

Introduction to Waste Management Reading Assignment

Read pp. 77-82, 84, 86 (top)

Answer the questions in the space provided.

Questions:

1. What is “precycling”, and how is it different from recycling? (p. 77)
2. How much household waste does the average Canadian produce yearly? (p. 7) What comparison or image would you use to help yourself or family and friends visualize this amount of waste?
3. Complete the following table comparing the pros and cons of the 3Rs and composting (pp. 79-80):

Form of Waste Diversion	Pros	Cons
Reduce		
Reuse		
Recycle		
Compost		

4. How much of our waste is organic matter that can be significantly reduced by composting?
(p. 80)

Questions 5-7 are concerned with landfills (p. 81-82)

5. What is a landfill? From Figure 5 (p. 81), what are the layers in a typical landfill design?

A landfill is:

Layers in a typical landfill design are:

6. What is leachate?

7. What are 2 concerns with landfills mentioned in the reading?

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Questions 8-10 are concerned with incineration (p. 84)

8. What is advanced thermal treatment (ATT), and how is it different from incineration?

9. What are the advantages of incinerators or ATT over landfills?

10. What are 3 concerns with incinerators or ATT?

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11. What is biodegradation?

12. What is the difference between anaerobic digestion and aerobic digestion? Give 1 example of where each kind of biodegradation is used.