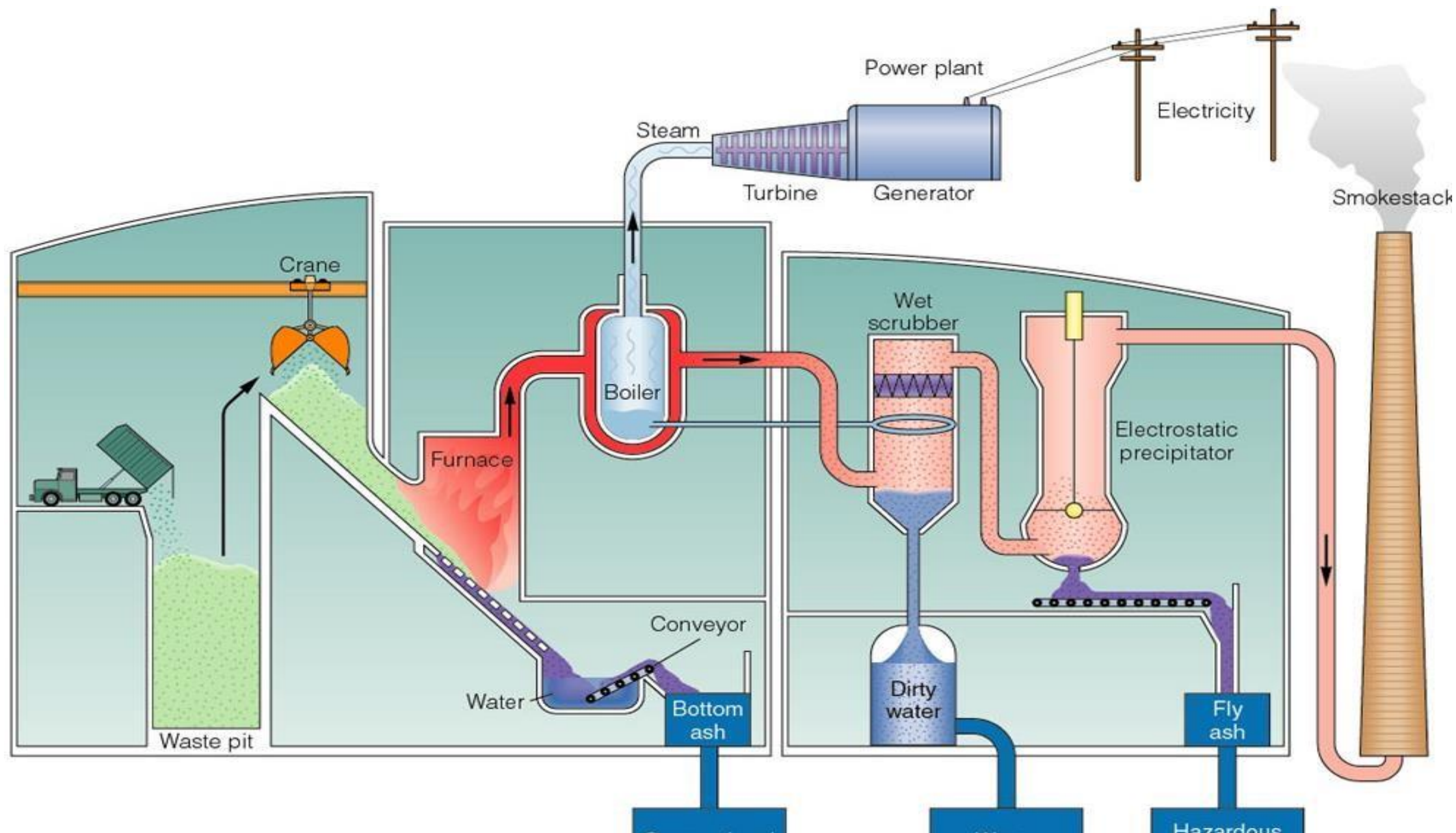
### Reuse

- Buy beverages in refillable glass containers instead of cans or throwaway bottles.
- Use reusable plastic or metal lunchboxes.
- Carry sandwiches and store food in the refrigerator in reusable containers instead of wrapping them in aluminum foil or plastic wrap.
- Use rechargeable batteries and recycle them when their usefull life is over.
- Carry groceries and other items in a reusable basket, a canvas or string bag, or a small cart.
- Use reusable sponges and washable cloth napkins, dishtowels, and handkerchiefs instead of throwaway paper ones.

# Incineration of Wastes

- Mass burn incineration
- Air pollution
- Waste to energy





# Burying Wastes

- Landfills most common method of waste disposal - cheap and convenient.
- Open pits no longer acceptable.
- Complex impermeable bottom layers to trap contaminants
- Daily deposits are covered by layer of dirt.
- Methane gas and leachate monitoring wells





## Trade-Offs

### Sanitary Landfills

#### Advantages

No open burning

Little odor

Low groundwater pollution if sited properly

Can be built quickly

Low operating costs

Can handle large amounts of waste

Filled land can be used for other purposes

No shortage of landfill space in many areas



#### Disadvantages

Noise and traffic

Dust

Air pollution from toxic gases and volatile organic compounds

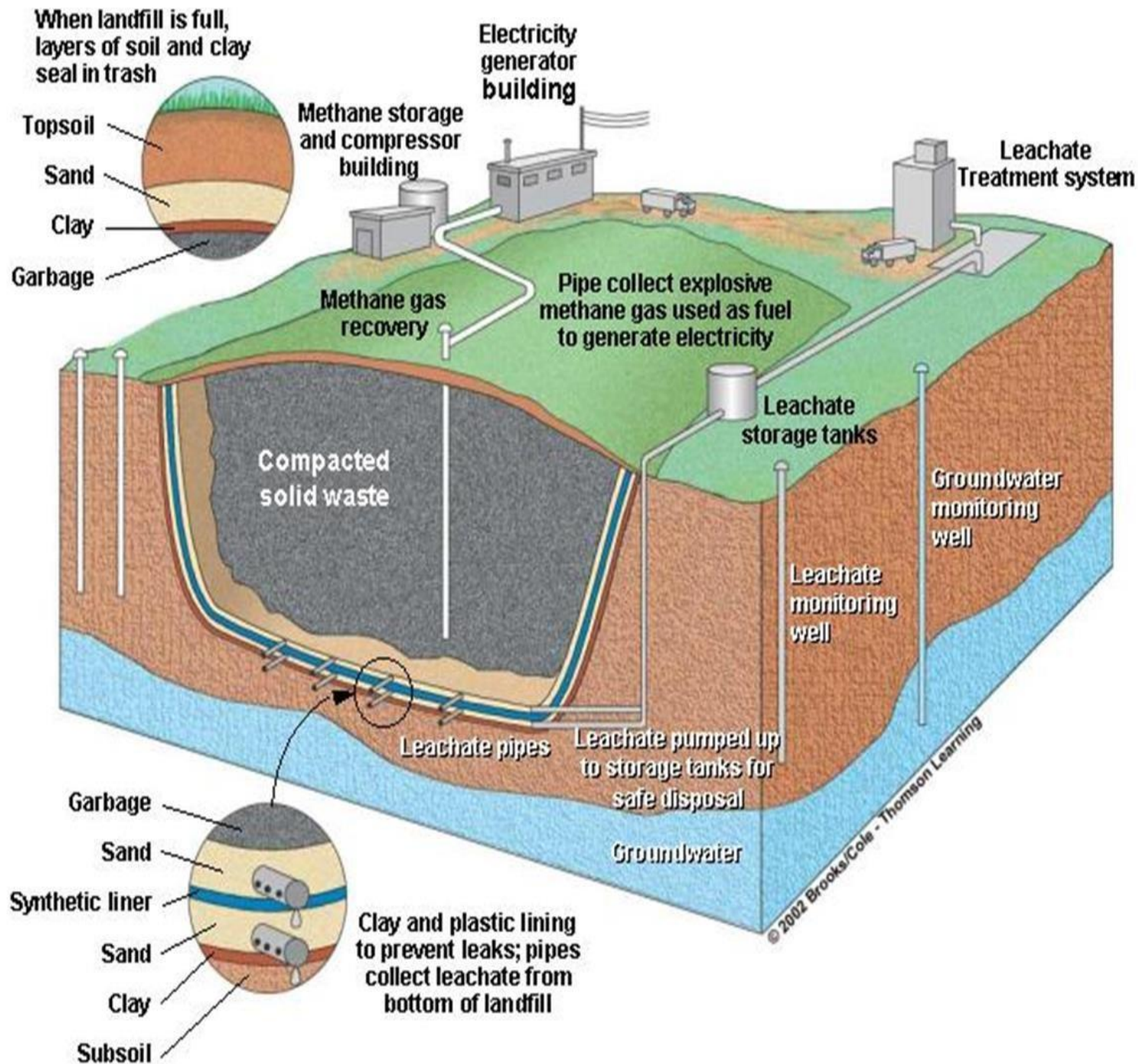
Releases greenhouse gases (methane and CO<sub>2</sub>) unless they are collected

Groundwater contamination

Slow decomposition of wastes

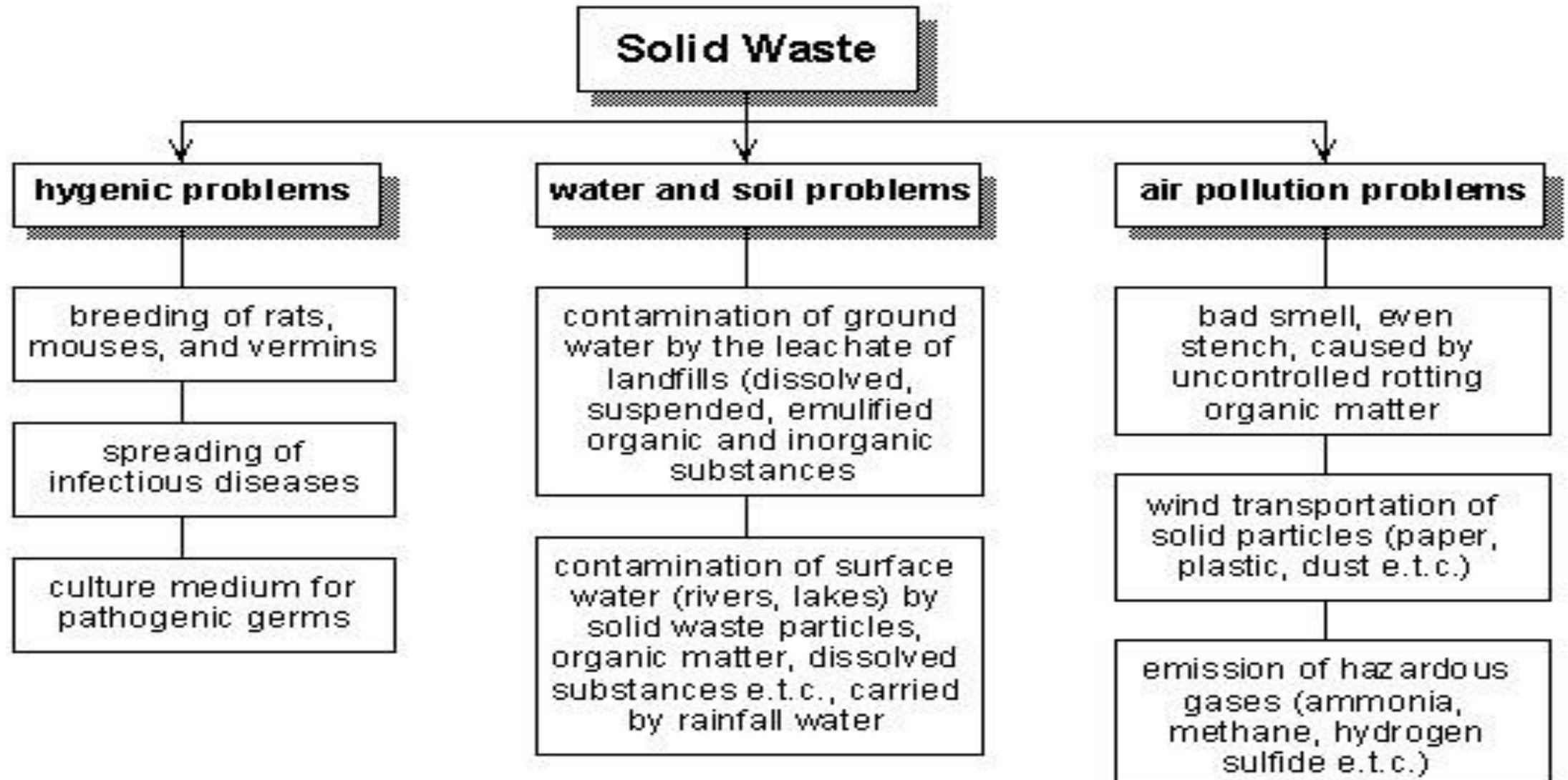
Discourages recycling and waste reduction

Eventually leaks and can contaminate groundwater



## Environmental challenges of solid waste

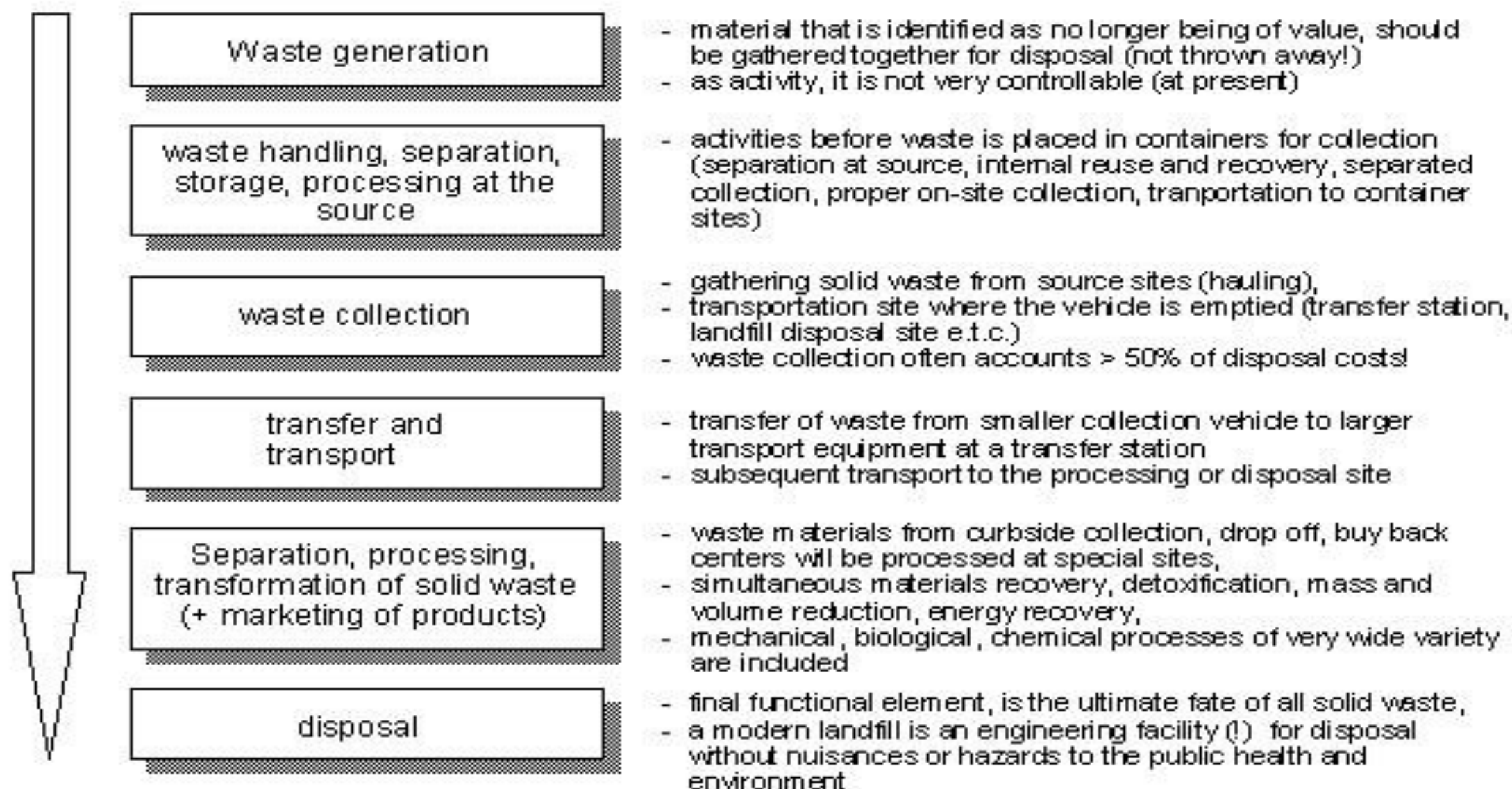
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## Elements of waste management system





# **Hazardous Waste (HW)**

It is defined as any substance, in solid, liquid or gaseous form which causes danger or is likely to cause danger to health and environment.

The hazardous waste requires to be disposed of in a secured manner due to their characteristic properties.

## **Characteristics of HW**

- Contains at least one toxic compound
- Catches fire easily

- Reactive or explosive
- Corrodes metal containers

## **Characteristics of hazardous waste**

1. Ignitability
2. Corrosiveness
3. Reactivity
4. Toxicity

Hazardous waste management rules are notified to ensure safe handling, generation, processing, treatment, package, storage, transportation, use reprocessing, collection, conversion, and offering for sale, destruction, and disposal of hazardous waste.

# What Harmful Chemicals Are in Your Home?

## Cleaning

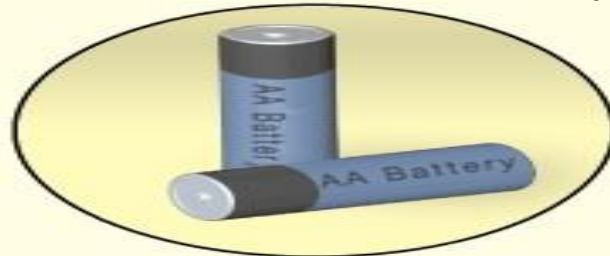
- Disinfectants
- Drain, toilet, and window cleaners
- Spot removers
- Septic tank, cleaners

## Paint

- Latex and oil-based paints
- Paint thinners, solvents, and strippers
- Stains, varnishes, and lacquers
- Wood preservatives
- Artist paints and inks

## General

- Dry cell batteries (mercury and cadmium)



## Gardening

- Pesticides
- Weed killers
- Ant and rodent killers
- Flea powders

## Automotive

- Gasoline
- Used motor oil
- Antifreeze
- Battery acid
- Solvents
- Brake and transmission fluid