

# Smoke Detector Disposal



## There are two common types of smoke detectors:

- ❖ **Ionization detectors** have a small amount of radioactive material (Americium-241) that creates a chemical reaction with smoke.
  - ❖ **Photoelectric detectors** use a laser to detect smoke. These types of detectors do not contain any radioactive material; therefore, they can be disposed of in the trash.
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## Disposal Options:

### Take them to a Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Event:

Register for an HHW event [here](#). Residents ONLY – businesses will be turned away.

### Contact the Manufacturer:

For more information on where and how to return the smoke detector, please look at the back of the smoke detector or refer to the manual. Some manufacturers may not accept them, or they may only accept their own brand.

### Mail-back options:

[Curie Environmental Services](#)

[EZ on the Earth](#)

[US Postal Service Bulletin](#)

Disclaimer: This listing is provided as a public service by Chester County Solid Waste Authority. No companies are endorsed or recommended.

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