



HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE (HHW) IS SPECIAL – LET'S BE SAFE!

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If you are Trash Smart, then you know that household hazardous waste (HHW) includes the old gasoline, pesticides, chemicals, and batteries that accumulate in our basements, sheds, and garages. These materials need to be handled differently than other trash and recyclables in our homes, for the safety of people and our environment. **“Hiding” hazardous materials in trash and recycling can be especially dangerous!**

These troublesome incidents happened in our region:

- On a household trash route, a Phoenixville Public Works employee was sprayed with motor oil that exploded inside the truck during compaction.
- A lithium battery is suspected of starting a fire in a recycling processing facility in York County, causing major disruption in the region for a year.
- At regional HHW collection events, our contractor has dealt with incidents of people hiding strictly unacceptable, and potentially dangerous, material in their otherwise acceptable materials.
- At one HHW event, a resident brought acid in an unsecured container which leaked during transport, damaging the truck bed, and potentially causing injury to people.

Chester County is home to two landfills, Lanchester and SECCRA. Neither can accept hazardous waste. So, what to do? Register for a HHW event. Bring items such as fluorescent bulbs, rechargeable batteries, oil-based paint and solvents, gasoline, pool chemicals, and pesticides to a regional household hazardous waste (HHW) collection event. Chester County participates in this program with Bucks, Delaware, Montgomery, and Philadelphia counties.

- Residents of any of these five counties can use the HHW program in any of these five counties.
- In Chester County, **you must register online** <https://www.chestercountyswa.org/> for a drive-through event. Registering helps us manage capacity, supplies, and staffing needs. And it reduces wait times for the public.
- Click [here](#) for all the HHW information.

Nearly 200,000 pounds of materials are safely managed through this program annually.

If you are planning to move or clean out a home, make a plan for your HHW NOW!

If in doubt, check it out! Stay safe and stay Trash Smart!

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