



# The National Park Service EnviroFact Sheet

Environmental Management Program  
Mailing/E-mail Address  
Washington, DC XXXXX  
(202) XXX-XXXX

## Managing CCA-Treated Wood Waste (SW-3) DRAFT

July 2007

**Chromated copper arsenate (CCA)** is a wood preservative containing chromium, copper, and arsenic. CCA is used in pressure treated wood to protect wood from rotting due to insects and microbial agents. EPA has classified CCA as a restricted use pesticide for use only by certified pesticide applicators.

CCA has been used to pressure treat lumber since the 1940s. Since the 1970s, the majority of the wood used in outdoor residential settings has been CCA-treated wood. Pressure treated wood containing CCA is no longer being produced for use in most residential settings, including decks and playsets.

Existing CCA-treated stockpiles are being used until exhausted; however, the transition to CCA wood alternatives is well underway. There are several arsenic-free pressure treated wood alternatives to CCA already on the market including ACQ, copper azole, cyproconazole, and propiconazole. There are also several alternative building materials to pressure treated wood that are available today

### FOR MORE INFO...

EPA CCA Pesticide Reregistration Page:  
<http://www.epa.gov/oppad001/registration/cca/>

### APPLICABLE REGULATIONS

There are currently no federal regulations regarding the disposal of chromated copper arsenate (CCA)-treated wood. Under the existing federal hazardous waste regulations, discarded arsenical-treated wood (which in most cases is treated with CCA preservative) is generally not subject to regulation as a hazardous waste. This is because of the existing exemption at 40 CFR 261.4(b)(9) originally promulgated in the November 25, 1980 Federal Register. In addition, a certain amount of discarded CCA-treated wood is exempt from regulation as hazardous waste under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) when it is "household waste." Such waste can often be discarded along with household trash. As a result, the disposal of discarded CCA-treated wood is generally regulated by state and/or local solid waste management authorities.

Currently, many state and local governments have specific regulations, guidelines, and recommendations for the management and disposal of discarded CCA-treated wood. Some states are developing legislation and regulations to prohibit or restrict activities such as burning CCA-treated wood, producing wood mulch using CCA-treated wood, and disposing of CCA-treated wood in 'unlined' construction and demolition (C&D) landfills. Therefore, you should contact your state and local waste management authorities regarding specific policies or regulations concerning the management and disposal of CCA-treated wood. For contact information for the waste management agency in your state, go to <http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/osw/stateweb.htm>

### HANDLING

Personnel involved in sawing, sanding, and/or machining CCA-treated wood should take the following precautions:

- Perform work outdoors;
- Wear a dust mask - avoid frequent or prolonged inhalation of sawdust from CCA-treated wood;
- Wear gloves;
- Wear goggles when power-sawing and machining CCA-treated wood;
- After working with the wood, and before eating, drinking, toileting, and use of tobacco products, wash exposed areas thoroughly; and
- Launder work clothes before reuse (separately from other household clothing).

All sawdust and construction debris should be cleaned up and disposed of after construction.

### DISPOSAL

CCA-treated wood **should not be burned** in open fires or in stoves, fireplaces, or residential boilers because toxic chemicals may be produced as part of the smoke and ashes. Treated wood from commercial or industrial use (e.g., construction sites) may be burned only in commercial or industrial incinerators or boilers in accordance with state and federal regulations.

The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recommends that in situations where discarded CCA-treated wood is to be land disposed, the land disposal facility be designed to minimize the possibility of release of hazardous constituents, including arsenic, into groundwater. The landfill standards that apply are the design criteria and associated performance standards for municipal solid waste landfills at 40 CFR 258.40. EPA encourages the sensible management CCA-treated waste through the use of landfills that meet these standards (whether through specific design criteria or through demonstrating compliance with performance standards).

## CCA-TREATED WOOD CHECKLIST

Checklist Item	Notes
1. Determine if your state or local government has developed specific regulations, guidelines, and/or recommendations for the management and disposal of discarded CCA-treated wood.	
2. Handle CCA-treated wood with the precautions outlined above.	
3. Use alternatives to CCA-treated wood in construction projects, as applicable.	
4. Manage CCA-treated wood that is intended for disposal in accordance with applicable state and/or local regulations.	
5. Verify that landfills receiving discarded CCA-treated wood from your park have met the federal requirements for municipal solid waste landfills (40 CFR 258.40).	