

Household Hazardous Waste

“When hazardous waste is not properly disposed, it presents a threat to human health and the environment. Hazardous waste should never be disposed down the drain, on the ground, or in the trash.”

Many hazardous products used in the home or yard accumulate in our cabinets, garage shelves, or outdoor sheds. Having these hazardous chemicals in the home can present health hazards, especially for children and pets.

Many household consumer products contain flammable, toxic, or corrosive chemicals that make them hazardous. Some examples of hazardous household products include oil based-paints and solvents, gasoline, pesticides, herbicides, household cleaners, batteries, oil, antifreeze, fluorescent lights, propane cylinders, and mercury.

When people improperly dispose of household hazardous waste, it can contaminate drinking water supplies and public waters, damage wastewater treatment systems and onsite septic systems. It also can expose sanitation workers and firefighters to hazardous situations, and negatively impact the environment.

Household hazardous wastes require special handling and safe disposal for everyone’s protection.

Collection Events

Clatsop County Environmental Health contracts with a private company to provide Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) collection events several times per year at the Household Hazardous Waste collection center. These events allow us to offer **free disposal** of certain HHW to Clatsop County residents. The HHW collection facility is located at 1780 Williamsport Road in Astoria, next to the Recology of Western Oregon solid waste transfer station.

2024 Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event Schedule

Saturday, June 15, 2024 - 9am - 2pm

Saturday, August 17, 2024 - 9am - 2pm

Saturday, October 12, 2024 - 9am - 2pm

What is household hazardous waste?

Household hazardous waste (HHW) is any solid or liquid product which is generated or used in a home that contains one or more of the following properties:

- Flammable/Combustible: Can easily be set on fire or ignited
- Explosive/Reactive: Can detonate or explode through exposure to heat, sudden shock or pressure
- Corrosive/Caustic: Can burn and destroy living tissue
- Toxic/Poisonous: Capable of causing injury or death through ingestion, inhalation or absorption

HHW include cleaning chemicals; paints, stains, and thinner products; pesticides, herbicides and fertilizers; automotive or recreational boat fluids; arts and crafts related solvents and thinners; rechargeable batteries; fluorescent and compact light bulbs or tubes, UV bulbs, and neon lights; and mercury thermometers.

What materials are accepted at collection events?

Light ballasts

Paint

Pesticides/Herbicides

Cleaners/disinfectants Gasoline/diesel Flammable solvents

Art/hobby chemicals

Poisons

Items containing mercury

Propane tanks

Antifreeze

Fluorescent lights

Solvents/thinners

Aerosols

Compressed gas cylinders

Pool/spa chemicals

Paint

Batteries - car, rechargeable, button

What materials are not accepted at collection events?

- Medications/pharmaceuticals
- Needles/Syringes - [Contact Recology for assistance](#)
- General garbage
- Asbestos
- Explosives/Fireworks

What should I know about safe handling and transport of HHW?

HHW collection events are for small quantities (less than 5-gallon containers) of hazardous wastes from **households** in Clatsop County.

Ensure that HHW items are safely handled and transported. Please do the following when you bring items to HHW collection events:

- Keep products in their original container if possible.
- Label product if not in original container (label as unknown if unknown).
- Do not mix products together.
- Make sure products are properly sealed to prevent leaks and spills.
- If container is leaking, secure it in a secondary leak-proof container.
- Secure HHW items in rear of your vehicle to ease removal.
- Containers must be less than 5 gallons each.

Can I take HHW somewhere besides HHW collection events?

The following list is provided for your convenience in case you are not able to make it to a collection event and are considering what other options may be available for your household hazardous waste. This list is updated periodically as needed, so please let us know if you notice anything that is missing or inaccurate.

Astoria Transfer Station

Items accepted: Motor oil, car batteries, electronics, appliances, car tires.

Website: <https://www.recology.com/recology-western-oregon/astoria-transfer-station/>

Phone: (503) 861-0578

Physical Address: 1790 Williamsport Road, Astoria, OR

Home Depot

Items accepted: Rechargeable batteries, compact fluorescent light bulbs

Phone: (503) 861-9999

Physical address: 1650 SE Ensign Lane, Warrenton, OR

AutoZone

Items accepted: Automotive batteries, oil and filters

Phone: (503) 861-4317

Physical address: 1470 SE Discovery Lane, Warrenton, OR

O'Reilly Auto Parts

Items accepted: Rechargeable and automotive batteries, oil and filters

Phone: (503) 861-5426

Physical address: 1649 SE Ensign Lane, Warrenton, OR

NAPA Autoparts

Items accepted: Automotive batteries, oil and filters

Phone: (503) 325-2411

Physical address: 710 W Marine Drive, Astoria, OR

PaintCare

website: <https://www.paintcare.org/>

Phone: (855) 724-6809

email: info [at] paint.org

City Lumber

Items accepted: Paints, stains, lacquers, varnishes, sealers, deck coatings.

Phone: (503) 325-4511

Physical address: 2142 Commercial Street, Astoria, OR

Sherwin Williams

Items accepted: Paints, stains, lacquers, varnishes, sealers, deck coatings.

Phone: (503) 738-6751

Physical Address: 3527 Highway 101N, Gearhart, OR

What can you do to safely reduce hazardous chemicals in the home?

HHW require special disposal and should always be properly stored. Below are some actions that everyone can take to reduce the amount of hazardous wastes stored in their homes.

- Visit [Paint Care](#) for locations to dispose of home paints, stains and sealants.
- Purchase only what you need to reduce the amount that needs to be stored.
- Choose non-toxic products when possible.
- Consider using environmentally-friendly alternatives when possible.
- When storing your hazardous products, put them in a safe place away from children and pets, and keep them in their original containers.
- Always follow recommendations for personal protective equipment to use when using or handling hazardous materials.
- Share unused product with a neighbor or friend to get rid of it all.

How is household hazardous waste disposed?

In general, hazardous wastes collected for proper disposal are either:

- treated and neutralized to less hazardous form;
- burned at high temperatures for destructive incineration;
- burned for energy recovery; or
- reused or recycled; or treated and disposed of at a licensed EPA/DEQ disposal facility.

What types of household hazardous materials are most commonly collected?

Based on national data from collection programs, a typical breakdown of HHW is:

- 50% paints and paint products
- 20% used motor oil
- 20% solvents, pesticides and herbicides
- 10% batteries, unidentified materials and other miscellaneous items, such as old chemistry sets, photographic materials, and fiberglass epoxy

Background of the Clatsop County HHW Facility.

The Household Hazardous Waste collection center is the result of several years of collaboration between Clatsop County, Recology of Western Oregon, local cities, community organizations, and the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality. The facility:

- Provides a means for proper disposal of hazardous toxic wastes;
- Removes unwanted wastes from homes, reducing exposure and injury from hazardous chemicals;
- Eliminates hazardous waste going into residential garbage, thereby reducing the danger to waste collectors and sanitation workers;
- Increases awareness of the common hazardous materials found in most homes, and how these products can impact the health of humans and the environment;
- Provides education on alternative green products that are available, reducing the use of dangerous, hazardous materials in the home.

HHW Flyer 2024 English 2.48 MB

HHW Flyer 2024 spanish 2.94 MB

Related Links

- [Facility Tour](#)