What do I need to know about local governments?
The laws of local governments are called ordinances. These local laws have the authority of the state behind them, and you can be prosecuted for violating them, much the same as with state laws. Local governments have procedural protections similar to those of the state, but these may vary among the local governments. The legislature can also affect local policy and issues through the passage of special laws that apply only to a certain locale.

How are local governments involved in waste management?
Local governments are very involved in waste management. They frequently administer collection and disposal facilities. In addition, each county

- has a resource recovery and management program
- performs hazardous waste assessments on a regular basis
- maintains records of small quantity generators
- is involved with a Regional Planning Council, or RPC (RPCs coordinate on many issues, including waste management)

Although Local Emergency Planning Committees are not directly involved with local governments, they do play an
important part in waste management by being responsible for

- developing emergency plans for dealing with spills
- coordinating local and state authorities under federal and state right-to-know laws