



*Illinois Environmental
Protection Agency*

**LANDFILL OPERATOR
SOLID WASTE & SPECIAL WASTE
ENDORSEMENT
PRACTICE EXAM**

SOLID WASTE LANDFILL OPERATOR PRACTICE EXAM

1. An amendment to an approved permit issued by the Illinois EPA is considered a "significant modification" when _____.
 - A. it results in a loss of efficiency in the facility operation
 - B. it results in an increase in the costs of disposal
 - C. the modification results in any parameter in the permit having a value lying outside the expected operating range of values as specified in the permit
 - D. all of the above

2. Before directly operating heavy equipment on the leachate collection piping system, _____ feet of waste must be mounded over it.
 - A. 10
 - B. 5
 - C. 3
 - D. 1

3. "Disposal" has occurred once _____.
 - A. solid waste has accumulated
 - B. solid waste is not contained to prevent entry into the environment
 - C. solid waste is not confined
 - D. all of the above occurs

4. The leachate must be collected and tested at least _____ while the leachate management system is in operation.
 - A. weekly
 - B. monthly
 - C. once every 6 months
 - D. annually

5. All vegetation on the final protective cover must _____.
 - A. be tolerant of the landfill gas generated
 - B. be tolerant of the leachate produced
 - C. be tolerant of alternate freezing and thawing
 - D. all of the above

6. If a hauler is suspected of carrying regulated hazardous wastes, the facility must communicate with the party responsible for generating or shipping the waste to the facility to ____.
- A. determine the identity of the waste
 - B. get rid of the load immediately from the disposal site
 - C. find an alternative disposal site for the load
 - D. all of the above
7. To be certified by Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, a chief operator must ____; and a landfill operator must ____.
- A. pass an exam; pay the fees
 - B. pass an exam(s); pass an exam(s)
 - C. pass an exam(s); have prior conduct certification
 - D. have prior conduct certification; pass the exam(s), and pay the fees
8. The operator must provide financial assurance for closure and post-closure to the Illinois EPA ____.
- A. within 30 days of beginning operation of the landfill
 - B. as part of the permit application
 - C. by the expected closure date
 - D. before receipt of the waste
9. ____ prices for items should be used when preparing new closure and post-closure cost estimates.
- A. Historical
 - B. Current
 - C. Projected
 - D. Adjusted
10. Landfill operators do not need to revise current cost estimates for closure and post-closure care ____.
- A. when the landfill ownership changes
 - B. when facility modifications result in an increase of the cost estimate
 - C. in each new application for permit renewal
 - D. none of the above
11. Landfill operators shall maintain and operate all systems, related devices, and structures to ____.
- A. grow profits
 - B. minimize operation costs
 - C. properly operate facilities within compliance
 - D. all of the above

12. Runoff from undisturbed areas which becomes mixed with runoff from disturbed areas _____.
A. is not regulated
B. must be treated in a publicly owned treatment works (POTWs)
C. must be handled as runoff from disturbed areas
D. none of the above
13. A contaminated leachate is _____.
A. any leachate that releases from the top of a slope
B. any leachate whose constituents violate the Public and Food Processing Water Supply Standards
C. any liquid below a landfill that has dissimilar constituent characteristics than groundwater background
D. all of the above
14. All solid wastes which do not meet the descriptions of inert or chemical wastes shall be considered _____.
A. commercial wastes
B. non-hazardous wastes
C. general household wastes
D. putrescible wastes
15. An administrative citation carries a civil penalty of _____ for each violation.
A. \$250.00
B. \$500.00
C. \$1,000.00
D. \$2,000.00
16. Coordinating safe landfill operations with local emergency services should be included in the _____.
A. contingency plan
B. daily operation plan
C. Illinois EPA operating permit
D. none of the above
17. The leachate drainage system of a landfill must overlay _____.
A. the entire liner system
B. only the bottom part of the landfill liner system
C. only the side parts of the landfill liner system
D. only those portions of the liner that will collect leachate

18. The Construction Quality Assurance Officer is accountable for the supervision and perform all inspections for _____.
A. installation of the compacted earth liner
B. installation of gas control facilities
C. installation of a geomembrane
D. all of the above
19. Groundwater monitoring wells are to be installed to _____.
A. monitor only previously filled portions of the disposal units
B. monitor only that portion of the aquifer which surpasses drinking water standards
C. monitor all sources or potential sources of discharges to the groundwater from waste disposal units and the leachate management system
D. none of the above
20. The contaminant transport model chosen for the groundwater impact assessment must be reviewed for acceptance by the _____.
A. County Health Department
B. Illinois Department of Public Health
C. U.S. EPA
D. Illinois EPA
21. The low permeability layer of the final cover must be constructed no later than _____ days after placement of the final lift of solid waste.
A. 15
B. 30
C. 60
D. 90
22. To demonstrate that a waste pile is not a landfill, the operator must show evidence that within the preceding _____ the waste has been removed for utilization or disposed of elsewhere.
A. one month
B. six months
C. twelve months
D. twenty-four months
23. _____ is required in the maintenance of intermediate cover.
A. Repair of all cracks, rills, gullies, and depressions to retain solid waste covered
B. Maintenance of seals around landfill gas vents and walls
C. Maintenance of vegetative growth
D. Maintenance of a 5 to 1 slope to thwart run-off

24. A gas management system must be installed when the methane concentration measured beyond the boundary line by an ambient air monitor exceeds ____.

- A. detection
- B. 10%
- C. 25%
- D. 50%

25. Asbestos debris from construction-demolition shall be managed in accordance with the ____.

- A. Illinois Department of Public Health regulations
- B. National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants regulations
- C. Toxic Substance Control Act regulations
- D. Occupational Health and Safety Administration regulations

SPECIAL WASTE ENDORSEMENT PRACTICE EXAM

1. A manifest accompanying each non-hazardous special waste accepted for disposal at a landfill must contain ____.

- A. a description of the process from which the waste was generated.
- B. the name of the special waste hauler.
- C. the chemical composition of the waste.
- D. all of the above

2. If regulated hazardous wastes are identified by random load checking or otherwise discovered at a landfill permitted to accept non-hazardous special wastes, the responsibility to assure the cleanup, transportation and disposal of the waste at a permitted hazardous waste management facility belongs to ____.

- A. the hauler.
- B. the Illinois EPA.
- C. the solid waste management facility.
- D. the generator.

3. A landfill rejecting loads of special waste must ____.

- A. send information on rejected loads to the Illinois EPA in a monthly report.
- B. send information on rejected loads to the Illinois EPA in a quarterly report.
- C. notify the Illinois EPA immediately.
- D. send information on rejected loads to the generator.

4. A landfill must retain at the landfill all special waste documents, including chemical analysis, and certifications _____.
A. until the Illinois EPA completes its closure certification inspection.
B. until closure.
C. for five years.
D. until the end of the post-closure care period.
5. The special waste profile identification sheet that accompanies each special waste disposed at a landfill must certify _____.
A. name of the process generating the waste, and its physical characteristics.
B. the generator's SIC code.
C. the name of the laboratory that analyzed the waste.
D. all of the above

~END OF EXAM~