# **Northampton County HHW Collection Events**

Through the support of the Department of Public Works, Northampton Community College and the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, Northampton County is currently able to offer two collection events per year to properly dispose of unwanted HHW products and material.

The collection of household hazardous waste is free to Northampton County residents.

For dates, times, location and accepted/unaccepted material please contact Northampton County Department of Public Works or visit:

www.northamptoncounty.org

# ACCEPTED ITEMS:

- ADHESIVES
- AEROSOLS
- ANTIFRFF7F
- AUTOMOTIVE FLUIDS & CLEANERS
- BATTERIES (ALL TYPES) (LEAD-ACID, AUTO, TOOL, ETC.)
- COMPRESSED GAS
- FIRE EXTINGUISHERS
- FLAMMABLES/COMBUSTIBLES
- FLUORESCENT LIGHT BULBS
- HERBICIDES/PESTICIDES
- HOUSEHOLD CLEANERS
- MERCURY-CONTAINING PRODUCTS
- MOTOR OIL/FILTERS
- OIL-BASED PAINT & STAINS
- OLD GASOLINE/OIL MIXTURES
- POOL CHEMICALS
- PROPANE CYLINDERS
- THERMOMETERS
- THERMOSTATS
- TIRES

# **UNACCEPTED ITEMS:**

- TVS, COMPUTERS, MICROWAVES & OTHER ELECTRONICS
- NON-HAZARDOUS MATERIALS
- LATEX/ WATER-BASED PAINT OR STAINS
- SMOKE DETECTORS/ RADIOACTIVES
- MEDICAL WASTE/ SYRINGES
- NEW: NO SCRAP METAL, APPLIANCES OR WHITE GOODS

## **Northampton County**

Department of Public Works Environmental Services 669 Washington Street Easton, PA 18042 Phone: 610-829-6332

Fax: 610-559-3210 E-mail: sdavis@northamptoncounty.org

May 19, 2018 Collection event will be held 8:30am-2pm at: Northampton Community College, 3835 Green Pond Rd., Bethlehem 18020





# Household Hazardous Waste (HHW)





Poisonous



Flammable





Explosive

2018

# **Northampton County**

Dept. of Public Works Environmental Services

# WHAT IS HAZARDOUS WASTE

# How to Identify Hazardous Household Products

The easiest way to identify hazardous products is to look for clues on product labels. Manufacturers of hazardous products are required by law to include information about their products' hazards on the label. Hazardous products should be labeled with one of the following signal words:

# \*DANGER \* \* WARNING \* \* CAUTION \*

These signal words provide clues about how hazardous a product is. Products labeled with the word **DANGER** are the most hazardous, while those labeled with **CAUTION** are least hazardous.

Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) results from the chemical products we use around the house on a daily basis. Many common household products can be hazardous. HHW is waste, generated by a person, that has any of the following hazardous properties:



#### Toxic

Materials that cause immediate or long-term health problems for humans or wildlife.

Examples of toxic products include *pesticides* and wood preservatives.



#### Flammable/Combustible

Materials that ignite easily in the presence of heat, sparks or flame. Examples of flammable materials include *nail polish remover*, *paint remover*, and *kerosene*.



#### Corrosive

Materials that eat away at, or corrode, metal surfaces and living tissues. The two types of corrosive materials are acidic (pH of 2 or less), and caustic (pH of 12.5 or more). Examples of corrosive materials include *drain cleaners*, oven cleaners, and acids.



#### Reactive

Materials that are unstable or react violently with air, water, or other chemicals. These reactions can sometimes create hazardous conditions, such as explosions, or form toxic fumes. Example of reactive materials include pool chemicals and some types of fertilizers.

Hazardous wastes can be liquids, solids, contained gases, or sludges.

Product labels also provide information on the types of hazards presented by household products. For example:

# A Product Label Says:

# The Product Hazard Is:

"Harmful or Fatal If Swallowed"

"Do Not Use Near Heat or Flame"

"May Irritate Skin or Eves"

"Wear Protective Clothing"



Toxic if Ingested

"Use in a Well Ventilated Area"



Toxic Fumes



Flammable



Corrosive



Corrosive or Toxic if Absorbed Through Skin



## Guidelines for Safe Use:

Hazardous product labels contain warnings specific to the hazards of that product. For example, the warning "Use in a well-ventilated area" might appear on a product that is dangerous if its fumes are inhaled. The statement "Avoid contact with skin and eyes" might appear on a product that is corrosive or can be absorbed through the skin. A statement such as "Wash hands before eating" might appear on a product that is hazardous if it is swallowed.

- Hazardous products can be carried from your hands to your mouth if you eat, drink, or smoke while you are using them.
- Smoking near hazardous products could also be a fire hazard.
- Always wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water before eating, drinking, or smoking when you have been using hazardous products.





# **Guidelines for Safe Storage:**

- Store hazardous products in original containers with original labeling so they can be easily identified. A hazardous product poured into an unmarked container could be mistaken for a non-hazardous material.
- When chemicals are mixed together, they can react in unexpected ways. Some mixtures can cause fires or explosions. Others can cause toxic gasses to form. In some cases, mixing even small amounts of different chemicals can cause problems. Containers that seem empty may contain a residue of the original product. Pouring another product into a container you think is empty might cause a dangerous reaction.
- Many product labels indicate safe storage temperatures.
   Storage of volatile materials (products that give off fumes or vapors) at high temperatures can cause containers to bulge.
   Liquid materials may expand if they freeze, which could cause containers to burst.
- Store volatile materials in a well-ventilated area, such as a garage or storage shed to avoid accidental inhalation of vapors. Many volatile materials are also flammable. Any Flammable or Combustible materials should be stored away from any source of heat, sparks, or flame.
- Never store hazardous materials with food. Leaking containers or hazardous vapors could contaminate foods. It is especially important not to store hazardous products in old food containers such as milk jugs, glass jars, etc., where they could be mistaken for food, especially by young children.



# **G**uidelines for Safe Disposal:

Even if you take steps to reduce household hazardous waste, it's likely that at some point you will still have some hazardous materials to dispose of.

Pouring hazardous materials on the ground, down the drain, or into a storm drain can pollute drinking water. Animals and plants can experience the toxic effect of these substances immediately or slowly through increased air pollution or contamination of waterways.

When hazardous materials are disposed of with household trash, different kinds of chemicals could mix together causing fires, explosions, or toxic fumes. At the landfill, hazardous materials could leach out and contaminate groundwater or surface water.