



HELLENIC WASTE
RECYCLING



THE
RECYCLING
GLOSSARY



HELLENIC WASTE RECYCLING

About Us

With more than **20 years** of continuous and dynamic presence in the field of non-hazardous solid waste management, **Hellenic Waste Recycling is among the most established companies in the sector in Greece.**

The company operates a network of over **600 collection points** and **collaborates** with more than **300 businesses nationwide**, strengthening its position as a reliable partner in recycling and the circular economy.



Our Values

At Hellenic Waste Recycling, our values guide every aspect of our operation. They reflect our philosophy and the way we approach every partnership, project, and environmental challenge.



Reliability & Transparency

We operate with consistency, respect, and transparency toward our partners and clients, ensuring trust and long-term collaborations.



Environmental Responsibility

We are committed to reducing our environmental footprint and promoting the circular economy through responsible waste management practices.



Collaboration

We believe in the power of partnerships with businesses, organizations, and local communities to achieve shared, sustainable solutions.



Quality & Innovation

We continuously invest in advanced technologies and processes that ensure high-quality services and continuous improvement.

“By investing in recycling, we secure a sustainable future”

Our goal is the continuous enhancement of our services, driven by sustainability, so that we can respond to modern waste management challenges and create real value for society and the environment.



The Recycling Glossary (pursuant to Law 4819/2021)

1

Waste

Any substance or object which the holder discards or intends or is required to discard.

2

Hazardous Waste

Waste that exhibits one or more of the hazardous properties listed in Annex III of Part B of Law 4819/2021 (Annex III of Directive 2008/98/EC), including in summary:

HP 1 – Explosive

HP 2 – Oxidising

HP 3 – Flammable

HP 4 – Irritant – skin irritation and eye damage

HP 5 – Specific target organ toxicity (STOT) / aspiration toxicity

HP 6 – Acute toxicity

HP 7 – Carcinogenic

HP 8 – Corrosive

HP 9 – Infectious

HP 10 – Toxic for reproduction

HP 11 – Mutagenic

HP 12 – Release of a gas of acute toxicity

HP 13 – Sensitising

HP 14 – Ecotoxic

HP 15 – Waste capable of exhibiting a hazardous property listed above that is not directly apparent in the original waste

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Non-Hazardous Waste

Waste that does not fall within the scope of paragraph 2.

Municipal Waste (MW)

- i) **Mixed waste and waste collected from households**, including, among others, paper and cardboard, glass, metals, plastics, bio-waste, wood, textile products, packaging waste, waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE), waste batteries and accumulators, and bulky waste, including mattresses and furniture.
- ii) **Mixed waste and waste collected separately from other sources**, where such waste is similar in nature and composition to household waste. Municipal waste does not include waste from production, agriculture, forestry, fishing, septic tanks, sewerage networks and waste treatment, including sewage sludge, end-of-life vehicles, or construction and demolition waste. This definition applies without prejudice to the allocation of responsibilities for waste management between public and private entities.
- iii) **Construction and demolition waste**: Waste arising from construction and demolition activities.
- iv) **Excavation, Construction and Demolition Waste (ECDW)**: Waste arising from excavation, construction, and demolition activities.

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Waste Oils

Mineral oils, synthetic lubricants, or industrial oils that are no longer suitable for the use for which they were originally intended, such as used internal combustion engine oils, gearbox oils, lubricating oils, turbine oils, and hydraulic oils.

5

Biowaste

Biodegradable waste from gardens and parks; food and kitchen waste from households, offices, restaurants, wholesale premises, canteens, catering service providers, and retail outlets, as well as comparable waste from food processing facilities.

Food Waste

All food, as defined in Article 2 of Regulation (EC) No 178/2002 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 January 2002, laying down the general principles and requirements of food law, establishing the European Food Safety Authority, and setting procedures in matters of food safety (OJ L 31), which has become waste.

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Waste Producer

Any person whose activities generate waste, i.e. the original waste producer, or any person who carries out pre-treatment, mixing, or other operations resulting in a change in the nature or composition of that waste.

7

Waste Holder

The waste producer or the natural or legal person who is in possession of the waste.

8

Dealer

Any undertaking that acts as a principal in the purchase and subsequent sale of waste, including dealers who do not take physical possession of the waste.

9

Broker

Any undertaking that organises the recovery or disposal of waste on behalf of third parties, including brokers who do not take physical possession of the waste.

10

Waste Management

The collection, transport, recovery (including sorting), and disposal of waste, including the supervision of such operations and the aftercare of disposal sites, as well as the actions undertaken by dealers or brokers.

11

Collection

The gathering of waste, including preliminary sorting and preliminary storage, for the purpose of transporting it to a waste treatment facility.

12

Separate Collection

Collection where a waste stream is kept separate based on its type and nature, in order to facilitate specific treatment.

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Prevention

Measures taken before a substance, material, or product becomes waste, which reduce:

- i) the quantity of waste, through reuse or the extension of the lifespan of products,
- ii) the adverse impacts of generated waste on the environment and human health, or
- iii) the content of hazardous substances in materials and products.

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Reuse

Any operation by which products or components that are not waste are used again for the same purpose for which they were originally designed.

15

Treatment

Recovery or disposal operations, including preparation prior to recovery or disposal.

16

Recovery

Any operation the principal result of which is that waste serves a useful purpose by replacing other materials which would otherwise have been used to fulfil a particular function, or that waste is prepared to fulfil that function, either in the facility or in the wider economy.

17

Material Recovery

Any recovery operation other than energy recovery and reprocessing into materials that are to be used as fuels or other means of generating energy. It includes, among others, preparation for reuse, recycling, and backfilling.

18

Preparation for Reuse

Any recovery operation consisting of checking, cleaning, or repairing, by which products or components of products that have become waste are prepared so that they can be reused without any other pre-processing.

19

Recycling

Any recovery operation by which waste materials are reprocessed into products, materials, or substances whether for the original purpose or for other purposes. It includes the reprocessing of organic material but does not include energy recovery or reprocessing into materials that are to be used as fuels or for backfilling operations.

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Backfilling

A recovery operation in which suitable non-hazardous waste is used for reclamation purposes in excavated areas or for engineering purposes in landscape architecture. The waste used for backfilling must replace non-waste materials, be suitable for the intended purposes, and be limited to the amount strictly necessary to achieve those purposes.

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Regeneration of Waste Oils

Any recycling operation through which base oils can be produced by refining waste oils, specifically by removing contaminants, oxidation products, and additives contained in those oils.

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Disposal

Any operation which is not recovery, even where the operation has the secondary consequence of the reclamation of substances or energy.

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Best Available Techniques (BAT)

Best available techniques within the meaning of paragraph 10 of Article 3 of Joint Ministerial Decision 36060/1155/E103/2013 (Government Gazette B' 1450), issued by the Ministries of Development, Competitiveness, Infrastructure, Transport and Networks, and Environment, Energy and Climate Change.

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Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Scheme

A set of rules ensuring that producers of products bear financial responsibility or both financial and organisational responsibility for the management of the waste stage of a product's life cycle.

Pursuant to paragraph 4 of Article 72, in order to strengthen reuse and prevention, recycling, and other forms of waste recovery, measures may be adopted to ensure that natural or legal persons who professionally produce, develop, manufacture, process, sell, or import products are subject to extended producer responsibility.

Pursuant to paragraph 5 of Article 72, appropriate measures may be adopted to encourage the design of products and product components in a way that reduces their negative environmental impact and waste generation during production and subsequent use, and to ensure that the recovery and disposal of products that have become waste are carried out in accordance with Articles 4 and 35 of Law 4819/2021.

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Alternative Waste Management

Collection operations, including take-back systems, as well as transport, transshipment, storage, preparation for reuse, recycling, and any other form of recovery of reusable packaging or packaging waste and products for which an Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) scheme has been established.

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Alternative Waste Management System (AWMS)

The organisation, on an individual or collective basis, of alternative waste management in accordance with the provisions of the relevant Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) scheme. AWMS operate exclusively in the public interest.

27

Operator of a Collective Alternative Waste Management System (CAWMS)

The legal entity operating in the form of a public limited company, limited liability company, private capital company, general partnership, limited partnership, or civil company, whose exclusive purpose is the organisation and operation of an Alternative Waste Management System on a collective basis (CAWMS).

28

Operator of an Individual Alternative Waste Management System (IAWMS)

The natural or legal person who is a producer of packaging or a producer or manager of other products and who organises and operates an Alternative Waste Management System for its waste on an individual basis (IAWMS).

29

Construction and Demolition Waste Managers (C&DW Managers)

Contractors of public or private projects, or the project owner, provided that the project has not been assigned to a contractor.

30

Hellenic Recycling Agency (HRA)

The legal entity governed by private law, established pursuant to Article 24 of Law 2939/2001 (Government Gazette A' 179) under the name National Organisation for the Alternative Management of Packaging and Other Products (EOEDSAP), and subsequently renamed HRA pursuant to paragraph 1 of Article 46 of Law 4042/2012 (Government Gazette A' 24), with the purpose of supervising Alternative Waste Management Systems (AWMS).

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Food Surplus

Final food products, including fresh meat, fruits, and vegetables, partially processed products, or food ingredients, which may arise at any stage of the food production and distribution chain for various reasons, such as products that do not meet manufacturer or customer specifications—specifically differences in colour, size, shape, composition—or products with damaged packaging or labelling, without compromising food safety or consumer information.

Food surplus also includes products bearing incorrect date marking, such as products intended for a specific festive period or promotional campaign, products with a short remaining shelf life, or products that have passed their minimum durability date but may still be safely consumed, in accordance with Ministerial Decision No. 91354/2017 (Government Gazette B' 2983), as in force, as well as surpluses generated by order cancellations.

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By-products

A substance or object resulting from a production process, the primary aim of which is not the production of that substance or object, shall be considered not to be waste, but a by-product, provided that the following conditions are met:

- i) further use of the substance or object is certain;
- ii) the substance or object can be used directly without any further processing other than normal industrial practice;
- iii) the substance or object is produced as an integral part of a production process;
- iv) further use is lawful, meaning that the substance or object fulfils all relevant product, environmental, and health protection requirements for the specific use and will not lead to overall adverse environmental or human health impacts;
- v) following an assessment in accordance with the remaining provisions of Article 5 of Law 4819/2021, for projects and activities falling under Categories A1, A2, and Category B of Law 4014/2011, such assessment being carried out after submission of an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) file, depending on the applicable activity of the specific paragraph, and conducted accordingly by the competent environmental authority of the Ministry of Environment.

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End-of-Waste Status

Waste that has undergone recycling or another recovery operation shall be considered to have ceased to be waste where the following conditions are cumulatively met:

- i) the substance or object is intended to be used for specific purposes;
- ii) a market or demand exists for such a substance or object;
- iii) the substance or object fulfils the technical requirements for the specific purposes and complies with the applicable legislation and standards for products; and
- iv) the use of the substance or object will not lead to overall adverse environmental or human health impacts.

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Waste Catalogue

The European Waste Catalogue (EWC) is a harmonised waste classification system used throughout the European Union. It was established to ensure **uniform recording and management of waste** across all Member States.

The European Waste Catalogue (EWC) was initially established by Commission Decision **2000/532/EC** and has since been updated through subsequent amendments.

It is a hierarchical waste classification system that records waste types based on their origin and composition and assigns them a six-digit code. These codes are used for the identification, recording, management, and monitoring of waste.

Key characteristics:

- Waste codes are structured as xx xx xx, where each section indicates the group, subgroup, and specific waste type.
- Waste is classified as:
 - **Hazardous (identified by an asterisk *)**
 - **Non-hazardous**
- The catalogue includes waste from **specific industrial activities**, as well as general waste, such as municipal or commercial waste.

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Electronic Waste Registry (EWR)

1. Pursuant to Article 157 of Law 4389/2016, the Electronic Waste Registry (EWR) was established for the systematic collection and processing of data relating to waste generation and management, as well as for the registration of any organisation or business that generates waste, carries out waste treatment activities, falls within the scope of Chapter A of Law 4014/2011 (Article 209), or collects and transports waste on a professional basis and is required to hold a collection permit in accordance with paragraph 4 of Article 36 thereof. Local Government Authorities (LGAs) of the first level are also obliged to register in the EWR.
2. All such organisations and businesses are required to electronically submit, via the internet, data and information relating to waste generation and management for all waste types listed in the European Waste Catalogue (EWC).

“By investing in recycling, we secure the future.”



From Theory to Practice:

Hellenic Waste Recycling by Your Side at Every Stage!

HELLENIC WASTE RECYCLING provides integrated services for the management of non-hazardous solid waste, with a strong focus on sustainability, compliance with the regulatory framework, and the creation of tangible value for businesses.

Specifically, We Offer:



Provision of Collection & Cleaning Services

Providing waste collection & cleaning services to individuals, industries, businesses, municipalities & organisations.



Mechanical Equipment & Know-how

Research, development, manufacturing, import, export, representation and marketing of all types of mechanical equipment and know-how, related to the management and recycling of materials and waste



Recyclable Materials Management

Management, collection, transportation, sorting, baling and marketing of all types of recyclable or non-recyclable materials and waste



Metal Scrap Management

Scrap metal management is a key pillar of the circular economy. It includes the collection, sorting, storage, cutting, baling, and management of old metal materials so that they can be reintroduced into production.



Factory & General Facility Demolitions

The dismantling of factories and facilities is carried out with the aim of safely and effectively removing machinery, metal structures and infrastructure. Emphasis is placed on the recycling and utilisation of materials, adhering to all safety and environmental protection regulations.



File & Product Destructions

File and product destruction is carried out with absolute security and confidentiality, ensuring their complete and permanent destruction. The process complies with all data protection and environmental regulations.

We Serve:



Individuals / Technical Companies

Special bins for construction sites and responsible management of construction waste.



Industry / Commercial Enterprises

Reliable waste collection and management solutions for businesses of all sizes.



Municipalities / Organizations

Responsible waste collection with modern equipment - garbage trucks.

Our Certifications:

Ensuring the high quality of the services provided, combined with the reduction of environmental impacts and the protection of the environment, is an absolute priority for the company, which implements a **Quality Management System according to EN ISO 9001:2015**, an **Environmental Management System according to EN ISO 14001:2015** and an **Occupational Health & Safety Management System according to EN ISO 45001:2018** from TUV AUSTRIA HELLAS.



Our Commitment to the Future

Understanding recycling terminology is a fundamental pillar for effective waste management and the transition to a circular economy model.

The correct use of terms and definitions arising from the applicable regulatory framework (Law 4819/2021) ensures the consistent application of rules, compliance with European directives, and the strengthening of environmental awareness among all involved stakeholders.

HELLENIC WASTE RECYCLING is committed to continuing to inform, educate, and promote responsible environmental practices, actively contributing to a cleaner, more responsible, and sustainable future.



Together, we create a positive impact with the right solutions and your involvement.

We actively support recycling, care for the environment, and improve quality of life.

Let's Get Social!



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