

## **Best Management Practices for Location and Maintenance of Dumpsters Relative to Public Water Supply Wells**

The following is a list of recommended Best Management Practices (BMPs) to be implemented when dumpsters are located in the vicinity of a well used as a public drinking water source. For the purposes of this document, a dumpster is defined as: *a container designed for receiving, transporting, and dumping waste materials*. Use of the term ‘dumpster’ in this document refers both to the dumpster and its contents.

1. Dumpsters should be as far removed from the well as the general layout of the premises and the surroundings will permit, and, whenever possible, outside of the sanitary radius of the well. (A dumpster may be considered a ‘source of pollution’, and therefore, relocation may be required in accordance with the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies (RCSA), Section 19-13-B51d.)
2. Certain materials that are placed or stored in a dumpster are considered potential sources of pollution and will constitute a RCSA violation if the dumpster is located within the sanitary radius of the well. These materials include, but are not limited to: sewage, industrial waste, animal excrement, gasoline, fuel oil, kerosene, any hazardous waste (as defined in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Title 40, Part 261—Identification And Listing Of Hazardous Waste, Subpart D) and may include pesticides, herbicides, fertilizers, household chemicals, automotive chemicals and any other items that may impair the aquifer if allowed to leach into the ground.
3. Do not locate a dumpster up gradient of a well. Dumpsters should be as far removed and down-gradient from the well location as the parcel will allow.
4. Liquids should not be disposed of in a dumpster.
5. Dumpsters should be properly maintained. If it is discovered that there are problems with the integrity of the dumpster or damage to the covers or doors, the dumpster should be repaired or replaced. The waste disposal company should be contacted to arrange this. Be sure to have regular and adequate collection of the dumpster contents.
6. Keep all dumpster lids and doors closed and locked to prevent access by rainwater, animals and unauthorized users. A locked fence around the dumpster is also recommended, when practical.
7. When a dumpster needs cleaning, call your solid waste hauler for cleaning or replacement. Do not wash or hose out a dumpster or trash can near a well. If the waste hauler is responsible for cleaning, do not allow the dumpster to be cleaned on your premises.
8. All refuse should be placed in trash bags before being placed in the dumpster. Do not put trash directly into dumpsters.
9. Locate dumpsters on impervious surfaces to minimize the chances of leakage from the dumpster, which could penetrate the surface and seep into the aquifer. Rainwater surface runoff near the dumpster should not flow toward the well. Dumpsters are typically equipped with a drain. Dumpsters should be fitted with a drain plug and should be inspected for leaks on a regular basis.
10. Do not overfill the dumpster.
11. Do not place trash outside of the dumpster; keep the area around the dumpster clean.