

MDC
Household
HAZ



WASTE
Collection

The Metropolitan District's

2008

Household Hazardous Waste Collection Program

(860) 278-3809

www.theMDC.com

Dear Resident:

It's that time of year again. The Metropolitan District is sponsoring a Household Hazardous Waste (HazWaste) Collection in your town for the 15th consecutive year. Participating in it just might be the most important thing you do all year!

If you don't think you have hazardous waste, think again. Right now there are potentially dangerous materials lurking throughout your home. Even everyday products, like solvents and cleaners can pose serious health risks if swallowed, inhaled, or mishandled. Just think how often the containers for these products leak or are spilled!

The MDC sponsors this Household HazWaste Collection Program to provide residents of participating towns with a safe, convenient, and environmentally responsible way to dispose of their Household HazWaste. The MDC urges you to participate in any of the 19 Household HazWaste Collections it will hold this year. Protect the health of your kids, your spouse, your pets, and the environment by participating in the MDC's Household HazWaste Collection Program.

If you are interested in volunteering for the next collection day your town's hosting, call the Metropolitan District's Household HazWaste Coordinator at (860) 278-3809.

Sincerely,

The MDC Household HazWaste Program Staff

Please note this program was designed to help homeowners dispose of common household chemicals and waste generated by everyday use and small home improvement projects. For projects requiring a contractor, make arrangements for disposal with them or a disposal contractor before work begins. Do not bring the waste to a collection!

IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR RESIDENTS WHO CURRENTLY OR FORMERLY OPERATED A HOME BUSINESS OR FARM!!

The CT DEP recently clarified the classification of waste from current and former businesses. Any waste generated by a businesses needs to be handled as small business (CESQG) waste, even if the business no longer exists. CESQGs have to meet certain guidelines and follow different rules than residents. If you wish to dispose of hazardous waste from a farm or business you must follow the CESQG rules and make an appointment with Clean Harbors to drop-off your waste at one of the MDC's collections. CESQGs are charged a fee for the disposal of their waste. Please call the HazWaste Hotline (860) 278-3809 for more information and to request a Small Business Package. Please note, if your business generates or stores more than a limited quantity of hazardous waste you may not be eligible for this program. Please see the Small Business Package for more information.

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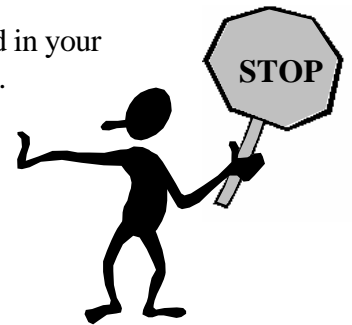
Rules For Bringing Waste To A Collection Day

PLEASE STAY IN YOUR VEHICLE DURING THE ENTIRE COLLECTION!!

This is for your safety and is required by our contractor's DEP permit.

We will take care of everything, so just sit back and relax.

- Bring your waste in their original containers whenever possible. Please make sure all containers are closed. It is dangerous to transport open containers.
- Do not mix different products.
- Collect your waste containers in **disposable** boxes or bins, which should be transported in your trunk. Do not put your Household HazWaste in the backseat with your children or pets.
- NO SMOKING IN YOUR CAR! Most wastes are flammable.
- Bring something to read, the wait is usually 5-15 minutes, but can be up to 30 minutes (and at the very large collections sometimes longer).
- If possible, leave children and animals at home.



2008 MDC Household Hazardous Waste Collection Schedule

(Collections are held on Saturdays from 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.*)

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TOWN</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
April 26, 2008	Farmington	Farmington High School, 10 Monteith Drive
May 3, 2008	Newington	Town Garage, Fenn Road
May 10, 2008	Enfield	Stanley E. Jablonski Complex, 40 Moody Rd.
May 17, 2008	East Windsor	Town Hall, 11 Rye Street, Broadbrook
June 7, 2008	Windsor	Poquonock WPCF, 1222 Poquonock Ave.
June 14, 2008	Hartford	Lewis Fox Middle School Corner of Albany Avenue and Blue Hills Ave.
June 28, 2008	Wethersfield	High School, 411 Wolcott Hill Road
Aug. 16, 2008	Simsbury**	Henry James Memorial School, 155 Firetown Road
Aug. 23, 2008	Bloomfield	Public Works Building, 21 Southwood Road
Sept. 6, 2008	Rocky Hill	Rocky Hill WPCF, 80 Goff Brook Lane
Sept. 13, 2008	Ansonia***	Public Works Complex, North Division Street
Sept. 20, 2008	Ellington	Town Garage, 21 Main Street
Sept. 27, 2008	West Hartford	Public Works Garage, Oakwood Avenue Extension Off New Park Avenue, West Hartford
Oct. 4, 2008	Middletown****	Lawrence School, Mile Lane off Newfield St.
Oct. 11, 2008	South Windsor^	High School, 161 Nevers Road
Oct. 18, 2008	East Hartford	East Hartford WPCF, 65 Pitkin Street
Oct. 25, 2008	Hartford	Hartford WPCF, 240 Brainard Road
Oct. 26, 2008(Sunday)	Bloomfield	Tikvoh Chadoshoh Synagogue, 180 Still Road
Nov. 1, 2008	Windsor Locks/E. Granby	Public Works Garage, 6 Stanton Road, Windsor Locks

(WPCF = Water Pollution Control Facility)

**Collection hosted by Simsbury, Avon, Canton and Granby

***Collection hosted by Middletown, Cromwell, Durham, East Hampton, Haddam, Middlefield and Portland

^ Pending budget approval by the Town Council

*One collection is held on a Sunday.

****Collection hosted by Ansonia, Derby and Seymour

RESIDENTS OF ANY PARTICIPATING TOWN (LISTED BELOW) CAN PARTICIPATE IN ANY MDC SPONSORED COLLECTION DAY

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| • Ansonia | • Haddam |
| • Avon | • Hartford |
| • Bloomfield | • Middlefield |
| • Canton | • Middletown |
| • Cromwell | • Newington |
| • Derby | • Portland |
| • Durham | • Rocky Hill |
| • East Granby | • Seymour |
| • East Hampton | • Simsbury |
| • East Hartford | • South Windsor |
| • East Windsor | • West Hartford |
| • Ellington | • Wethersfield |
| • Enfield | • Windsor |
| • Farmington | • Windsor Locks |
| • Granby | |

Identifying Household Hazardous Waste

Many products that we use all the time contain hazardous chemicals that with repeated or excessive contact may lead to lung problems, brain and nerve damage, cancer and even death. A product is considered hazardous if it's:

- **TOXIC** - can injure or kill if swallowed, inhaled or absorbed through the skin
- **FLAMMABLE** – ignites easily and burns rapidly
- **CORROSIVE** - can cause permanent tissue damage through contact
- **REACTIVE** - creates an explosion or produces deadly vapors

Other labels for hazardous materials are Caustic, Combustible, Oxidizer, and Poison. You can learn to avoid these chemicals by reading the labels. The following signal words are used to categorize hazardous materials.

- **Danger** or **Poison** are the most hazardous, with doses of 1 drop to 1 teaspoon being lethal.
- **Warning** is applied to chemicals considered toxic with lethal doses between 1 teaspoon and 1 tablespoon.
- **Caution** is the least toxic category with lethal doses between 1 ounce and 1 pint.

These signal words will be near a phrase that describes the nature of the hazard, such as “vapors harmful” or "extremely flammable”. Refer to Page 20 for non-toxic alternatives to many cleaning products and other household chemicals. Common household hazardous wastes, which can be brought to a collection day, are listed on Page 3. This list is not all encompassing; there may be other hazardous items or chemicals in your home. Call the HazWaste Hotline (860) 278-3809 if you are not sure about an item.



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What Happens To The Items Brought To The Household HazWaste Collection?

Recycling – Antifreeze, rechargeable batteries, lead-acid batteries, fluorescent bulbs, some mercury, propane tanks, and fire extinguishers may be reprocessed into useful products.

Fuel Blending – Solvents not suitable for recycling, some paints, kerosene, gasoline, and other flammable or combustible liquids will be blended to make fuel for industrial kilns or boilers.

Incineration – Most paints, pesticides, herbicides, aerosol cans, cleaners, waxes, and flammable materials not suitable for recycling or fuel use will be burned in special high temperature incinerators equipped with air pollution monitoring instruments and control devices. Cyanides, acids, bases, and oxidizers are also incinerated because the HHW contractor has found this type of waste often contains contaminants when collected from residents. The contaminants interfere with the chemical treatment process normally used for these types of wastes.

Fixation/Stabilization – Some liquids will be treated to make their hazardous constituents immobile.

Landfills – Most untreated Household HazWaste is already prohibited from landfills. EPA is now phasing in regulations which will assure that no untreated household hazardous waste will be sent to landfills – only residues from waste treatment.

Household Hazardous Wastes Accepted

Acids	Drain Cleaners	Lithium Batteries	Pool Chemicals
Adhesives	Epoxy Products	Mercury	Power Steering Fluid
Aerosols	Flea Repellants	Mercury Switches	Rechargeable Batteries
Alkaline Batteries	Floor Care Products	Mercury Thermometers	Road Flares
Ammonia	Fungicides	Mercury Thermostats	Transmission Fluid
Antifreeze	Gasoline and Diesel	Moth Balls	Turpentine
Ant sprays and baits	Glues	Oil or Alkyd Paint	Wood and Metal Polishes
Artist's Paints	Herbicides	Oven Cleaners	Wood Preservatives
Brake Fluid	Insecticides	Paint Strippers/Thinners	Wood Stain
Cleaning Solvents	Kerosene and Fuel Oil	Photo Chemicals	
Disinfectants	Lighter Fluid	Polyurethane	

Other Acceptable Items:

- Asbestos – This includes insulation, shingles, and tiles. Only a small quantity of asbestos can be accepted and the material must be dampened and double bagged. Please call 278-3809 to notify the MDC HazWaste Coordinator that you are bringing asbestos containing material to a collection or to request an asbestos information pamphlet (See Page 9). **The Coordinator has the right to reject this material if prior approval was not received.**
- Frying Oil – Oil must be brought in a rigid plastic container (no larger than 5-gallons) with a screw top lid.
- Fluorescent & Energy Efficient Bulbs – Place in a container or tape bulbs together to prevent them from breaking during transport.
- PCB Ballasts & Capacitors – Ballasts must be removed from the light fixture. Capacitors must be removed from the appliance.
- Lead Paint Chips & Sand - Contact the HazWaste Coordinator at (860) 278-3809 for approval prior to bringing the material to a collection **The Coordinator has the right to reject this material if prior approval was not received.**
- Blasting Grit **approval was not received.**

Special conditions apply to any products stored in 55-gallon drums and the MDC HazWaste Coordinator must prior approval before the waste can be brought to a collection. **The Coordinator has the right to reject this material if prior approval was not received.

Facts About Household HazWaste

- FACT:** Americans generate 1.6 million tons of Household HazWaste per year.
- FACT:** The average household generates approximately 30 pounds of Household HazWaste.
- FACT:** These products can jeopardize your family's health if improperly used or stored.
- FACT:** They can pollute our air, land, and water supplies, if they are thrown in your regular trash, on the ground, down your sink or toilet or into a storm drain.

It is illegal to dump hazardous materials on the ground or down storm sewers. Call the local police or CT DEP ((860) 424-3338) to report violations.

Batteries

The first step in determining what type of battery you have is simple; read the battery label. The rechargeable and non-alkaline batteries typically specify what type they are on their labels.

Alkaline batteries are used to power many household products like flashlights, stereos, and toys. Most of these batteries are not labeled as alkaline. A good rule of thumb is, if it's not labeled and it looks like a regular battery, it is an alkaline battery.



Button cell batteries found in watches, hearing aids, small clocks, and gadgets are also non-rechargeable. They may be lithium, silver oxide, or zinc air.

Non-rechargeable lithium batteries are not always button cell sized. The lithium batteries used in cameras and other electronics come in several varieties.



There are several different types of rechargeable batteries including Nickel Metal Hydride (Ni-MH), Nickel Cadmium (Ni-Cd), Lithium-ion (Li-ion), and small sealed lead-acid. Once again, to determine what type of battery you have, read the label. In addition to the standard rechargeable batteries that require a battery charger, these batteries are also found in cordless power tools, cordless phones, laptop computers, camcorders, remote control toys, and portable household appliances. Several types are shown below.

EXAMPLES OF RECHARGEABLE BATTERIES	
Lithium-ion	
Nickel-Cadmium	
Nickel Metal Hydride	
Sealed Lead Acid	

UPS Battery Back-up Systems – These systems are usually powered by sealed lead-acid batteries. These batteries can be brought to a District collection but they **must be** removed from the outer casing before we can accept them. The batteries can also be disposed of at a Rechargeable Battery Recycling Corporation (RBRC) drop-off location.

Disposal – Today's standard household batteries - the alkaline AA's, C's, D's, and 9-volts - have been re-engineered so that the components in them are of low toxicity, making them safe to dispose of with your normal trash. Please be aware, if you have old batteries that might have been manufactured prior to 1997, when the phase-out of mercury-based household batteries began, then they likely contain mercury, and should be recycled.

The residents participating in the MDC Household HazWaste program expressed an overwhelming desire to recycle their alkaline batteries. In response the MDC has modified its program and will now accept all batteries used within the home. We cannot accept your car or motorcycle batteries; see Page 18 for how to dispose of them.

If you are bringing your batteries to a Household HazWaste Collection please separate them into at least three groups: household (alkaline), button cells, and rechargeable batteries.

The RBRC also accepts rechargeable batteries at drop-off locations at local retailers. Visit www.rbrc.org or call 1-800-8-BATTERY to find a drop-off location. Please contact the drop-off location prior to visiting, as the RBRC's list is not always up-to-date.

Compact Fluorescent



Compact fluorescent bulbs (CFLs) are more efficient and last longer than incandescent bulbs. Fluorescent bulbs save electricity and are better for the environment. They will save you money on your electric bill. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency says if every U.S. household replaces one regular incandescent light bulb with a compact fluorescent light bulb, Americans would save enough energy to light more than 2.5 million homes for a year.

While enjoying the benefits of CFLs it's important to remember one thing. Fluorescent bulbs contain mercury and must be disposed of properly. Store worn out fluorescent bulbs in a solid container or in a safe place so they will not break. Contact your town's Department of Public Works or Recycling Services to determine if they collect fluorescent bulbs. If your town does not collect fluorescent bulbs they may be brought to a HazWaste Collection for disposal.

If a CFL breaks in your home follow these recommended clean-up guidelines:

1. Ventilate the room

- Open a window.
- Leave the room and restrict access for at least 30 minutes.
- If possible, aerate the room with a floor or pedestal fan by facing it towards the open window. Using a ceiling fan will not be as helpful at moving the air out of the window.

2. Pick up all the materials you can

- Never allow pregnant women or children near the spill area.
- Remove all metallic jewelry, which might attract mercury magnetically.
- Wear disposable gloves. You should never touch mercury with your bare hands.
- Carefully scoop up the fragments and powder with stiff paper or cardboard.
- Sticky tape (such as duct tape) can be used to pick up small pieces and powder.
- Wipe the area clean with a damp paper towel or disposable wet wipe.
- Afterwards, shine a flashlight on the area to double check for missed spots.



3. Double bag and recycle

- Place the broken CFL and cleanup materials in doubled plastic bags and seal the bags.
- If the bag cannot be immediately disposed of it should be stored in a sealed container in a protected area outside.
- Take the materials to a local household hazardous waste collection event or a fluorescent lamp recycling facility.

4. Wash your hands

For more information on CFLs, visit EPA's website at http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=cfls.pr_cfls.

Other Bulbs Containing

Fluorescent and CFLs are probably the first things you think of when someone mentions mercury and lighting but there are other light bulbs out there that contain mercury. The following types of lamps all contain mercury: tanning lamps, black lights, germicidal lamps, cold cathode lamps, high intensity discharge (HID) lamps like metal halide, mercury vapor, and high pressure sodium, mercury short-arc, mercury xenon short-arc, and neon. Only a few of these bulbs are regularly used in people's homes but no matter where you come across them please remember they contain mercury and require proper handling and disposal. More detailed information about these lamps can be found at

<http://www.newmoa.org/prevention/mercury/imerc/factsheets/lighting.pdf>

Lawn Care

Pesticides, herbicides, and fertilizers are some of the most hazardous products in your home. Children and pets are at risk of becoming sick from exposure to these lawn care products. When it rains lawn care products are washed into storm drains and eventually into rivers and the ocean. Fertilizers remove oxygen from the water, and pesticides are poisonous to aquatic life. Follow the suggestions below to help reduce your use of pesticides and other lawn and garden chemicals.

Suggestions for conventional lawn care.



- Have your yard tested to determine the fertility level of your soil before using fertilizers or pesticides. This way you will know exactly what your lawn's needs are.
- Make sure you know the size of your yard and only use the recommended dose. Pesticides are very potent and a little goes a long way.
- Check the weather and don't fertilize within 48 hours before rain or the fertilizer may be washed away.
- Leave grass clipping on your lawn. The grass clippings will provide nutrients to your lawn and help hold in moisture so less watering is necessary.
- Mow to a height of 3 inches or more. Cutting the grass very short stresses it and makes it more susceptible to disease. Also, letting the grass grow longer chokes out

weeds.

You can have a nutrient analysis performed on your soil or have a plant or disease identified for a small fee by the University of Connecticut. For more information contact the UConn Home and Garden Education Center at (877) 486-6271 (toll free), 1380 Storrs Rd., Unit 4115, Storrs, CT 06269-4115 or at www.ladybug.uconn.edu.

If you keep your lawn thick and healthy it will be able to resist pests, weeds, and disease on its own, without the use of hazardous chemicals.

Storing pesticides – Did you buy too much fertilizer or other lawn care product(s); keep it for next year. Remember store it carefully. Keep it in a secure, well-ventilated dry area, protected from the heat and cold. Keep fertilizers, fungicides, herbicides, and insecticides separated.

Safe Alternatives to Lawn Care Products

Lacewings and Ladybugs: Don't harm lacewings and ladybugs because they prey upon aphids.



Organic Fertilizer: Animal manure, seaweed, sawdust, hay straw, peat moss, fishmeal, and fish scraps are all natural fertilizers. Just don't add more than necessary.

Companion Planting: Including certain plants throughout the garden can repel a variety of insects. Plants helpful for repelling insects include nasturtium, tansy, euphorbia, rue, dahlias, marigolds, aster, cosmos, coreopsis, garlic, chive, savory, rosemary, petunias, and thyme. It is also helpful to mix plants; when a garden is set aside for one type of plant it becomes a target for a particular pest.



Insect Spray: Blend 6 cloves crushed garlic, 1 minced onion, 1 tablespoon dried hot chili pepper, and one tablespoon soap in 1 gallon of hot water. Let sit for 1-2 days, strain and use. Water mixed with hot chili sauce can help repel rabbits, deer, and dogs.

Slugs and Snails: Pour beer into a flat receptacle, like a plate or pie tin, and place it below ground level in the infested area. Slugs and snails will accumulate; just throw them away.

Mercury

What is mercury?



Metallic (elemental) mercury is a shiny, silver-white metal that is a liquid at room temperature. Mercury is the familiar liquid metal used in thermometers and some electrical switches. At room temperature, some of the mercury will evaporate and form mercury vapors, which are colorless and odorless. These vapors can damage the kidneys and nervous tissue.

Where do you commonly find mercury?

- Thermometers
- Thermostats
- Fluorescent light bulbs
- Mercury-oxide batteries
- Electronic switches
- Security devices that detect movement
- Paints manufactured before 1990 (especially marine and deck paints)

How to clean-up a spill and dispose of mercury

- Put on rubber gloves.
- Use two stiff pieces of cardboard to collect broken glass, mercury, or mercury-containing glass pieces and powder into a pile.
- Use an eye dropper to collect mercury beads and discard the eye dropper in a plastic container.
- Carefully collect all of the glass into the plastic container.
- Use the sticky side of some duct tape to collect any remaining glass and mercury and discard the tape in the plastic bag.
- When the clean up is done place the rubber gloves and cardboard pieces in the plastic bag.
- Seal both the plastic container and plastic bag and label each as “mercury waste”.
- DO NOT vacuum the area until 2-3 days later. Vacuuming up mercury can make it spread into the air.
- If possible, open a window to ventilate the area for at least 24 hours.
- Bring the mercury waste to a HazWaste Collection for disposal.



Unacceptable Items for MDC Collections

Please note these are **possible** disposal options. The specified organization must be contacted to verify they actually dispose of the listed item prior to bringing your waste to their location. HazWaste should never be dumped at a facility or at a temporary HazWaste site before a collection. This is an environmental and safety hazard and is also illegal.

Ammunition - Call your local Police Department.

Asbestos – See Pages 3 and 9 for additional information. Call the HazWaste Hotline (860) 278-3809 to request an asbestos information pamphlet for homeowners.

Biological Waste - Hire a contractor to properly dispose of waste.

Business Waste – The MDC accepts small business waste at its collections, by appointment only. Companies must call the HazWaste Hotline to see if they qualify and to request a small business information package. Business waste can only be accepted if all program requirements have been met. No exceptions.

Car Batteries - See Page 18 for additional information.

Cement – Cement, also known as Screte or Quikrete, is not hazardous. Call your town to find out if you should dispose of it in the garbage or at your Transfer Station.

Creosote Coated Railroad Ties – Railroad ties are not hazardous; contact your local Department of Public Works or Transfer Station for possible disposal options.

Electronics – See Page 10 for disposal information.

Empty Containers of any Kind - Dispose of in the regular trash. A container is considered empty when no more than one inch or 3% (by weight) of material is left in the container.

Explosives – Your local Police Department may accept them.

Fire Extinguishers – Your local Fire Department may accept them.

Freon – Some towns will accept refrigerators and air conditioners containing Freon for disposal (usually for a small fee). Contact your local Department of Public Works or Transfer Station for information.

Marine Flares – Pyrotechnic flares cannot be accepted at the Collection because they are categorized as explosives. Disposal of marine flares may be done at DEP's "Flare Days" or by appointment only. Call the DEP Boating Division at (860) 434-8638 and ask for the Navigation Safety/Boating Access Unit for more information.

Ice Melt – Ice melt is not hazardous and can be disposed of in the regular trash.

Latex Driveway Sealer (Genite) – Driveway sealer is not hazardous; solidify then throw in regular trash.

Latex Paint – See Page 12 for disposal information.

Medicine/Drugs – See Page 13 for disposal information.

Needles/Syringes- See Page 14 for disposal information.

Propane Tanks for Gas Grills - See Pages 15 & 16 for disposal information.

Refrigerators - Call the Public Works Department in your town for disposal instructions.

Smoke Detectors - Send smoke detectors back to the manufacturer. See Page 17 for more information.

Tires - Call the Public Works Department in your town for disposal instructions.

Used Oil & Oil Filters – See Pages 18 and 19 for disposal information.

Asbestos

What is asbestos?

Asbestos is a mineral fiber, which was used in a variety of household products and construction materials prior to 1978. Asbestos is extremely hazardous when the fiber becomes airborne; in fact, exposure to asbestos for periods of time have been linked to asbestosis, lung cancer and other deadly diseases. If you suspect that a material in your home contains asbestos, contact the installer or manufacturer or secure the opinion of a knowledgeable contractor – **before you attempt removal**. Asbestos abatement, involving more than three linear feet or three square feet of asbestos-containing material, must be performed by a licensed asbestos abatement contractor. The Connecticut Department of Health recommends homeowners do not handle or perform any asbestos abatement.

Where do you commonly find asbestos?

- Pipe insulation in homes built between 1920 and 1972
- Vinyl sheet flooring and resilient floor tiles between 1954 and 1980
- Ceiling and wall insulation in homes built between 1930 and 1950
- Sprayed or troweled ceiling in homes built between 1945 and 1978
- Roof shingles and siding
- Some textured paints and patching compounds sold before 1978
- Stove and furnace insulation

Zonolite™ Attic Insulation, loose fill insulation, purchased or put in place before 1990 may contain asbestos. This insulation is made with vermiculite which may be contaminated with tremolite, a rare form of asbestos. Commercial vermiculite can range in size from very fine particles to large (course) pieces nearly one inch long. Vermiculite attic insulation is a light weight, pebble-like, pour-in or add-on (loose) product and is usually light brown or gold in color. Its texture is often compared to "popcorn". If you think you have vermiculite insulation get more information at <http://www.epa.gov/asbestos/pubs/insulation.html> or call the EPA's Asbestos Line at 1-800-471-7127.

Where do I go for assistance if I think I have an asbestos problem?

The Hartford Yellow Pages (under "Asbestos Removal Service") has an extensive list of area businesses and contractors who are licensed and insured to safely remove asbestos.

Contact the individuals listed below for additional information.

CT Dept. of Environmental Protection

Dave McKeegan, at (860) 424-3313

Connecticut Department of Health

Asbestos Program, at (860) 509-7367

Electronics

The electronics industry is constantly growing and supplying us with more hi-tech products. Newer models are becoming available and replacing older models at a rapid rate. As a result, electronics are becoming one of the fastest growing portions of America's trash. Electronics can contain hazardous materials, such as cadmium, lead, and mercury. These hazardous materials can be released into the environment through incinerator ash or landfill leachate.

What products are considered consumer electronics?

- TVs and Monitors
- Computers
- Computer Peripherals
- Audio Equipment
- VCRs & DVD Players
- Video Cameras
- Telephones
- Cell Phones
- Fax & Copying Machines
- Wireless Devices
- Video Game Consoles

Reason for Concern

It is estimated that more than 163,000 computers and TVs become obsolete in the US **every day**. Studies estimate that the number of obsolete computers in the US will soon be as high as 315 to 680 million units.

Help keep electronics out of the trash!

- ♻️ Contact your town to find out if electronics are accepted for recycling.
- ♻️ Contact the electronics manufacturer to see if they have a recycling program.
- ♻️ If you are purchasing a new computer see if the company has a take back program. Many computer retailers will recycle your old computer when you purchase a new one from them.
- ♻️ Donate your old electronics to a local charity or school for reuse or refurbishing.

Town Programs

The following towns collect at least one type of electronic equipment from their residents. This list should not be considered all inclusive. The facility should be contacted to verify items accepted and any fees listed are accurate prior to dropping off the electronics.

Avon – Landfill, 281 Huckleberry Hill – 673-3677 – Accepts PCs, monitors, printers, scanners, etc. \$10.00 fee.

East Hartford - Landfill, 61 Ecology Drive - 291-7363 – Accepts electronics, PCs, TVs, cell phones, and rechargeable batteries. Permit needed for some items.

Ellington - Town Garage, 21 Main Street - 870-3140 – Accepts computer components, monitors, printers and hardware.

Granby - Transfer Station, Old Stagecoach Road - 653-8960 – Accepts all electronics. Fee based on weight.

Middletown – Recycling Center, Corner of Johnson and N. Main St. – 344-3526 – Accepts PCs, TVs, monitors, scanners, etc. Fee varies.

Rocky Hill – Town Highway Garage, 2 Old Forge Road – 258-7709 – Accepts all electronics. No charge.

Manufacturer Take Back Programs

Only a sampling of manufacturer take back programs is provided. For program specifics, go to webpage provided and do a search for “recycle”.

Canon – Many Canon products recycled for a fee. <http://www.usa.canon.com/templatedata/AboutCanon/recycle.html>

Dell – All Dell products recycled for free. All other brands \$10 or free with in-kind purchase. <http://www.dell.com>

Epson – Recycles all Epson brand products. <http://www.epson.com>

Hewlett Packard – Receive a trade-in allowance toward a future purchase when you recycle with HP. <http://www.hp.com>

IBM – Purchase recycling service with new system or separately by calling 1-888-SHOP-IBM

<http://www.ibm.com/shop>

Lexmark – Accepts all Lexmark products for recycling. <http://www.lexmark.com>

Sony – Recycles all Sony products if sent to a Service Center. <http://www.sonymstyle.com> FAQ #67

Toshiba – Recycles all Toshiba products. Trade-in any brand with purchase. <http://www.toshibadirect.com>

Electronics Collections

CRRA typically holds two electronics collections, one spring and one fall, in the Hartford area. Check their website periodically for the collection schedule <http://www.crra.org> or call (860) 757-7763.

Retailers

Staples - Accepts any brand of used computers, monitors, laptops, printers, faxes, and all-in-ones for recycling at any of its stores for \$10 per item. Smaller computer peripherals such as keyboards, mice, and speakers are accepted at no charge. www.staples.com or 1-800-3STAPLE for store locations.

Office Depot – A Tech Recycling Service box can be used to recycle any brand of monitors, PCs, printers, scanners, DVD players, MP3 players, etc. The boxes can be purchased for \$5, \$10, or \$15. Once filled the unsealed box is returned to Office Depot. www.officedepot.com/techrecycling

Costco – Offers a trade-in and recycle program to its members. Members enter information about their PCs, monitors, camcorders, digital cameras, etc. at www.greensight.com/Costcotrades and receive an estimate of the trade-in value, paid in a Costco gift card. Electronics are then shipped to GreenSight.

Donation or Reuse

Companies listed either accept electronics directly from homeowners or provide individuals with additional ways to dispose of their electronics. Most of these organizations are only interested in computers and their peripherals.

Global Harmony Institute – Farmington, CT – 860 674-9023 –Working computers, Pentium III or better accepted & refurbished for non-profit groups & schools. <http://www.globalharmonyinstitute.org/initiatives-computer.htm>

Geeks for Givers – Accepts computers purchased in 2000 or newer and refurbishes them for non-profit and community groups. Accepts some peripherals, restrictions apply. – www.geeksforgivers.org

National Cristina Foundation – Directs donations of computer equipment to organizations that train people with disabilities, students at risk and economically disadvantaged persons to lead more independent & productive lives. - www.cristina.org

Freecycle – Let people know you want to give your items away by posting them on your local Freecycle page. Your trash may be someone else's treasure – www.freecycle.org

Rethink Initiative – EBay offers resources to help people sell, donate, and recycle their electronics - <http://rethink.ebay.com>

EZTradein.com – Trade in your old technology for *Paypal*[®] cash - <http://ebay.eztradein.com>

Share the Technology – A free public service database to connect computer equipment donors with non-profit organizations and individuals with disabilities seeking donations - <http://sharetechnology.org/>

Electronics Recyclers

Computer Works – Drop box at rear of Cromwell Hardware, 199 Shunpike Rd, Cromwell - 860 632-0111 - www.thecomputerrecycler.com

Kaplan Computers – 61 Tolland Turnpike, Manchester, CT – 860-643-6474 - www.kaplancomputers.com

Electronics Recyclers (By Internet/Mail)

These companies offer recycling services for a variety of electronics for a fee. Homeowner purchases service on-line or over the phone then ships the computer or other items to the company.

Green Disk Recycling Services – 800-305-3475 - www.greendisk.com

Metech International – 888-638-2761 – www.recycleapc.com

MPC Computers – 1-888-224-4247 – www.mpcorp.com/services/shared/recycle.html

United Recycling Technologies – 1-800-270-8220 - <http://www.unitedrecyclingind.com/site.html>

Latex Paint

Latex paint is not designated as a household hazardous waste, so the MDC HazWaste program will not accept it for disposal. Fortunately there is an easy - and safe - way to dispose of your old latex paint. Crack the lid and let the paint dry out. (You can add kitty litter to the paint to speed up the drying process.) Once the paint is dry, throw the cans, with the lids off, in your regular trash, one can at a time. One additional note: When letting the paint dry out, keep the cans away from heat or damp/wet areas, and make sure children and animals can't get into them.

Empty paint cans (oil based or latex) can be put into your regular trash once the residue is dried out. A container is considered empty when less than one inch of material is left in the can.

Avon residents can dispose of their latex paint at a drop-off facility located at the Avon Landfill. The drop-off facility is open between April and October. Contact the Avon Landfill at 673-3677 for additional information.

Important

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has found that about 30% of latex paints produced before 1990 contain mercury. A mercury-containing pesticide was added to these paints as a preservative. To find out if your latex paints have mercury in them, call the EPA National Pesticide Information Center at 1-800-858-7378. Be sure to know the brand names, types of paint and any other relevant information you can get from the containers. If the EPA representative tells you that you have latex paint with mercury, boldly mark the can(s) so HazWaste Collection personnel can dispose of the paint properly.

REMEMBER:

- 1. Buy only what you need.**
- 2. Use latex paint whenever possible.**
- 3. Bring oil-based paints to any one of the MDC-sponsored Household HazWaste Collections.**



Medicines/Drugs

Expired or unwanted prescription or over-the-counter medications have traditionally been disposed of by flushing them down the toilet or a drain. Scientists and government agencies are now warning us **not** to flush medications down the toilet or drain. Pharmaceuticals and personal-care items such as antibiotics, painkillers, estrogen, antidepressants, blood pressure medicines, fragrances, cosmetics, and vitamins are resistant to wastewater treatment and trace amounts are discharged into our rivers and streams. A nationwide study of streams conducted between 1999 and 2000 by the United States Geological Survey (USGS) found the presence of pharmaceuticals, hormones, and other organic wastewater contaminants in 80% of the streams sampled.

It is now recommended that you disposed of your unwanted medications in the trash. Follow these precautions to prevent accidental or intentional ingestion.

1. **Keep the medication in its original container.** The labels may contain safety information and the caps are typically childproof. Leaving the content information clearly visible, scratch out the patient's personal information or cover it with permanent marker.
2. **Modify the medications to discourage consumption.**
 - For solid medications, such as pills or capsules, add a small amount of water to at least partially dissolve them.
 - For liquid medications, add enough table salt, flour, or charcoal, to make a smelly unsightly mixture that discourages anyone from eating it.
 - For blister packs, wrap the blister packages containing pills in multiple layers in duct tape or another opaque tape.
3. **Seal and conceal.** Tape the medication container's lid shut with shipping or duct tape, and place it inside a non-transparent bag or container to ensure the contents cannot be seen.
4. **Discard.** Throw the bag or container in your garbage can; do not place in your recycling bin.



You can also ask your pharmacy if it will take back expired drugs. Some pharmacies have programs to dispose of inventory they cannot sell, as well as consumers' left-over medicines.

Managing other types of pharmaceutical waste

Unused ampoules, vials and IV bags – Scratch out patient's name but otherwise do not open packages. Wrap the container(s) with tape to minimize breakage, and then place in an opaque plastic bag or container. Wrap the outside of the bag or container with additional duct or shipping tape to prevent leakage and to further obscure the container's contents. Dispose of the container in the trash.

Chemotherapy drugs – These products require special handling. Do not throw them in the trash or flush them down the drain. Work with your healthcare provider to determine proper disposal option for this type of medication.

General Information

EPA's Pharmaceuticals and Personal Care Product Page - <http://www.epa.gov/ppcp/> - Find out more about this issue and how it may affect you.

Keep up to date with the Federal guidelines

http://www.whitehousedrugpolicy.gov/drugfact/factsht/proper_disposal.html

CT Specific Information

CT DEP - <http://www.ct.gov/dep/cwp/view.asp?Q=335480&A=2708>

Needles/Syringes/Lancets

In October 2004, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued new recommendations on disposal of used needles, syringes, and lancets, collectively known as Sharps. The EPA does not recommend disposing of Sharps in the regular trash. Sharps disposed of in the trash are a safety hazard to anyone who has access to the trash - your children, pets, trash collectors and disposal facility employees. Used Sharps can injure people, spread germs, and spread diseases such as HIV/AIDS, hepatitis B and C, tetanus, and syphilis. Victims of Sharps-related injuries face the cost of post-injury testing, disease prevention measures, and counseling, even if no infection or disease was spread. Some diseases can take a long time to appear on test results, leading to months of testing and apprehension.

The EPA recommends the following disposal methods:

- Drop-off Collection Sites
- Syringe Exchange Programs
- Mail-back Programs
- Home Needle Destruction Devices



Needles and syringes cannot be accepted at household hazardous waste collections in CT. The programs and devices listed below are available in the Greater Hartford area. Contact your local health department or health care provider for more information.

Mail-back Programs

A detailed summary covering most of these programs can be found at www.sustainablehospitals.org under Sharps Containers– Mail Back Programs.

Allegro Medical	800-861-3211	www.allegromedical.com
DPH Home Delivery	888-744-7347	www.dphomedelivery.com
Familymeds Pharmacy (Patient Safety Program)	888-787-2800	www.familymeds.com
Medadyne Biomedical, Inc.	714-887-3633	www.medadyne.com
Safe Medical Systems	877-723-3633	www.safemedical.com
Sharps Compliance	877-927-8363	www.wastemd.com
Stericycle, Inc.	800-355-8773	www.stericycle.com/sharps.html

Home Needle Destruction Devices

These devices are available for purchase at your local pharmacy.

Voyager Diabetic Needle Disposal
Zims Disintegrator Plus
B-D Safe-Clip

For more information, contact the **Coalition for Safe Community Needle Disposal** (www.safeneedledisposal.org or 1-800-643-1643), a collaboration of businesses, community groups, non-profit organizations and government that promotes public awareness and solutions for safe disposal of needles, syringes, and other sharps in the community. If you cannot find any other options, sharps can be placed in the trash. The sharps must be placed in a hard plastic or metal container with a screw-on or tightly secured lid. Prior to placing in the trash the lid should be reinforced with heavy-duty tape and the container should be marked “Sharps”.



Propane Tanks - 20

Propane tanks can be extremely hazardous and volatile. Improper disposal can cause problems with trash collection vehicles and result in explosions at the waste-to-energy facilities. Unfortunately, getting rid of these tanks has become very difficult. Due to their volatile nature, few propane gas companies will handle residential tanks exclusively for disposal.

The towns listed below accept propane tanks from their residents. **Call first to ask if the tank must be empty or if the valve must be removed.** If your propane tank is not empty or if you are not sure if it is empty, DO NOT REMOVE THE VALVE.

Municipal Disposal Locations

Ansonia -	Public Works Complex, North Division Street, 203-736-5945
Avon -	Landfill, 281 Huckleberry Hill, 860-673-3677 (\$5.00 Fee)
Bloomfield -	Bloomfield/Windsor Landfill, 500 Huckleberry Road in Windsor, 860-285-1833
Canton -	Landfill/Transfer Station, Ramp Road, 860-693-7866 (Valve must be removed)
Cromwell -	Transfer Station Shunpike Road, 860-632-3420 (Limit two 20 lb. tanks/day, no charge)
East Granby -	Recycling Center - Turkey Hill Road, 860-653-6822 (Valve must be removed)
East Hampton -	Transfer Station, Bear Swamp Road – 267-4747 (\$5.00 fee, valve must be removed)
East Hartford -	Landfill, 61 Ecology Drive, 860-291-7363 or 860-291-7355 (Bulky waste permit required)
East Windsor -	Propane tanks will only be accepted at the town's annual HHW collection, 860-292-7073
Ellington -	Town Garage, 21 Main Street, 860-870-3140 (Leave valve on, no charge)
Granby -	Transfer Station on Old Stagecoach Road only, 860-653-8960 (\$5.00 for each 20 lb. tank)
Haddam -	Transfer Station on Route 154 - 345-2110 (Leave valve on, no charge)
Newington -	Landfill on Main Street, 860-665-8588 (No charge)
Portland -	Landfill/Transfer Station on Sand Hill Road, 860-342-6732 or 860-342-6733 (\$8.00 fee)
Rocky Hill -	Town Garage at 2 Old Forge Road, 860-258-7709
Simsbury -	Bulky Waste Recycling Center - Wolcott Rd, 860-658-9481, 658-3222 (Empty tanks, \$5.00 fee)
West Hartford -	Collected at the curb ONLY during scrap metal collection, 860-236-4236 Call in advance for permit \$20.00 fee (Valve must be removed)
Windsor -	Bloomfield/Windsor Landfill, 500 Huckleberry Road in Windsor, 860-285-1833

Note: For towns not listed above, see Other Disposal Locations on Page 14. Small 1-lb propane tanks will be accepted at Household HazWaste collections **only** from residents of Bloomfield, East Hartford, Hartford, Newington, Rocky Hill, West Hartford, Wethersfield, and Windsor.



Other Propane Tank Disposal Locations

You may be able to dispose of the tank at one of the locations listed below or return the propane tank to the place you bought it. Many companies and local hardware stores will dispose of an old tank for you if a new propane tank is purchased. If the locations below are inconvenient for you, check your yellow pages (under “Gas - Liquefied Propane”) for other options. Always call before you bring your propane tank anywhere for disposal. The disposal fees may change depending on the tank size.

This list has been provided for your convenience and is not an endorsement for any particular company.

Derby

Suburban Propane
100 Water Street
(203) 734-2503
(\$10.00 service fee)

Hartford

All Gas & Equipment Co.
3150 Main Street
(860) 278-2376
(\$10.00 service fee)

Unionville

Parson’s Paint & Hardware
92 South Main St.
(860) 673-2424
(\$4.00 service fee)

Enfield

Hawthornes
97 North Maple Street
(860) 749-8189
(\$5.00 service fee)

South Windsor

PropaneGas Service, Inc.
420 John Fitch Boulevard
Route 5
(860) 289-0267
(\$5.00 service fee)

West Hartford

Lou’s Auto Service
1056 New Britain Ave.
(860) 236-2593
(\$5.00 service fee)

Farmington

Troys Citgo
1097 Farmington Ave
(860) 677-2740
(\$5.00 service fee)

Stafford Springs

High Grade Gas Service
19 Middle River Drive
(860) 749-8035
(\$5.00 service fee)

Wethersfield

Cross Automotive
708 Silas Deane Hwy.
(860) 529-5743
(\$5.00 service fee)

Glastonbury

Bemer Petroleum Corp.
210 Commerce Street
(860) 659-3515
(\$5.00 service fee)

Trumbull

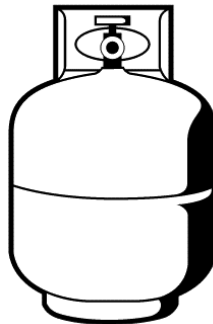
The Rural Gas Co.
7176 Main Street
(203) 261-3641
(\$5.00 service fee)

Wethersfield

Wethersfield Rental
474 Silas Deane Hwy.
(860) 563-0448
(\$3.00 service fee)

Hartford

U-Haul
755 Capitol Avenue
(860) 527-5251
(\$10.00 service fee)



Smoke Detectors

There are two types of smoke detectors, ionization and photoelectric. Ionization smoke detectors contain a small amount of a radioactive substance, usually Americium 241. The ionization smoke detectors are required to be labeled to notify the consumer that the device contains a radioactive material.

How do I properly dispose of an old ionization smoke detector?

- Ionization smoke detectors contain a radioactive material but the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission has exempted all homeowners from the regulatory requirements for handling, storage and disposal of radioactive materials.
- Ionization detectors are considered a very low level radioactive waste, acceptable to throw in the trash.
- The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency recommends that people return the ionization smoke detectors to the manufacturer instead of throwing them in the trash.
- These companies are subject to regulatory requirements and must dispose of the detectors as radioactive waste.

Which companies will accept returns of ionization smoke detectors?

Several companies that manufacture smoke detectors will accept old detectors from consumers. A list of some manufacturers and their contact information is provided below. If the manufacturer of your smoke detector is not included, check the box the detector came in or the company's website for a Customer Service phone number.

It is costly for the manufacturer to dispose of the detectors so they are quick to tell customers that call that it is okay to throw them out. Often the customer must insist that they do not want to just throw them in the trash and then the company's customer service representative will tell them their return policy.

Unless instructed otherwise by the company, you should place the smoke detector in a sealed plastic bag and pack it in a sturdy cardboard box with sufficient shock absorbing material to protect from damage during transit. Include a note instructing the company that you are sending them a smoke detector for proper disposal.

Company, Address & Phone	Instructions
American Sensors/Dicon Global Attn: Disposal 20 Steelcase Road West Unit 3 Markham, Ontario L 3RIB2	Accepts Dicon, North American Detectors, Inc., and American Sensors. Send by regular mail or UPS Ground Prepaid. Call company before sending detector (1-800-387-4219). Write on the customs form that the package contains a defective smoke detector and the value is \$0.
First Alert & BRK Brands Attn: Waste Disposal 3920 Enterprise Court Aurora, IL 60504	FamilyGuard and BRK brands. Send by regular mail or UPS Ground. More info at www.firstalert.com or www.brkelectronics.com . May charge a handling fee. Call customer service before mailing smoke detector. 1-800-323-9005
Walter Kidde Kidde Safety & Customer Service (Disposal) 1394 South Third St. Mebane, North Carolina 27302	Accepts Lifesaver and KIDDE Fymetics. Include a note telling the company that you want them to dispose of the enclosed detector. Customer Service - 1-800-880-6788
Siemens Building Technologies Inc. 8 Fernwood Rd. Florham Park, NJ 07932	Accepts Pyrotronics, Cerberus or Siemens. Contact the company for mailing instructions. 1-800-222-0108
Safety's Sake/Funtech Attn: Disposal 388 N. Elliot Creek Road Amherst, NJ 14228	Contact the company for mailing instructions. 1-716-691-5908

Used Oil & Car Batteries

Car batteries and used oil are very common household hazardous wastes. As a result, each town in Connecticut is required to provide a drop-off location for their safe disposal. The following list is provided to help you locate your local drop-off locations. These items are not accepted at MDC Household HazWaste Collections because the program is geared toward items that your towns cannot accept. Please call your town's drop-off location for further information.

Used oil and car batteries (and anti-freeze where noted) are accepted from respective town residents at the following locations:

- Ansonia -** Public Works Complex, North Division Street - 203-736-5945
- Avon -** Landfill, 281 Huckleberry Hill - 673-3677 (\$10.00 fee for car batteries; \$2 per gal. for anti-freeze)
- Bloomfield -** Bloomfield/Windsor Landfill, 500 Huckleberry Road in Windsor - 285-1833
- Canton -** Landfill/Transfer Station, Ramp Road – 693-7866 (Antifreeze also accepted)
- Cromwell -** Transfer Station on Shunpike Road - 632-3420 (Antifreeze also accepted)
- Derby -** Public Works Complex, Coonhollow Road - 203-736-1468 (Antifreeze also accepted)
- Durham/Middlefield -** Transfer Station on Cherry Hill Road - 349-8253 (Antifreeze also accepted)
- East Granby -** Recycling Center on Turkey Hill Road – 653-6822 (Car batteries not accepted)
- East Hampton -** Transfer Station, Bear Swamp Road – 267-4747
- East Hartford -** Landfill, 61 Ecology Drive - 291-7363 (Antifreeze also accepted)
- East Windsor -** Collected at curb for recycling - 292-7073
- Ellington -** Town Garage, 21 Main Street - 870-3140 (Antifreeze also accepted)
- Enfield -** Town Garage, 40 Moody Road - 763-7524. (3rd Saturday of each month)
- Farmington -** Highway Garage, 544 New Britain Avenue - 675-2550 – Motor oil must be in disposable containers, no larger than 1 gallon. Monday-Friday from 6:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
- Granby -** Town Garage, 52 North Granby Rd. & Transfer Station on Old Stagecoach Road - 653-8960 (Antifreeze also accepted).
- Haddam -** Transfer Station on Route 154 - 345-2110 (Antifreeze accepted but not car batteries)
- Hartford -** DPW Yard, 40 Jennings Road - 543-8609
- Middletown -** Recycling Center, Corner of Johnson and N. Main St. - 344-3526 (Antifreeze also accepted)
- Newington -** Used oil, car batteries - Town Highway Garage, Milk Lane - 667-5874
Used oil only at the Landfill on Main Street (No oil filters) – 667-5810
- Portland -** Landfill/Transfer Station - Sand Hill Road - 342-6732 or 342-6733 (Antifreeze also accepted)
- Rocky Hill -** Town Highway Garage, 2 Old Forge Road - 258-7709 (Antifreeze & turkey fryer oil also accepted)
- Seymour -** Transfer Station, Silvermine Road - 203-888-0168 (Antifreeze also accepted)
- Simsbury -** Paine's Inc. Recycling Center on 74 Wolcott Road – 658-9481 or 658-3222
- South Windsor -** Used oil & car batteries accepted at the curb weekly. Oil must be in clear plastic container, covered & tape sealed. – 644-2511 ext 243 (Antifreeze accepted at Public Works Garage, Burgess Road)
- West Hartford -** Recycling Center, Brixton Street - 236-4236 (Antifreeze also accepted)
- Wethersfield -** Transfer Station on 100 Marsh Street – 721-2846 (Antifreeze also accepted)
- Windsor -** Bloomfield/Windsor Landfill, 500 Huckleberry Road - 285-1833
- Windsor Locks -** Dept. Public Works, 6 Stanton Rd.-627-1405 (M-F 7am-3:30pm, Sat: 8am-12pm)

Car batteries can also be taken to ACDelco or Advance Auto Parts store for recycling. Advance Auto Parts will also accept your used motor oil for recycling. Look in the yellow pages under “Automobile Parts & Supplies – New” or visit ACDelco's and Advance Auto Parts' websites to locate the store nearest you and other stores that recycle car batteries.

Oil Filters



How to drain your used oil filter (once it has been removed):

1. Drain the filter of any oil. Using a sharp tool, puncture a hole in the dome end of the filter or through the antidrain back valve located on the flat end of the filter. Allow the used oil to flow into a container appropriate for recycling oil.
2. Place the flat end of the punctured filter on the used oil collection container and drain as much used oil as possible out of the filter. It is important for used filters to be drained between 12 and 24 hours near engine operating temperature and above room temperature (approximately 60° F).

The CT Department of Environmental Protection recommends recycling used oil filters as scrap metal. Recycling all the filters sold annually in the United States would result in the recovery of about 160,000 tons of steel, or enough steel to make 16 new stadiums the size of Atlanta's Olympic Stadium. Please contact the drop-off location for your town, listed above, to determine if your town recycles used oil filters.



If you see illegal dumping of used oil, call the local police dispatch or the CT DEP at (860) 424-3338.

- One gallon of used oil can pollute 1 million gallons of fresh water (a year's supply for 50 people).
- Used oil can foul sewage treatment processes.
- A cup of oil can spread a very thin sheen over more than an acre of calm water.
- An oil sheen can block sunlight, impair photosynthesis and prevent the replenishment of dissolved oxygen, which leads to fish kills.

Non-Toxic Alternatives for Household Chemicals



Take a look around your home. If you're like most people, you buy products that you believe will help you keep your home cleaner, healthier and more attractive. But if you take a closer look, you'll find out that many of these products are actually powerful chemicals that pose health risks to you and to the environment.

Common household products like pesticides, cleaners, aerosols, polishers, batteries and paints can contain chemicals that can cause short and long-term health problems, or are suspected carcinogens. Their effects on the environment can last long after we're finished with them. Here are some tips on how to start getting the toxins out of your home.

1. Use this list to create your own non-toxic alternatives to your regular household cleaners. Pick one or two to start with and gradually decrease the amount of chemicals you buy. You'll save a lot of money too!
2. Look for safer non-toxic alternatives at your grocery or health food store. Examples include citronella insect repellents and flea collars, non-chlorine bleach, cedar blocks, enzyme-based drain de-cloggers and non-toxic laundry detergents, household cleaners and stain removers.
3. If you must buy household chemicals, use them carefully. Always read and follow the instructions carefully, use the product up if possible, or dispose of the rest at an MDC sponsored Household HazWaste collection day.

AROUND THE HOUSE

All Purpose Cleaner – Pour 3 Tablespoons vinegar, 1 teaspoon borax and 2 cups hot water into a spray bottle. Shake until dissolved. Then add 1 teaspoon liquid soap (or dishwashing liquid) to the bottle and shake it again. Spray on surface and then wipe clean. For tough dirt, leave cleaner on for a few minutes and then wipe off.



Drains – Pour $\frac{1}{2}$ cup of baking soda followed by a cup of vinegar down the drain. Let it sit for about 20 minutes and then rinse it down with boiling water. To clear a badly clogged drain, use a plunger or a metal snake.

Furniture – Mix 2 tsp olive oil, $\frac{1}{4}$ cup white vinegar, and 20 drops of lemon essential oil in a 16 oz. spray bottle. Fill the rest of the bottle with water and shake well. Spray onto furniture and wipe dry immediately with a soft cloth. To remove fingerprints, quickly rub a slice of potato over the surface. To remove scratches, rub nutmeat over the scratched area. Choose either pecans or walnuts to match the wood.



Metal Cleaner (for brass, copper or pewter) - Make a paste of salt, vinegar, and flour. Start with $\frac{1}{4}$ cup of salt and add enough vinegar to dissolve it. Then add enough flour to make it a fairly dry paste.



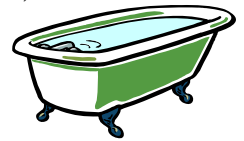
Oven – Sprinkle the bottom of the oven with baking soda and spray with water periodically to keep it damp. Let it set overnight. Scoop out baking soda and rinse well. To prevent grease build-up, always clean spills as soon as the oven cools down.

Pans – For burnt pans, remove as much of the substance as possible and then fill the pan with cold water. Add a generous amount of salt and a slice of onion. Set overnight, or for 12 hours. Then bring to a boil for five minutes, cool, and clean.

Toilet Bowl Cleaner – Squirt vinegar from squeeze bottle under the rim. Pour about ½ cup borax into the toilet and use a toilet brush to clean the bowl. For mineral deposits, leave mixture in toilet for at least an hour. Then use the brush again to clean. Use the all-purpose cleaner and a sponge or scrub cloth to clean the seat and outside of the bowl.



Tub and Tile – Sprinkle on baking soda, scour with a wet sponge and rinse. For mineral deposits, soak a washcloth in vinegar and leave it on the deposit overnight. For soap scum deposits, spread liquid castile soap or clarifying shampoo on the surface and leave it for an hour or so. The deposits will be softened and then can be easily scrubbed away with a brush. For mold or mildew, make a paste of borax and water and put it on the surface to be cleaned. Leave paste on the area for about an hour and then scrub it off.



Windows – Pour ¼ cup vinegar in approximately ½ gallon of warm water in a bucket. Mix in ¼ tsp. liquid soap and a pinch of cornstarch. Wipe down windows with this mixture and dry with a lint-free cloth. Use spray bottle with club soda (not seltzer) for touch-ups.

HOME INSECT CONTROL

Cockroaches and Ants - Mix chopped bay leaves and cucumber skins together and put in dry areas where ants or cockroaches are found.

Fleas - Nutritional yeast added to the diet of a dog or cat has been found to be helpful in preventing fleas. Vacuum floors and furniture thoroughly, since fleas spend much of their time off the animal. Remember, chemicals you place on your pet may end up on your hand! Look for herbal flea collars.

Flies - Mint plants set in windowsills help to repel flies.

Mealy Bugs or Scales on House Plants - Apply alcohol or oil directly to the colonies with a small paintbrush.

Moths - Make pomades by sticking cloves into the surface of an apple or an orange until it is completely covered. Cover apple or orange with a white tissue and let it dry for two weeks in a dry, airy place then unwrap it and hang it in your closet. Cedar wood chips and chests also repel moths.

Other House Plant Pests - Wash leaves with soapy water (1 lb. non-detergent soap to five gallons of water), then rinse.

When preparing a recipe for a non-hazardous alternative, please remember the following:

1. DO NOT mix anything with a commercial cleaning agent.
2. If you do store a homemade mixture, make sure it is properly labeled and do not store it in a container that could be mistaken for food or beverage.
3. When preparing alternatives, mix only what is needed for the job at hand and mix them in clean, reusable containers. This avoids waste and the need to store any cleaning mixture.

Examples of Companies Selling Non-Toxic Alternatives

The Clean Environment Company – www.cleanenvironmentco.com

Earth Friendly Products – www.ecos.com

Ecover Products – www.ecover.com/us/en

GAIAM – www.gaiam.com

Lifetree Products – www.lifetreeproducts.com

Seventh Generation Products – Garden of Light (Avon and Glastonbury) and Whole Foods Market (West Hartford)

Sun & Earth Products – Big Y, Price Chopper, Shaw's, Stop & Shop, and Whole Foods Market (West Hartford)

Additional Information

For more information about non-hazardous alternatives please use the following references.

Websites

CT DEP's Household Alternatives Page - www.dep.state.ct.us/wst/p2/individual/house.htm

Melaleuca (Wellness Center & Product Store) - www.melaleuca.com

Eco-wise (Hemp & Organic Cotton Products) - www.ecowise.com

Recycle Hawaii (Non-toxic Household Products) - www.recyclehawaii.org/alt.htm

Books

Clean House, Clean Planet by Karen Logan

Handbook on Household Hazardous Waste edited by Amy D. Cabaniss

Home Safe Home by Debra Lynn Dadd

Better Basics for the Home by Annie Berthhold-Bond

Why There's Antifreeze in Your Toothpaste: The Chemistry of Household Ingredients by Simon Field

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2008 MDC Household Hazardous Waste Collection Schedule

(Collections are held on Saturdays from 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.*)

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TOWN</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
April 26, 2008	Farmington	Farmington High School, 10 Monteith Drive
May 3, 2008	Newington	Town Garage, Fenn Road
May 10, 2008	Enfield	Stanley E. Jablonski Complex, 40 Moody Rd.
May 17, 2008	East Windsor	Town Hall, 11 Rye Street, Broadbrook
June 7, 2008	Windsor	Poquonock WPCF, 1222 Poquonock Ave.
June 14, 2008	Hartford	Lewis Fox Middle School Corner of Albany Avenue and Blue Hills Ave.
June 28, 2008	Wethersfield	High School, 411 Wolcott Hill Road
Aug. 16, 2008	Simsbury**	Henry James Memorial School, 155 Firetown Road
Aug. 23, 2008	Bloomfield	Public Works Building, 21 Southwood Road
Sept. 6, 2008	Rocky Hill	Rocky Hill WPCF, 80 Goff Brook Lane
Sept. 13, 2008	Ansonia***	Public Works Complex, North Division Street
Sept. 20, 2008	Ellington	Town Garage, 21 Main Street
Sept. 27, 2008	West Hartford	Public Works Garage, Oakwood Avenue Extension Off New Park Avenue, West Hartford
Oct. 4, 2008	Middletown****	Lawrence School, Mile Lane off Newfield St.
Oct. 11, 2008	South Windsor^	High School, 161 Nevers Road
Oct. 18, 2008	East Hartford	East Hartford WPCF, 65 Pitkin Street
Oct. 25, 2008	Hartford	Hartford WPCF, 240 Brainard Road
Oct. 26, 2008(Sunday)	Bloomfield	Tikvoh Chadoshoh Synagogue, 180 Still Road
Nov. 1, 2008	Windsor Locks/E. Granby	Public Works Garage, 6 Stanton Road, Windsor Locks

(WPCF = Water Pollution Control Facility)

**Collection hosted by Simsbury, Avon, Canton and Granby

***Collection hosted by Middletown, Cromwell, Durham, East Hampton, Haddam, Middlefield and Portland

^ Pending budget approval by the Town Council

*One collection is held on a Sunday.

****Collection hosted by Ansonia, Derby and Seymour

RESIDENTS OF ANY PARTICIPATING TOWN (LISTED BELOW) CAN PARTICIPATE IN ANY MDC SPONSORED COLLECTION DAY

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|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ansonia • Avon • Bloomfield • Canton • Cromwell • Derby • Durham • East Granby • East Hampton • East Hartford • East Windsor • Ellington • Enfield • Farmington • Granby | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Haddam • Hartford • Middlefield • Middletown • Newington • Portland • Rocky Hill • Seymour • Simsbury • South Windsor • West Hartford • Wethersfield • Windsor • Windsor Locks |
|--|---|