

# Job of The Week

## Waste Manager

### Key Skills

- the ability to grasp complex and dynamic legislation
- the capacity to explain, apply and monitor such legislation
- effective communication skills, both oral and written
- analytical, problem-solving and decision-making skills
- leadership and management qualities
- good organisational and admin skills
- an interest in, and understanding of, environment and sustainability issues
- good IT and general office skills
- patience and resilience
- a driving licence

**Salary**  
£22,000 - £45,000

**Working hours**  
39 - 41  
May include weekends/ bank  
holidays

**Aspire | Challenge | Achieve**

# Waste Manager

## University

A degree in Waste Management or similar is often preferred. Other relevant subjects include:

Biological or Biochemical Sciences  
Chemical and Physical Sciences  
Civil, Structural or Mechanical Engineering  
Earth Sciences  
Environmental Science  
Geography and/or Geology

Entry is possible with an HND in a waste management, environmental protection or a subject related to environmental management.

There is no standard route into this role, although most new entrants are graduates

Entry requirements:

You will usually need A Levels or equivalent, some universities may suggest a Science, Maths or Geography depending on your preferred degree subject

## Apprenticeship

For details about a new waste management apprenticeship scheme, see Chartered Institute of Wastes Management (CIWM) - Apprenticeships

## Other routes

Entry requirements have changed in recent years, due to specific waste management courses and an increase in environmental qualifications. While direct entry is common, some people move into this profession after working in the construction, haulage or quarrying industries or by specialising from a wider environmental role within a large organisation



## Career path and progression

Careers in the field have become increasingly structured, often attracting graduates with environmental degrees and an interest in waste management. Promotion can lead to the role of team leader within a local authority. You can then progress to become area manager or head of waste management.

## Day to Day tasks

Your duties could include:

- formulate and control budgets
- oversee waste management schemes, such as at landfill sites
- supervise the safe transportation of waste
- assist in new waste disposal schemes
- ensure compliance with current legislation
- collate statistics and compile reports often to strict deadlines
- monitor the quality and performance of waste services, including external providers
- assist with the development of information and promotional materials
- aim to meet waste reduction and recycling targets
- deal with enquiries and complaints from members of the public
- investigate and follow up claims of the illegal dumping of waste and work with other waste regulation enforcement staff to find solutions
- consult with residents, community groups, councillors, housing associations and traders' associations about waste management issues and provide appropriate solutions

## Working conditions

Much of the work is office based, although the job also involves visiting contractors and facilities



# Labour Market Information

In the Careers section of the school website you can find the useful comparison tool the 'Labour Market Information widget'.

Use the widget to compare different job roles in any employment sector or relating specifically to the 'Job of the Week'.



## Waste disposal and environmental services managers

Weekly Pay <b>£920</b>	Annual Pay <b>£47,840</b>
Hours/Week <b>53h</b>	Hourly Pay <b>£17</b>

### Workforce Change (projected)

Growth <b>3.6%</b>	Replacement <b>69.2%</b>
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The workforce is projected to grow by 3.6% over the period to 2027, creating 600 jobs. In the same period, 69.2% of the workforce is projected to retire, creating 11,500 job openings.

You might find this job in  
Waste management  
Wholesale trade

[More info](#)

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## Refuse and salvage occupations

Weekly Pay <b>£460</b>	Annual Pay <b>£23,920</b>
Hours/Week <b>38h</b>	Hourly Pay <b>£12</b>

### Workforce Change (projected)

Growth <b>0.2%</b>	Replacement <b>63.6%</b>
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The workforce is projected to grow by 0.2% over the period to 2027, creating 100 jobs. In the same period, 63.6% of the workforce is projected to retire, creating 27,500 job openings.

You might find this job in  
Waste management  
Employment activities  
Wholesale trade  
Public admin. & defence  
Services to buildings

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## Conservation and environmental associate professionals

Weekly Pay <b>£470</b>	Annual Pay <b>£24,440</b>
Hours/Week <b>36h</b>	Hourly Pay <b>£13</b>

### Workforce Change (projected)

Growth <b>5%</b>	Replacement <b>49.8%</b>
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The workforce is projected to grow by 5% over the period to 2027, creating 500 jobs. In the same period, 49.8% of the workforce is projected to retire, creating 5,200 job openings.

You might find this job in  
Sport & recreation  
Libraries, etc  
Agriculture, etc

[More info](#)

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# Labour Market Information

## Waste disposal and environmental services managers

Waste disposal and environmental services managers plan, organise, direct and co-ordinate the operations and development of waste disposal and related environmental services facilities within private firms or public authorities.

Common tasks in this job:

- determines staffing, financial, material and other short- and long-term requirements;
- manages and delegates tasks to staff and co-ordinates the maintenance and optimum utilisation of waste disposal and related equipment to provide an efficient service;
- monitors levels of waste disposal, recycling and related environmental services, compiles statistics and produces reports;
- liaises with members of the local community to educate and promote the concept of recycling and appropriate waste management;

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## Refuse and salvage occupations

Refuse and salvage collectors supervise and undertake the collection and processing of refuse from household, commercial and industrial premises.

Common tasks in this job:

- rides in or on refuse vehicle and alights to pick up domestic refuse;
- carries waste material in dustbins or other containers from premises to refuse vehicle;
- empties refuse into vehicle manually or using an electronic tipping device;
- returns dustbins or other containers to premises;

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## Conservation and environmental associate professionals

Conservation and environmental associate professionals are responsible for the day-to-day running and management of areas of the countryside and the wider environment in a way that reconciles the interests of conservation, land owners and the public. They carry out practical conservation activities and assist in promoting awareness of the natural environment.

Common tasks in this job:

- assists with ecological surveys to identify plant and animal species, map their habitat and draw up conservation plans;
- implements schemes for the management and protection of natural habitats;
- assists with environmental audits and impact assessments;
- organises and supervises conservation projects and the work of part-time and voluntary staff;

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Keep looking...

Use these links to learn more about our Job of The Week, consider the various pathways leading to the career, what you can be doing now to help yourself and other roles in the industry...

## Take a look at these short videos for inspiration...

Why Study Environmental  
Science at University?



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=80JP9SBKGv4>

Job of a  
Waste Management Officer



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8RTG2vMWpYc>

Top 8 jobs in  
Environmental Science



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fctCgbq1la4>

Running a Recycling Plant



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QyQpCdlgsDo>

## Useful Websites

[Apprenticeships \(ciwm.co.uk\)](https://www.cimspa.co.uk/)  
<https://www.cimspa.co.uk/>

[Environmental Management and Sustainability at University of Plymouth – UCAS](#)

[Waste management officer job profile | Prospects.ac.uk](#)

[Waste Management Courses \(ciwm.co.uk\)](#)

[Geography at Nottingham Trent University – UCAS](#)

[Waste Management Jobs, Recycling Jobs & Waste Jobs in the UK \(wastejobsuk.com\)](#)

[Environmental management jobs | Environmentjob.co.uk](#)