**Waste Management**

**Waste** are unwanted or unusable materials. Waste is any substance which is discarded after primary use, or is worthless, defective and of no use.

**Waste management** are the activities and actions required to manage waste from its inception to its final disposal. This includes the collection, transport, treatment and disposal of waste, together with monitoring and regulation of the waste management process.

**Sources of waste**

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| **Source** | **Type** |
| Residential | Food wastes, paper, cardboard, plastics, textiles, leather, yard wastes, wood, glass, metals, electronics, batteries, oil. |
| Industrial | Housekeeping wastes, packaging, food wastes, construction and demolition materials, hazardous wastes, ashes. |
| Commercial | Paper, cardboard, plastics, wood, food wastes, glass, metals, special wastes, hazardous wastes. |
| Institutional | Paper, cardboard, plastics, wood, food wastes, glass, metals, special wastes, hazardous wastes. |
| Construction and demolition | Wood, steel, concrete, dirt, etc. |
| Municipal services | Street sweepings; landscape and tree trimmings; general wastes from parks, and other recreational areas. |
| Agriculture | Spoiled food wastes, agricultural wastes, hazardous wastes (e.g., pesticides). |

**Types of waste**

1. Liquid Waste

Liquid waste is commonly found both in households as well as in industries. This waste includes dirty water, organic liquids, wash water, waste detergents and even rainwater.

You should also know that liquid waste can be classified into point and non-point source waste. All manufactured liquid waste is classified as point source waste. On the other hand, natural liquid waste is classified as non-point source waste.

2. Solid Rubbish

Solid rubbish can include a variety of items found in your household along with commercial and industrial locations.

Solid rubbish is commonly broken down into the following types:

Plastic waste – This consists of bags, containers, jars, bottles and many other products that can be found in your household. Plastic is not biodegradable, but many types of plastic can be recycled. Plastic should not be mix in with your regular waste, it should be sorted and placed in your recycling bin.

Paper/card waste – This includes packaging materials, newspapers, cardboards and other products. Paper can easily be recycled and reused so make sure to place them in your recycling bin or take them to your closest Brisbane recycling depot.

Tins and metals – This can be found in various forms throughout your home. Most metals can be recycled. Consider taking these items to a scrap yard or your closest Brisbane recycling depot to dispose of this waste type properly.

Ceramics and glass – These items can easily be recycled. Look for special glass recycling bins and bottle banks to dispose them correctly.

3. Organic Waste

Organic waste is another common household. All food waste, garden waste, manure and rotten meat are classified as organic waste. Over time, organic waste is turned into manure by microorganisms. However, this does not mean that you can dispose them anywhere.

4. Recyclable Rubbish

Recyclable rubbish includes all waste items that can be converted into products that can be used again. Solid items such as paper, metals, furniture and organic waste can all be recycled.

Instead of throwing these items in with regular waste, which then ends up in landfills, place them in your yellow recycling bin.

5. Hazardous Waste

Hazardous waste includes all types of rubbish that are flammable, toxic, corrosive and reactive.

These items can harm you as well as the environment and must be disposed of correctly. Therefore, I recommend you make use of a waste removal company for proper disposal of all hazardous waste.