

Household Hazardous Waste (HHW)

Do Riverside County Landfills accept this waste?

Yes

No

(See Disposal Locations)

Conditionally

(See Special Conditions)

Case by case

(See Approval Process)

Are there other alternatives for this waste?

Yes

(See Alternative Recycling Locations)

No



Definition

According to the California Health and Safety Code, "Household hazardous waste means any hazardous waste generated incidental to owning or maintaining a place of residence. Household hazardous waste does not include any waste generated in the course of operating a business at a residence." The products we use in our homes may seem harmless enough and many of us would not consider them hazardous until we try to dispose of them. Any product label that contains the words "danger," "warning," or "caution" signifies special precautions must be taken when using or disposing of unwanted portions of these products.

Examples of Typical HHW

Adhesives, Drain Openers, Antifreeze, Paints (Oil and Latex), Batteries (auto, single use, rechargeable), Solvents, Pesticides, Household Cleaners, Used Oil and Filters, Swimming Pool Chemicals, Nail Polish, Fuels, Propane Cylinders/Tanks, Cosmetics, Fertilizers, Fluorescent Bulbs, Ballasts, Fire Extinguishers, Used Oil Filters and Electronic Wastes are some examples of household hazardous waste (HHW). However, anything else that is labeled the following is also considered HHW:

- **Toxic**—Poisonous or causes long-term illness (such as cancer). Pesticides, paint thinners, many auto products and some cleaners are toxic.
- **Flammable**—Burns easily. Paint, thinners and other solvents, and auto products are the most common flammable home products.
- **Corrosive**—Eats through metal or human tissue (acid, for example). Oven cleaners, drain cleaners, toilet bowl cleaners and auto batteries are common corrosive products.
- **Oxidizer**—A sour-tasting compound that releases hydrogen ions to form a solution with a pH of less than 7, reacts with a base to form a salt, and turns blue litmus red.

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Examples of Typical HHW (Continued)

HHW can be found in your home in the following locations:

BATHROOM

Chlorine Bleach
Deodorizer/Air Freshener
Disinfectant
Hair Dye
Mercury Devices
Nail Polish Remover
Shoe Dye
Toilet, Tub & Tile Cleaner

KITCHEN

Aerosol Cans
Aluminum Cleaners
Ammonia
Chlorinated Cleansers
Drain Cleaner
Floor Care Products
Furniture Polish
Oven Cleaner

GARDENING

Aerosol Insecticides
BBQ Propane Tanks
Fertilizer
Fungicide
Insecticides
Pesticides
Rodent Bait/Poison
Weed Killer/Herbicide

WORKSHOP & HOBBY

Caulking
Fiberglass & Epoxy Resins
Glue
Gun Cleaners
Hobby Chemicals
Paint Latex/Oil Based
Paint Stripper
Paint Thinner/Turpentine
Photo Chemicals
Roof Coating
Varnish
WD-40 or other lubricants

GARAGE

Antifreeze
Auto Batteries
Brake Fluid
Carburetor Cleaner
Chrome Polish
Engine Degreaser
Fluorescent Tubes/Bulbs
Gas, Diesel Fuel
Motor Oil
Oil Filters
Old TV's & Computers
Rodent Poison

MISCELLANEOUS

Batteries (All types)
Artist's Paints
Camp Propane Tanks
Electronic Devices
Flea Powder
Kerosene/Lamp Oil
Lighter Fluid
Moth Balls/Flakes
Pool/Spa Chemicals
Rug Cleaner
Sharps/Needles
Spot Remover w/Solvent

Reducing Household Hazardous Waste

Rather than disposal or recycling leftover product, the way to reduce the amount of hazardous chemicals stored in your home is to buy only the products that you will need for one job at a time and use them up completely. Avoid storing large amounts of toxic materials by using what you can and giving the rest away to friends, family and neighbors to use properly.

HHW is illegal to dispose of in the trash because they can contaminate ground water and emit toxic gases into the atmosphere at county landfills. They can also be hazardous to trash collection and landfill work-

Alternative Recycling/Disposal Locations

Because of these threats, they must be disposed of in the proper way. The Riverside County Waste Management Department's (RCWMD) HHW program provides an opportunity for residents of the county to dispose of these materials at no charge.

Customers shall not bring HHW to any landfill that does not have a permitted HHW Collection Facility or HHW Collection Event operating on that day. Solid waste loads containing commingled HHW waste may be refused at the customer's/hauler's expense. Customers who are found to repeatedly contaminate their waste loads with HHW are subject to criminal prosecution and will be banned from the landfill.

The RCWMD household hazardous waste collection program is solely for residential use only. Photo documentation will be made of excessive or suspected non-residential loads coming to sites. Visit the RCWMD website www.rivcowm.org or call 1-800-304-2226 for dates and times of free collection events throughout Riverside County. Additional information is available for homeowners. **Residents can also subscribe to the website to receive automatic updates to the HHW Schedule at:**

<http://www.rivcowm.org/opencms/hhw/index.html#> **HHW Collection Locations**

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Alternative Recycling/Disposal Locations (Continued)

Regional Permanent HHW Collection Facility Information

Site Name	Address	Operating Hours*
Palm Springs Regional Permanent HHW Collection Facility	1100 Vella Road Palm Springs, CA 92264	9:00 am to 2:00 pm Saturdays October through May 7:00 am to Noon Saturdays June through September
Lake Elsinore Regional Permanent HHW Collection Facility	521 N. Langstaff Street Lake Elsinore, CA 92530	9:00 am to 2:00 pm First Saturday of each month. Event will be postponed to the following Saturday if the first Saturday is a holiday weekend.
Agua Mansa Regional Permanent HHW Collection Facility	1780 Agua Mansa Road Riverside, CA 92509	9:00 am to 2:00 pm Saturdays

*Facilities are closed on designated holidays.

HHW Temporary Collection Events

For a list of Temporary HHW Collection Events, please visit:

<http://www.rivcowm.org/opencms/hhw/index.html#> **HHW Collection Locations**

Regional Antifreeze, Battery, Oil (and Filter) and Paint (Latex) Collection Facilities

These facilities only accept the most common types of HHW: antifreeze, all battery types, used motor oil and oil filters, and latex paint. They are not able to collect any other types of HHW.

Site Name	Address	Operating Hours*
Murrieta Area Regional ABOP Collection Facility	County Road Yard 25315 Jefferson Avenue Murrieta, Ca 92562	9:00 am to 2:00 pm Saturdays
East Coachella Valley Area Regional ABOP Collection Facility	Coachella Valley Transfer Station 87-011A Landfill Road Coachella, CA 92236	8:00 am to 5:00 pm, Monday – Friday 8:00 am to Noon, Saturdays
North-West Coachella Valley Area Regional ABOP Collection Facility	Edom Hill Transfer Station 70-100 Edom Hill Road Cathedral City, CA 92235	8:00 am to 4:30 pm Saturdays.

*Facilities are closed on designated holidays.

For additional HHW collection services, please contact your city recycling coordinator for more information.

Items Not Accepted at HHW Collection Sites

Items not accepted at the HHW programs include **appliances, radioactive waste, ammunition/explosives, asbestos, tires, medical waste other than sharps, 55-gallon drums and any hazardous waste from businesses, non-profit organizations, or waste from out of county areas.**

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Before Transporting HHW

Before transporting waste to the collection event or facility, please use this checklist to make sure you have done the following:

- **Use** up all hazardous waste for its intended purpose when possible.
- **Offer** good, usable products to neighbors, family, or organizations.
- **Remove** all valuables from trunk before loading it with waste materials. Remove all other items that can be mistaken as hazardous and universal waste discards (eg. new oil or antifreeze containers you are still intending to use). Note: The program is not responsible for lost or missing items from your vehicle.
- **Limit** the total chemical load to less than 5 gallons or 50 pounds for transportation. (California State Law maximum transportation limitation.)
- **Secure** leaky containers and loose loads. If they are leaky, place them in a secondary container or material that will not allow the leak to spread. Place securely in the vehicle for safe transportation.
- **Mark** containers to identify contents or keep in original container. The contents of the container must be the same as stated on the label. If not, cover up the label and write the name of its contents. Containers with flammable liquid will not be returned (gas cans).
- **Transport** waste in a box placed in the trunk of your car or in the bed of your pickup truck and secured to prevent movement and breakage. (Keep items away from passengers.)
- **Follow** directions once you reach the event site. You will be asked to turn off your motor and stay in your vehicle. The site staff will unload the material from your vehicle.

Proper Disposal of Medications and Sharps

Most medications are not considered hazardous waste and can be disposed of in regular trash. Remove personal information from containers before disposal.

Liquid—Empty liquid medication onto absorbent paper towels or rags and throw IN TRASH.

Pill—Crush pills, mix with coffee grounds or kitty litter, and dispose of mixture IN TRASH.

Inhaler—Empty container, expel propellant, and toss empty aerosol container IN TRASH.

Sharps/Needles—Must be placed in a secure approved sharps container and brought to a Household Hazardous Waste collection for disposal.

FREE biohazard labels are available at the HHW events or by phone 951-486-3200

To print your own sharps labels and instructions, please click on the website address at the bottom of this section. Using this label, residents can make their own approved container from sturdy plastic bottles from home. For information: <http://www.rivcowm.org/opencms/hhw/pdf/88751-Biohazard-labels.PDF>

Business Hazardous Waste Disposal Information

Hazardous waste from businesses, non-profit or governmental organizations is not accepted at these locations. For business waste or any non-residential waste, please refer to the "**Hazardous Waste - Business**" Waste Fact Sheet for list of registered hazardous waste transporters that provide hazardous waste disposal services within Riverside County.

For additional information and guidance in managing hazardous waste, please contact the Riverside County Department of Environmental Health at 951-358-5055 or (888) 722-4234 or visit: http://www.rivcowm.org/opencms/hw_info/hhw_business.html#_Hazardous_Waste_Service

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Used Oil and Filters from Automobiles

If all you generate is used oil and filters from servicing your vehicles, you might find it more convenient to utilize the Certified Used Oil Collection Center network located throughout California. You may be able to get some money for your oil too. For a list of participating facilities please log on to <http://www.Earth911.com> or the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) on their website: <http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/UsedOil/Reports/CenterSearch>

Alternatives to Chemical Products

By making informed consumer decisions when buying toxic products we can reduce the amount that needs to be disposed of. There are many alternatives to buying and using traditional chemical products. Most of these alternatives work just as well as the original, but are much less toxic! Here are a few ideas:

- Use a cleanser with a biodegradable solvent, such as Simple Green or other water-based cleansers.
- By growing fruits and vegetables at home organically, the use of synthetic pesticides and fertilizers can be minimized. Use compost for fertilizer around trees and shrubs instead of chemicals.
- Use a dilute solution (1:20) of detergent and water to rid your trees of flies and pests instead of spraying it with a pesticide. Alternatively, look for insecticidal soaps which are less toxic when shopping for pesticides.
- Try using mechanical traps to catch pests. Many times they are reusable and won't harm children or pets.
- Maintain a variety of plants in your garden to reduce the chance of catastrophic infestation by a single pest species. Also, choose plant species that are disease resistant.
- Infested by a single pest? Research to see if introducing a predator species could be a viable option. Ladybugs and Praying Mantis' can be used to control insects instead of using pesticides.



- Instead of using a bag catcher for your lawnmower, let the grass clippings stay on your lawn. The recycled nitrogen from the clippings will be beneficial to the soil, and will help to reduce the amount of fertilizer needed for a healthy lawn.

Many more alternatives to traditional chemicals are listed at:

http://www.ehow.com/how_2069383_make-green-household-cleaners.html

These methods have been scientifically tested and are usually less toxic and just as effective as other household chemicals.

Internal Operating Procedures

A B C D E F G H Not applicable