



JOB AID HAZARD AWARENESS INFO

GARBAGE COMPACTOR

A garbage compactor is used to compress garbage with a steel plate to minimize the bulk of garbage. Garbage is compressed in a waste cart and transported to the dumpster with a lifting winch.

Hazards Involved/Arise

- Injury from sharp objects when handling the garbage
- Strain from lifting the winch lift to remove compacted garbage
- Unit is top-heavy and weighs over 800 lbs when empty
- Electrical shock from removing damaged electrical cords or from failure to unplug equipment
- Danger from traffic in the parking lot
- Pinch to fingers/hands if they are placed on top or sides of loading door
- Waste cart can fall off the winch lift
- Winch lift can tip if moved over a rough patch



Image Courtesy of Vestil Manufacturing

People Affected

- All employees who use the unit

Existing Controls

- Loading door and main door must be closed for the unit to operate
- Unit will not operate if the manual up and down switch on is released
- Emergency stop button
- Rubber wheel stops found on caster wheels
- Unplug the power cord when cleaning
- Ensure waste cart is securely attached to winch lift
- Ensure the route to the garbage dumpster is smooth and the paved surface is level
- Review, understand and follow manufacturer's instructions for use of the equipment
- Get help if load is heavy or more than half full
- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) such as cut and puncture resistant gloves
- Avoid placing fingers at the top or sides of the loading door

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Content developed by WSPS Advisory Committees

375-BBT-08-IGDO | REVISED JUNE 2017

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