

Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) and Electronic Waste Collection

Republic Services through our partnership with Heritage Environmental Services

Your hazardous and electronic waste can now be safely collected from each home by calling Republic Services Dispatch at 484-273-3940 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Look through your home for hazardous items that need to be discarded – everything from batteries and paint to computers and chemicals – and feel secure that Republic Services will handle these items in a way to protect both you and the environment.



Residents who call will be asked to describe the items they wish to have collected. They will be told how to package their household hazardous waste and electronics in an efficient and safe manner. For liquids, each resident will be mailed a 55-gallon plastic bag along with verbal instructions on how to package materials safely and securely. They will also be given a collection date. All items must be kept in a secure location and out of the weather until collection day. Residents must place all materials within sight of the curb line, but not at the curb. Please do not place items on steps or porches.

On the appointed date of collection, Republic Services personnel will arrive at your home to collect the packaged items to be taken for recycling or disposal.

This service is available throughout the year by simply calling and describing the items to be collected at your home. There is no additional charge for this service.

What is acceptable:

2 gallons of liquid - 2 pounds of solids – 1 automotive battery per pickup:

- Oil-based Paints (No Latex)
- Paint Thinners – Solvents
- Petroleum-based Lubricants
- Ethylene Glycol, Anti-Freeze
- Pesticides, Herbicides, Aerosols
- Light Bulbs – Fluorescent, Compact Fluorescents (CFL)
- Batteries – Lead-Acid, Alkaline, NiCad
- Pool Chemicals
- Cleaners – Acidic & Basic
- Resins and Epoxy

What is NOT acceptable:

- Radioactive Compounds
- Smoke Detectors
- Ammunition, Explosives
- Tires
- Asbestos
- PCBs (Polychlorinated Biphenyls)
- Pharmaceuticals/Controlled Substances (Medicines)
- Medical Sharps (Needles)
- Fire Extinguishers
- E-Cigarettes
- Biological/Infectious Wastes

Electronic Waste - 2 Item Limit Per Collection

What is Acceptable:

- Televisions (TVs), Computer Monitors, Computers, VCR and DVD Players, Printers, Fax Machines, Cable Boxes, Gaming Equipment and Similar Devices

What is HHW? How Can You Identify HHW?

What is HHW?

Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) is waste produced in our households that is hazardous in nature. Because households produce this waste in limited quantities, it is not regulated as hazardous under federal and state laws. However, it is important to dispose of these items in a safe and responsible manner so as not to create environmental and public health hazards.

Each person in Pennsylvania generates an average of 4 pounds of HHW each year. HHW includes old paint and paint-related products, pesticides, pool chemicals, drain cleaners, degreasers, car care products and other common household products.

Managing HHW

The best way to manage HHW is to avoid creating it. Select the least toxic product to do the job and buy only as much as you need. Also, look for environmentally-friendly products.

Before you contact Republic Services to collect your HHW, see if it is usable by neighbors or local organizations that may need paint or similar products, making sure that they are not damaged, contaminated or expired. Used motor oil, although not considered a hazardous waste, may pollute groundwater, waterways and soil if not properly managed. Take spent lead-acid batteries back to the place where you bought them. State law requires dealers to accept old batteries when you buy new ones. It is not permitted to discard them in landfills.

If carelessly managed, HHW can create environmental and public health hazards.

Generally, HHW materials belong to one of the following hazardous waste categories:



Corrosives. Examples are drain cleaners, rust removers and oven cleaners. Corrosives have an extremely low or high pH and can burn skin and mucous membranes. Labels usually state, "CORROSIVE – AVOID CONTACT WITH SKIN OR EYES."



Flammables. Examples include gasoline, kerosene, fuel oil, butane, oil-based paints and paint thinners. Labels usually say, "EXTREMELY FLAMMABLE – KEEP AWAY FROM ANY SOURCE OF IGNITION" and "HIGHLY FLAMMABLE – KEEP AWAY FROM FLAMES."



Toxic Materials. Examples are benzene, cyanide compounds (found in rat fumigants), thallium sulfate (ant traps) and carbon carcinogenic. Labels often contain the skull and crossbones and usually state: "DANGER/POISON" or "WARNING – KEEP OUT OF THE REACH OF CHILDREN."



Oxidizers. Examples include chlorinated pool chemicals, sodium hypochlorite and various peroxides. Labels usually read: "WARNING – STRONG OXIDIZER." These chemicals react strongly with other compounds and may cause fires or explosions.



Air Quality Hazards. Examples include thermostats, paints that contain more than 1% by weight of heavy metals, products that contain significant amounts of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and batteries – nickel, cadmium, lithium and lead acid. These could cause excessive emissions or toxic ash problems at resource recovery facilities or incinerators.



Wildlife Hazards. Examples include old chlorinated pesticides such as DDT, chlordane, dieldrin, heptachlor, etc. Labels usually indicate the material presents a hazard to fish or wildlife. The material may be immediately toxic or accumulate in various tissues of the fish or animals. Of particular concern are those materials that are slow to degrade and tend to bio-accumulate.



Unknowns. Unidentified materials — such as those that contain no label or ingredient information – should be treated as though they belong to one of the above categories until proven otherwise.

Recycling Guide

Acceptable Materials (Loose in Your Can)



Cardboard boxes must be broken down and flattened and bundled with string or rope (no tape if placed outside the can.) Do NOT place boxes within boxes.



Aluminum, tin or steel cans.



Milk cartons, juice cartons and aseptic cartons



Plastic bottles and cartons



Glass bottles and jars

NO PLASTIC BAGS – #1 Contaminant

Non-Acceptable Materials

- Food waste
- Yard waste
- Ceramic or dishes
- Plastic grocery bags
- Motor oil cartons
- Electronics
- Plastics #3-#7
- Clothing
- Polystyrene foam
- Pizza boxes
- Light bulbs
- Window glass or mirrors
- Hazardous waste cartons
- Construction waste
- Radioactive compounds
- Smoke detectors
- Ammunition/explosives
- Tires
- Asbestos
- PCBs (polychlorinated biphenyls)
- Pharmaceuticals, controlled substances
- Biological/Infectious waste
- Medical sharps
- Fire extinguishers
- Propane tanks

If any of the unacceptable items are placed for collection, a large Republic Services sticker will be placed on those items.



We'll handle it from here.®