

## Solid Waste Engineer Interview Questions

1. Tell me about a time when your ability to analyze needs and product requirements helped you create an effective design or make an informed decision to benefit your company.

2. Share an effective approach to working with a large amount of information/data. How has your approach affected your company?

3. What kind of experience do you have designing or supervising the design of systems, processes, or equipment for control, management, or remediation of water, air, or soil quality?

4. Walk me through how you collaborate with environmental scientists, planners, hazardous waste technicians, engineers, and other specialists, and experts in law and business to address environmental problems.

5. Share an experience you had in dealing with a difficult person and how you handled the situation.

6. Tell me how you organize, plan, and prioritize your work.

7. What are some long-range objectives that you developed in your last job? What did you do to achieve them?

8. Share an experience when you applied new technology or information in your job. How did it help your company?

9. Give me an example of when you thought outside of the box. How did it help your employer?

10. Tell me about an experience in which you analyzed information and evaluated results to choose the best solution to a problem.

11. Share an example of a time you had to gather information from multiple sources. How did you determine which information was relevant?

12. Provide a time when you were able to identify a complex problem, evaluate the options, and implement a solution. How did the solution benefit your employer?

13. Please share an experience in which you presented to a group. What was the situation and how did it go?

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14. How would you rate your writing skills? (Ask for an example that demonstrates great writing skills.)

15. Provide an example of a time when you were able to demonstrate excellent listening skills. What was the situation and outcome?

16. Share an example of when you went above and beyond the "call of duty". (Look for answers that show the candidate is dependable.)

17. Provide an example of a time when you successfully organized a diverse group of people to accomplish a task.

18. Share an experience in which your understanding of a current or upcoming problem helped your company to respond to the problem.

19. Provide an example when your ethics were tested.

20. Provide a time when you worked in a rapidly evolving workplace. How did you deal with the change? (Make sure the candidate is flexible.)

21. Share an experience in which you conducted a test of a product, service, or process and successfully improved the quality or performance.

22. What have you found to be the best way to inspect industrial or municipal facilities or programs to evaluate operational effectiveness or ensure compliance with environmental regulations?

23. Provide an experience that demonstrates your ability to manage time effectively. What were the challenges and results?

24. Share a time when you willingly took on additional responsibilities or challenges. How did you successfully meet all of the demands of these responsibilities? (Make sure the candidate is a self-starter and can demonstrate some initiative.)

25. Provide a time when you dealt calmly and effectively with a high-stress situation.

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26. What is the most challenging part of providing environmental engineering assistance in network analysis, regulatory analysis, or planning or reviewing database development?

27. Describe an experience where you provided technical support for environmental remediation or litigation projects, including remediation system design or determination of regulatory applicability.

28. How do you stay up to date with new or improved techniques to obtain, update, or maintain plans, permits, or standard operating procedures?

29. Name a time when your creativity or alternative thinking solved a problem in your workplace.

30. Name a time where you served as liaison with federal, state, or local agencies or officials on issues pertaining to solid or hazardous waste program requirements.

31. What have you found to be the best way to develop proposed project objectives and targets and report to management on progress in attaining them?

32. What kind of experience do you have informing company employees or other interested parties of environmental issues?

33. Walk me through how you would advise corporations or government agencies of procedures to follow in cleaning up contaminated sites to protect people and the environment.

34. Share an experience in which your willingness to lead or offer an opinion helped your company.

35. Describe a time when you successfully persuaded another person to change his/her way of thinking or behavior.

36. Share an effective approach to develop site-specific health and safety protocols, such as spill contingency plans or methods for loading or transporting waste.

37. Please share an experience in which you successfully taught a difficult principle or concept. How were you able to be successful?

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38. Tell me about a time when you developed your own way of doing things or were self-motivated to finish an important task.

39. Name a time when your patience was tested. How did you keep your emotions in check?

40. How would you assess the existing or potential environmental impact of land use projects on air, water, or land? Share an example.

41. Share an experience where you served on teams conducting multimedia inspections at complex facilities, providing assistance with planning, quality assurance, safety inspection protocols, and sampling.

42. Tell me how you coordinate or manage environmental protection programs or projects, assigning or evaluating work.

43. Share an experience in which personal connections to coworkers or others helped you to be successful in your work. (Make sure candidate works well with others.)

44. Share an experience in which you used new training skills, ideas, or a method to adapt to a new situation or improve an ongoing one. (Look for the candidate's ability to learn.)

45. Tell me about the last time you oversaw the work of someone else. How did you effectively motivate, develop, and direct the worker(s)?

46. Provide an experience in which you were sensitive to someone's needs or feelings. How did your helpfulness affect your work environment?

47. Describe methods you would use to provide administrative support for projects by collecting data, providing project documentation, training staff, or performing other general administrative duties.

48. What kind of experience do you have developing, implementing, or managing plans or programs related to conservation or management of natural resources?

49. In your experience, what is the key to developing a good team? (Look for how they build mutual trust,

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respect, and cooperation.)

50. Describe an experience where you prepared or presented public briefings on the status of environmental engineering projects.

51. Walk me through how you direct installation or operation of environmental monitoring devices or supervise related data collection programs.

52. Describe an experience in which your ability to work well with others and reconcile differences helped your company or employer. (Make sure the candidate knows how to negotiate.)

53. What is the key to a successful budget?

54. Please share with me an example of how you helped coach or mentor someone. What improvements did you see in the person's knowledge or skills?