**Environmental Science Study Guide**

Municipal and Hazardous Waste Management

**Vocabulary**

*Understand and be able to apply each of these terms.*

1. Waste Stream –
2. Municipal Solid Waste -
3. Hazardous Waste –
4. Recycling –
5. Composting –
6. Tipping Fee –
7. Leachate -

**Critical Thinking**

*Be able to read, analyze, and give complete answers to questions like these.*

1. Give an example of **biodegradable** and **non-degradable** waste. Which can be **composted**?
2. What are open dumps, and why are they now illegal in most developed countries?
3. The two most common methods of municipal waste disposal are sanitary landfills and incinerators. What are the benefits and drawbacks of using each?
4. Incinerators may either be mass burn or refuse-derived fuel. Describe how each works. Which is more environmentally damaging?
5. Give two examples of benefits of recycling instead of sending material to a landfill.
6. Many communities now follow the **integrated waste
management** strategy of dealing with waste. Fill out the
triangle to the right with each of the five components of this

strategy.

* 1. Which of the strategies is the “first resort” and
	preferred method of dealing with waste?
	2. Which of the strategies is the “last resort”?
	Why?
1. Summarize what occurred during the Love Canal disaster and the legislation that was written in response to it.
2. Give one example of household waste that might be considered **hazardous waste**. What specific property of this waste would cause it to be considered hazardous?
3. Summarize what occurred during the Khian Sea waste disposal incident. What international agreement was drafted to stop further incidents like this?
	1. What form of waste is still heavily exported in spite of this agreement?
4. Give an example of high-level and low-level nuclear waste.
5. If an element of high-level waste has a half-life of 3 days, how long would it take before less than 5% of the material remained?