

MCB Camp Pendleton Environmental Standard Operating Procedure



14 August 2018

Recyclable Fire Extinguishers

Fire Extinguishers are not managed as hazardous waste. On Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, spent, expired or unwanted fire extinguishers are purchased by various contractors through the Base Qualified Recycling Program. Fire extinguishers are recycled or repurposed off Base.

The 22 Area Recycling Center (Bldg 22054T) hosts the fire extinguisher recycling program. Drop-off is the first Wednesday of every month from 0800 to 1100. Contact Environmental Security Hazardous Waste Section for the most current schedule.

Management Procedure

1. The Unit Environmental Compliance Coordinator or area supervisor must determine the best location for storage prior to disposal. Used fire extinguishers do not need to be managed in hazardous waste accumulation areas.
2. Do not discharge extinguishers prior drop off.
3. The Recycling Center only allows government/tactical vehicles onsite. POVs are not allowed inside the Recycling Center.
4. Upon arrival at the Recycling Center, check in with the gate guard for direction on where to drop the extinguishers off.
5. Provide the unit name, number of extinguishers being dropped off, the name and rank of the person dropping them off on an information log provided by Environmental Security staff.
6. The Recycling Center accepts *most* types and sizes of extinguishers. **However, CO₂, halon and Automatic Fire Extinguishing Systems (AFES) are not accepted at the Recycling Center.** Contact the Environmental Security Department Hazardous Waste Section to arrange a disposal method for these types of extinguishers.

Note: Automatic Fire Extinguishing Systems are used in armored vehicles to protect the crew from fuel explosions caused by munitions or catastrophic collisions with other vehicles or stationary objects.

7. Contact Environmental Security (Hazardous Waste) at 760-725-4375/9742/1963/0213 or PNDL_ENV-Hazardous-Waste@usmc.mil for any additional information or for assistance with recyclable fire extinguishers or for information regarding disposal of fire extinguishers not accepted at the Recycling Center.

**Examples of Unrecyclable Fire Extinguishers
(DO NOT ATTEMPT TO RECYCLE)**

Varieties of Halon extinguishers



CO₂ extinguisher



AFES extinguisher



AFES extinguisher mounted in vehicle



Use and Version Control: Camp Pendleton uses Environmental Standard Operating Procedures (ESOPs) to augment instructions contained in official orders and directives and, where necessary, to provide for sufficient control of the installation's significant practices. Camp Pendleton maintains the authoritative, current version of this and other ESOPs on the Camp Pendleton website at:

<http://www.pendleton.marines.mil/Staff-Agencies/Environmental-Security/>