

MANAGEMENT OF HOUSEHOLD AND SIMILAR WASTE

To manage household waste, Wallonia has put in place various regulatory instruments (legislative, financial, informational, etc.) aimed at reducing waste generation and encouraging treatment methods with the best cost-benefit ratio (recycling and energy recovery in particular).

Often uncertain destinations

The information available in the databases of the Public Service of Wallonia (DG03 - DSD) does not always make it possible to correctly evaluate the actual performance of the various methods of management. In effect, these may be either underestimated (in cases where the destination of certain waste leaving grouping or sorting centres is not known) or overestimated (in cases where sorting waste or other fractions redirected to disposal centres are included in the recovery statistics). As a result, the percentages of household and similar waste¹ recovered or disposed of which are presented in this sheet should be considered as orders of magnitude rather than precise values.

Increase in recovery

According to the information available, 52.3% (996 kt) of the household and similar waste collected in Wallonia in 2015 was sent for recycling to recycling centres for material recovery and organic recovery (composting or biomethanisation) and 44.2% (843 kt) to energy recovery units². The proportions of waste incinerated and disposed of in technical landfill site (*Centre d'enfouissement technique - CET*)² accounted for only 1.9% (36.0 kt) and 1.6% (30.4 kt) of the total waste collected in 2015. The proportion of waste sent to recovery centres increased by 23% between 2008 and 2015. Energy recovery is the method of recovery that experienced the strongest growth over the period (+59%). Conversely, the share of household and similar waste sent to disposal centres fell sharply, with -60% for incineration and -81% for CET. The targets set in the Walloon Waste Plan for

2010 therefore seem to be broadly met.

Depositing in CET: the flows still concerned

In 2015, bulky waste constituted 3/4 of household and similar waste placed in CETs in Wallonia, whereas this waste flow is no longer automatically authorised in CETs since 2010. In practice, depositing in CET is allowed for certain sub-flows in return for the payment of a tax. This is generally non-recoverable and non-incinerable bulky waste (rock wool, plasterboard, composite waste containing glass, etc.).

Future key measures

The Waste Framework Directive 2008/98/EC is currently being revised. In this context, the European target for the recycling of municipal waste³ needs to be revised upwards (probably 70% by 2030). Wallonia aims to achieve this objective. As such, it plans to implement new measures as part of its next Walloon Waste Resource Plan⁴:

- optimising existing collections and developing new collections⁵;
- freezing the capacity of the four Walloon incinerators and reassessment of the situation in 2020;
- development of new recycling channels (e.g. mattress recycling).

^[1] "Similar" waste is waste which resembles household waste due to its nature or composition and which is collected at the same time as household waste by municipalities or inter-municipal companies: waste from administrations, schools, etc.; → HOUSE 9 | ^[2] → Map 60 | ^[3] Household and similar waste excluding construction and demolition waste and sludge from urban waste water treatment plants | ^[4] PWD-R: enacted by the Walloon Government on 16/06/2016 | ^[5] → WASTE 2

Fig. WASTE 4-1 Methods of managing household and similar waste in Wallonia

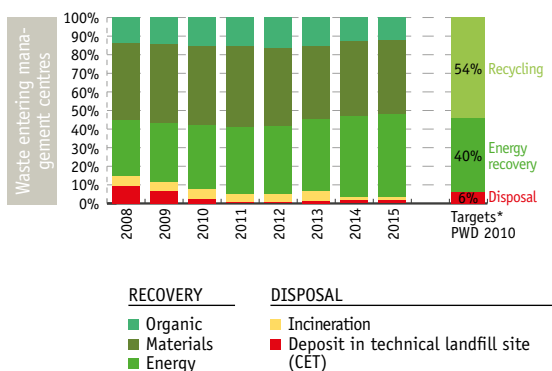
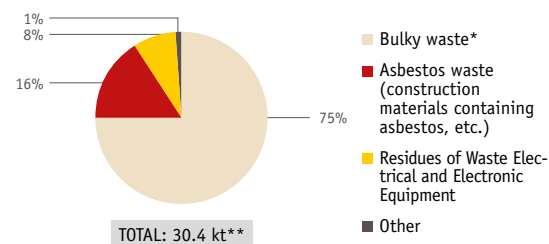


Fig. WASTE 4-2 Flow of household and similar waste placed in technical landfill site (CET) in Wallonia (2015)



* This is generally non-recoverable and non-incinerable bulky waste (rock wool, plasterboard, composite waste containing glass, etc.).
** 1.6% of deposits processed in 2015