



Household Hazardous Waste

MDEQ – Waste Division

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What is Household Hazardous Waste?

- HHW is generated by normal household activities
 - Waste must be generated by individuals on the premises of a temporary or permanent residence
 - The waste must be composed primarily of materials found in wastes generated by consumers in their homes.
 - Includes household-like areas, such as bunkhouses, ranger stations, crew quarters, campgrounds, picnic areas, and day-use recreation areas.
- The average household generates more than 20 pounds of HHW per year

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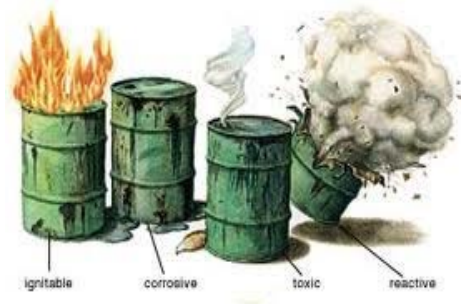
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What is Household Hazardous Waste?

- Hazardous waste characteristics
 - Ignitable
 - Corrosive
 - Reactive
 - Toxic
- Household hazardous waste is excluded from Subtitle C of RCRA. It is regulated under Subtitle D. [40 CFR 261.4(b)(1)]



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Household Hazardous Waste Examples



Antifreeze
Brake fluid
Car wax
Diesel fuel
Gasoline
Fuel oil
Kerosene
Transmission fluid
Cleaning solvents
Dry cleaning solutions

Muriatic Acid
Bleach
Ammonia
Oven cleaners
Chemical fertilizers
Fungicide
Herbicide
Insect repellents
Pesticides
Fluorescent light bulbs

Batteries
Mercury thermostats
Pool chemicals
Solvents
Paint thinners
Turpentine
Varnish
Oil, latex, lead paints
Aerosol cans

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Hazardous of Hazardous Waste

- Poison Control
 - 2019 – Poison Control centers provided guidance for over 2.1 million human poison exposures.
 - Nearly half of the exposure are children under 6 years old.
 - Over 68,000 animal poison exposures.
- Improper disposal of HHW can impact groundwater and surface water resources
 - One gallon of used oil can contaminate 1 million gallons of fresh water – a year's supply for 50 people.
- Improper disposal poses threat to human health. Can cause injury to sanitation workers, contaminate wastewater treatment systems, and are a hazard to children and pets



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Disposal of Household Hazardous Waste

- Paint
 - Use all paint on the project
 - A third coat is better than keeping extra paint in the garage
 - Donate paint (if paint is still good and you have a lot on hand)
 - Habitat for Humanity, local scouts troop or other community organizations, shelters, churches, animal rescue facilities.
 - Drop-off locations
 - Check with the local officials for instructions about where to dispose of paint safely
 - Earth911.com
 - Household hazardous waste collection events
- Latex Paint
 - Latex paint is a water-based paint. It can be mixed with cat litter (equal parts), allowed to dry, and thrown in the trash

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Disposal of Household Hazardous Waste

- Used oil
 - Many auto service centers will accept used oil
 - One-gallon of used oil can produce 2.5 quarts of lubrication oil. It take 42 gallons of crude oil to produce the same amount
 - Americans who change their own oil throw away 180 million gallons of recoverable motor oil every year. Only 20 million gallons are recycled
 - Unities States improperly disposes of 500 million gallons of used oil each year.



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Disposal of Household Hazardous Waste

- Batteries
 - Lowes and Home Depot usually have recycle bins for rechargeable batteries
 - Call2Recycle.com is a good resource to find where and how to recycle batteries
- Pharmaceutical
 - Take-back locations at many pharmacies and police stations
 - Don't flush medicines unless they are on the FDA's flush list
- Ammunition
 - Police stations
 - Local gun ranges



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Disposal of Household Hazardous Waste

- Permanent Drop-off Locations
 - Check with local waste management and community officials to see if there is a drop-off location nearby
 - Earth911.com - Universal resource for helping and educating people about how and where to recycle
 - Call2Recycle.com - Good resource for determining and educating on how and where to recycle batteries
- Household Hazardous Waste Collection Events



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Household Hazardous Waste Collection Events

- One day events held in communities which residents can drop their HHW
- Usually are scheduled one Saturday in the spring or fall
- Need time to prepare and organize an event
- May not be convenient for some residents
- Long lines and wait times
- Cost of event



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HHW Event Costs

- Cost of holding a HHWD event can cost anywhere from around \$20,000 to over \$150,000 depending on size of event and amount of waste collected
- Funding can come from municipal solid waste budgets
 - County and local agencies that benefit from HHW collection days often contribute into HHW management programs
- Grants from MDEQ can provide up to 75% of the cost



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Additional Concerns

- Safety Concerns
 - First Aid
 - Fire Dept.
 - Heat
- Traffic
- People bringing trash and other non-HHW items
- Events that are “too successful” may be an indicator that the collection events are not meeting the demands of the community
 - Consider multiple events and/or expanding permanent drop-off locations



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Publicity and Public Education of HHW Collection Events

- HHW collection programs cannot succeed without a strong public education effort
- Information about the HHW should reach public officials, civic groups, solid waste personnel, and the business community to encourage assistance
 - Financial support
 - Donations
 - In-kind services
 - Volunteers
- Educating the public on what materials will be accepted, what do so with excluded materials, and how to transport HHW to the event.
 - Newspaper
 - TV and radio
 - Social media
 - Business employee newsletters
 - Mailings

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Questions?

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