

# Integrated Pest Management

Cornell Cooperative Extension  
Suffolk County

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## Anti-fouling Paints and Boat Bottom Maintenance

### 5.4 Toxicity Characteristics Leaching Procedure or TCLP

Sometimes you will need to test whether your waste qualifies as hazardous waste:

- TCLP is a process used to identify hazardous elements in waste by simulating leaching through a landfill.
  - Provides a rating that says whether waste tested is dangerous to the environment.
  - Typically tests for 8 toxic metals and 32 organic compounds.
  - Cost may be in the ballpark of \$1,000-\$2,000, depending on turn-around time and material sampled.
- TCLP Test Determines:
  - Mobility of organic and inorganic contaminants in waste.
  - Disposal needs for submitted waste as hazardous or non-hazardous.
  - How percolating liquids may react with solid waste in simulated landfill conditions.

- Presence/amount of EPA listed contaminants likely to be absorbed by groundwater and soil.
- Public health, environmental hazards present in material tested.
- TCLP analysis is helpful to determine all options for safe disposal of hazardous material as well as the most economical route.

What is the TCLP test procedure?

- First step: separation of liquid wastes.
  - Filtration of liquids (less than 0.5% dry, solid material) through glass fiber to create TCLP extract.
  - The remainder with 0.5% or greater dry matter is separated for future analysis.
- When total concentration results are compared to TCLP regulatory limits, if the waste results are LOWER than TCLP regulatory limits then the waste cannot leach enough chemical(s) into soil and groundwater to be considered “toxicity characteristic” hazardous waste.

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