

SAFETY FIRST

MANAGING LEACHATE

Leachate management is a critical aspect of waste and resource management. Understanding what leachate is and how to handle it safely is essential for protecting both workers and the environment.

Leachate is a liquid that forms when water passes through waste materials and extracts dissolved or suspended contaminants. Essentially, it's the result of rainwater or other liquids percolating through waste in landfills, picking up various chemicals, pollutants, and toxins along the way. Leachate can contain a wide range of substances, including heavy metals, organic compounds, and pathogens, making it potentially hazardous to both human health and the environment.

Proper management of leachate is crucial for several reasons:

- **Environmental protection.**
- **Regulatory compliance.**
- **Worker safety.**
- **Training and education.**
- **Proper disposal.**
- **Emergency response.**
- **Regular maintenance.**



Leachate management is a critical aspect of waste and resource management operations, requiring careful attention to safety and environmental protection. By understanding the nature of leachate, implementing proper handling procedures, and prioritizing worker safety, professionals in the industry can effectively mitigate risks and ensure responsible management of this potentially hazardous substance.

[Learn more in a blog post by SWANA.](#)

For more #SWANAsafety info and resources visit [SWANA.org/safety](https://www.swana.org/safety)