

Facility Fire Prevention

Stop fires before they start.

MRFs · Transfer Stations · Landfills

Most facility fires are preventable. Focus on four basics: **good housekeeping**, **safe material storage**, **battery charging safety**, and **hot work controls**.

Report immediately

Monitor piles for these warning signs.



Smoke or steam

Rising from piles or stored material.



Burning odors

Any smell of burning material.



Excessive heat

Heat coming off a pile or material.



Discoloration

Darkened or changed material in a pile.



Settling or shifting

Material that settles or shifts.

Housekeeping & material storage

- ☐ **Clean dust, fluff, paper, plastics, and debris daily.** Keep conveyors, motors, electrical equipment, and work areas clean.
- ☐ **Never allow combustible dust or debris to accumulate.**
- ☐ **Keep exits, fire extinguishers, fire lanes, and emergency access clear.**
- ☐ **Follow pile height and separation requirements.** Separate combustible materials when possible.
- ☐ **Monitor piles** for heat, smoke, odors, or steam.
- ☐ **BEST PRACTICE** Employee training, thermal cameras, heat detection systems, and early-warning monitoring can help identify fire hazards before ignition.

Control charging & hot work

Battery charging safety

- 1 Charge only in designated areas.
- 2 Keep combustible materials away from charging stations.
- 3 Inspect batteries, chargers, and cables before use.
- 4 Report damaged, swollen, leaking, or overheating batteries.
- 5 Never charge a damaged battery.

Hot work controls

- 1 Obtain a Hot Work Permit.
- 2 Remove or shield combustibles.
- 3 Keep fire extinguishers available.
- 4 Use a fire watch when required.
- 5 Inspect the area after work is complete.

Never perform hot work in an unsafe area.

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