

What is Household Hazardous Waste?

Leftover household products that contain corrosive, toxic, ignitable, or reactive ingredients are considered to be household hazardous waste (HHW).

Many products that we use every day, including those below, contain hazardous materials that can be dangerous to people and the environment.

- ◆ Acids / Alkalines
- ◆ Bleach
- ◆ Polishes / Cleaners
- ◆ Gas Cylinders
- ◆ Kerosene
- ◆ Pesticides
- ◆ Solvents / Paints
- ◆ Antifreeze
- ◆ Batteries
- ◆ Disinfectants
- ◆ Gasoline
- ◆ Mercury
- ◆ Herbicides
- ◆ Used Motor Oil

Household Hazardous Waste Tips

- Do not pour oil or any chemicals down any drain or in the street because storm drains are usually connected to local waterbodies and the water is not treated. If you have hazardous products in your home or workplace, make sure you store or dispose of them properly.
- Recycle used motor oil.
- Consider reducing your purchase of products that contain hazardous ingredients. Use natural or less toxic alternatives when possible.
- To avoid the potential risks of HHWs, it is important that residents always monitor the use, storage, and disposal of products with potentially hazardous substances in their homes.
- Use and store products containing hazardous substances carefully to prevent any accidents at home. Never store hazardous products in food containers; keep them in their original containers and never remove labels. Corroding containers, however, require special handling.
- When leftovers remain, never mix HHW with other products. Incompatible products might react, ignite, or explode, and contaminated HHW might become unrecyclable.
- Read product labels carefully.



WHAT TO DO

Buy and use less hazardous substitutes whenever possible.

Buy only what you need.

Wear gloves and protective clothing to prevent skin contact.

Handle the substance gently, especially if you don't know what it is.

Follow directions carefully when using any hazardous products.

Keep hazardous substances out of the reach of children and pets and away from heat sources or open flame.

Always read labels before you buy a product to be sure it will meet your needs.

Try to find someone else to use your unwanted material, but be sure you know what you have and inform them fully.

Use non-aerosol products in reusable containers.

WHAT NOT TO DO

Mix materials or wastes together.

Dispose of large quantities of any toxic materials in a septic system.

Bury or burn containers of leftover materials.

Dispose of materials into the storm sewer.

Breathe fumes from toxic materials.

Touch mercury, throw it in the garbage or clean it up with a vacuum cleaner.

Store hazardous products in food containers (use the original, labeled container).

ALTERNATIVES TO TOXIC SUBSTANCES

Drain Cleaners – pour boiling water down the drain. Use a plunger or a plumber's "snake".

Toilet Bowl Cleaner – Use toilet brush and baking soda, mild detergent or ½ cup bleach.

Paint Remover / Stripper – Heat guns may be used to remove many paints, but only in well-ventilated areas. Avoid using them for lead-based paints.

Window Cleaner – Use a pump spray container filled with 2 tbsp. vinegar in 1 quart water or rub newspapers on the glass.

Oven Cleaners – For baked-on grease, heat oven to 200 degrees; turn off, and leave ¼ cup ammonia in a dish in the oven for several hours to loosen. Then scrub with baking soda. Save the ammonia to be used again.

Furniture Polish – Melt 1 tbsp. carnauba wax into 2 cups mineral oil. For lemon oil polish: dissolve 1 tsp. lemon oil into 1 pint mineral oil.

Roach Repellent – Cut hedge apples (Osage oranges) in half and place in the basement, in the cabinets or under the house. Mix equal parts baking soda and powdered sugar and sprinkle in the infested area.

Risks of Not Disposing of HHW Properly

Products, such as paints, cleaners, oils, batteries, and pesticides that contain potentially hazardous ingredients require special care when disposing of them.

Improper disposal of HHW can include pouring them down the drain, on the ground, into storm sewers, or in some cases putting them out with the trash. The dangers of such disposal methods might not be immediately obvious, but improper disposal of these wastes can pollute the environment and pose a threat to human health.

Where can you safely dispose of HHW?

Disposal of Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) is free of charge for the residential households of Seminole County for many common substances found in the home. HHW items are not picked up at curbside and require special handling and disposal.

HHW is accepted at all times during regular business hours at the Central Transfer Station, which is open Monday through Saturday from 7:30 am to 5:30 pm.

Some examples of HHW accepted at the Central Transfer Station include: household or commercial cleaning products, lawn and garden care products, Anti-Freeze, Paints, Automobile Batteries, Poisons, Compact Fluorescent Lights, Pool Chemicals, Computer Components, Propane Tanks, Fluorescent Light Tubes, Rechargeable Batteries, Gasoline and Cans (Up to 5 gallons), Solvents, Glues, Televisions, Insecticides, Thermostats, Lawn Chemicals, Thermometers, Mercury-Containing Devices, Used Oil.



What can be disposed of with regular garbage?

Common alkaline batteries are not hazardous and can be disposed of with regular garbage.

How to dispose of HHW that is not in its original container

ALL HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE MUST BE LABELED IF NOT IN ORIGINAL CONTAINERS! This is for the safety of the general public and the HHW facilities employees.

Where can you dispose of Used Oil Cans?

To properly dispose of used oil cans, residents of Seminole County can contact the following Recycling Drop Off facilities:

- **The Central Transfer Station**
(1634 SR 419, Longwood, FL 32750) and
- **The Seminole County Landfill**
(1930 Osceola Road, Geneva, FL 32732).

The Household Hazardous Waste Center does not accept waste from businesses.



The following are NOT accepted at Seminole County HHW facilities:

- Dioxins
- Biologically active material
- Explosives
- Medications
- Radioactive Material

Hypodermic needles are accepted through the **Sharps Program** (<http://www.seminolecountyfl.gov/envsrvs/solidwaste/sharps.aspx>)

For More Information

City of Winter Springs
(407) 327-1800

Seminole County Environmental Services
(407) 665-2000



Proper Use and Disposal of Leftover Hazardous Household Products

Please Help Maintain Our
City's Waters Free of
Contaminants!