COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND QUALITY (DEHQ)

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS DIVISION (HMD)
Permits

Seek Help. Get Answers.
Helping businesses understand how to obtain an HMD permit and stay in compliance promotes environmental stewardship while we all share the benefit of a cleaner and safer County of San Diego.

Permit / Invoice Questions:
(858) 505-6661
HMDops@sdcounty.ca.gov

CERS Assistance:
(858) 505-6990
HMDOps@sdcounty.ca.gov

Complaints / Report Unpermitted Site:
(858) 505-6657
HMDcomplaint@sdcounty.ca.gov

Other Hazmat Questions:
(858) 505-6880
HMDutyEH@sdcounty.ca.gov

Our Services

- Hazardous Materials Division (HMD), permits and conducts compliance inspections at facilities that are subject to one or more of the unified programs
- Underground Storage Tank (UST) Plan Check, reviews and permits UST construction, upgrades, modifications, and/or removals
- Hazardous Materials Business Plan (HMBP) Plan Check, assists new businesses and businesses undergoing tenant improvements in complying with their HMBP
- Hazardous Materials Duty Desk, answers technical questions related to hazardous materials and hazardous wastes
- California Environmental Reporting System (CERS) Help Desk, assists facilities with completing and submitting their business information through CERS
- Hazardous Incident Response Team (HIRT), investigates and mitigates chemical-related emergencies and handles after normal business hours complaints for the Dept. of Environmental Health and Quality (DEHQ). The HIRT responds jointly with the San Diego Fire Department
- Community Outreach, HMD conducts outreach at local schools, fairs, and other community events
- Collaboration, HMD collaborates with other agencies, industry groups, and community groups and associations
The Department of Environmental Health and Quality (DEHQ) – Hazardous Materials Division (HMD) is the designated Certified Unified Program Agency (CUPA) for the County of San Diego. A CUPA is the local agency that has regulatory authority over the unified program. HMD and CUPA are often used interchangeably.

What is HMD?
The Hazardous Materials Division’s goal is to protect human health and the environment by ensuring that hazardous materials, hazardous waste, medical waste, and underground storage tanks are properly managed through education, outreach, and enforcement.

What needs a permit from HMD?
A Unified Program Facility Permit (UPFP) is required at each location where a business is subject to one or more of the unified program elements.

HMBP: Hazardous Materials Business Plan
HW: Hazardous Waste and HW Treatment
UST: Underground Storage Tanks
APSA: Aboveground Petroleum Storage Act
CalARP: California Accidental Release Program

Which programs apply depends...
- What are the hazardous properties?
- What is the quantity stored/handled?
- What is the correct threshold amount?
- Is it a waste? If so, how is it managed?
- For tanks, is it above or below ground?

How to Apply for a Permit?
To keep the first step as simple as possible, apply for a permit if your facility does either of the following:

- Generate or treat hazardous waste or medical waste in any amount
- Store or handle hazardous materials or chemicals at or above HMBP thresholds (55 gallons of a liquid, 500 pounds of a solid, 200 cubic feet of a gas)

Visit our website and fill out our permit application found at
https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/deh/hazmat
or call us at
(858) 505-6880

Common examples of Hazardous Materials:
Oil, Diesel, Gasoline, Paint, Antifreeze, Fertilizers, Compressed Gases, Solvents