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west virginia department of environmental protection

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Austin Caperton, Cabinet Secretary  
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## EMERGENCY BULLETIN

March 22, 2020

**TO:** All West Virginia Composite Lined Solid Waste Landfills  
And Approved Transfer Stations

**FROM:** Katheryn Emery, P.E., Acting Director   
Division of Water and Waste Management

As you are aware, all fifty states and Washington D.C. have declared a state of emergency due to the situation surrounding COVID-19 to minimize the spread and/or threat of the virus. On March 20, 2020, the National Waste & Recycling Association (NWRA) requested that the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) consider granting relief or flexibility to certain regulations concerning the handling, storage and disposal of solid waste and recycling materials. Specifically, the NWRA requested the following:

- Flexibility in the operational hours of solid waste facilities (expanded hours);
- The relaxing of tonnage limits at state solid waste facilities;
- Extension of storage times at solid waste transfer facilities;
- Reduction of disposal bans for recyclables and yard waste; and
- Flexibility for compliance timelines for documenting tasks required by solid waste facility operating permits.

Upon consideration of said request, the DEP has determined that such concessions are necessary and proper to the protection of human health and the environment during this difficult time. Therefore, during the pendency of the declaration of a state of emergency in West Virginia:

- You are hereby authorized to adjust your hours of operation as needed to expedite responsiveness to the emergency. A copy of your facility's modified operating schedule must be emailed to the Division of Water and Waste Management (DWWM) at [Yogesh.P.Patel@wv.gov](mailto:Yogesh.P.Patel@wv.gov).

Promoting a healthy environment.

- The tonnage limit for your facility is hereby waived. Please ensure that all tonnage accepted at your facility is included on the monthly tonnage report and that all fees are collected for the material.
- Storage times for materials delivered to transfer stations and recycling facilities are hereby waived.
- Your facility may accept recyclables and yard waste for disposal.

If you have any questions or concerns, please telephone the DWWM at (304) 926-0495.