Historical Milestones in Waste Management

Waste Management · Answer Key · 15 Questions

1. The world's first documented municipal landfill was established in which ancient city around 3000 BCE?

A) Athens
B) Knossos
C) Babylon
D) Rome

2. In 1874, the first large-scale waste incineration plant, known as a 'destructor', was built in which city?

A) London
B) New York
C) Paris
D) Berlin

3. Which US city implemented the first mandatory recycling program in the United States in 1983?

A) Seattle
B) Woodbury
C) San Francisco
D) Portland

4. The 'Great Garbage Patch' in the Pacific Ocean was first discovered and brought to public attention in which year?

A) 1975
B) 1988
C) 1997
D) 2005

5. What was the primary purpose of the 'Fresh Kills' landfill in Staten Island, which was the largest in the world before closing in 2001?

A) Storing industrial hazardous waste
B) Processing medical waste
C) Disposing of New York City's residential waste
D) Nuclear waste storage

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6. In 1976, the US Congress passed which major piece of legislation to regulate the disposal of solid and hazardous waste?

A) Clean Air Act
B) Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
C) Toxic Substances Control Act
D) National Environmental Policy Act

7. During the 19th century, the 'scavenger' system in London relied on what primary method for waste collection?

A) Automated trucks
B) Horse-drawn carts
C) River barges
D) Hand-carried buckets

8. The Basel Convention, an international treaty designed to reduce the movements of hazardous waste between nations, was adopted in what year?

A) 1989
B) 1992
C) 1995
D) 2001

9. The first 'Bottle Bill', which introduced container deposit legislation to encourage recycling, was enacted in which US state in 1971?

A) California
B) Vermont
C) Oregon
D) Michigan

10. In the early 20th century, many cities used 'piggeries' as a waste management method where municipal food waste was fed to:

A) Cattle
B) Chickens
C) Goats
D) Swine

11. The 'Mobro 4000' barge became a famous symbol of the waste management crisis in 1987 when it spent months searching for a place to dump trash from which location?

A) New Jersey
B) Chicago
C) Toronto
D) London

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12. In 1970, the first Earth Day led directly to the creation of which major US regulatory agency?

A) Department of Energy
B) Environmental Protection Agency
C) National Park Service
D) Bureau of Land Management

13. Before the advent of modern landfills, many cities disposed of waste by dumping it directly into the ocean, a practice largely banned in the US by the Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act of:

A) 1962
B) 1972
C) 1982
D) 1992

14. The concept of 'sanitary landfilling' was developed in the 1930s to replace what common, unhygienic waste disposal practice?

A) Incineration
B) Open dumping
C) Composting
D) Deep-well injection

15. Ancient Roman law required citizens to remove waste from the front of their homes; the first known waste collection 'public service' was established in Rome in approximately what year?

A) 50 BCE
B) 200 CE
C) 450 BCE
D) 100 BCE

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