

How Can I Dispose of HHW?

HHW Drop-off Events:

Bring your wastes to a HHW Drop-off Event. There is no charge for residents from participating cities to use this service. The HHW Program is funded by participating cities and the County of Santa Clara. To participate, make an appointment:

- **Online Appointment**

Residents may schedule an appointment online any time. Just click on this button

[Make An Appointment](#)

at www.hhw.org.

- **Phone Appointment**

Make an appointment by calling (408) 299-7300

Zero Waste- You Make It Happen



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Hazardous Waste Recycling & Disposal Program
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COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE PROGRAM



Hazardous Waste Recycling & Disposal

FOR SANTA CLARA COUNTY

Serving Residents and Small Businesses

(408) 299-7300

www.hhw.org

Brought to you by the County of Santa Clara, Department of Environmental Health and your City

What is Household Hazardous Waste (HHW)?

Unwanted household products, labeled as flammable, toxic, corrosive, or reactive are household hazardous wastes. Common products include:

- Aerosols
- Automotive Fluids
- Batteries – Car & Household
- Fertilizers
- Fluorescent Lights
- Flammable Fluids
- Garden Chemicals
- Propane & Helium Tanks
- Household Cleaners
- Latex paint & Stains
- Mercury Thermometers
- Oil-based Paint & Stains
- Pesticides
- Pool Chemicals
- Sharps-Hypodermic Needles
- Used Motor Oil
- Used Oil Filters
- Computers
- TVs
- Cell Phones
- ...and Other Products

It is unsafe to dispose of hazardous waste in the trash. Improper disposal increases harmful contaminants in local landfills, causes environmental degradation, pollutes the bay, endangers refuse workers, and increases risks to public health and safety.

Recycling of Mercury-Containing Products

Mercury is a potent nerve toxin and persistent pollutant that poses a serious risk to our health and environment. Recycle the following mercury-containing products through the HHW Program:

- Fluorescent lamps (compact bulbs & straight, circular, spiral, and U-bent tubes)
- Button and other household batteries
- Thermometers, thermostats
- Vials of mercury

You may also drop off your used fluorescent lamps and household batteries for FREE at one of our Retail Recycling Partners. Visit www.hhw.org or call 299-7300 for a list of locations.

Disposal in the trash is prohibited.

Used Oil and Oil Filters Recycling Services

Curbside Pick-Up

- Available on your recycling and garbage day for single family residences

Certified Collection Centers (CCC)

- Over 80 retail locations participate in the CCC Program in Santa Clara County. They accept used oil for FREE.
- Many centers also accept oil filters for FREE.
- DO NOT DROP OFF your used oil or oil filters outside the store or when it's closed.
- For the nearest location, call 1-800-CLEANUP or visit www.earth911.org.

Restriction at HHW Drop-off Events

The following wastes are NOT accepted:

- Radioactives
- Ammunition and Explosives
- Business Generated Waste
- Materials in Containers Larger than 5 Gallons
- Compressed Gas Cylinders Larger than 5 Gallons

For information on proper disposal of these wastes, call (408) 299-7300 or visit www.hhw.org

Electronic Waste

You may drop-off electronic waste at HHW Drop-off events. Items accepted include computer monitors, desktops, TVs, laptops, printers, copiers, cell phones, stereo systems, and more.

What If I Have Business Waste?

Businesses that qualify as a **Conditionally Exempt Small Quantity Generator (CESQG)** can participate in the County of Santa Clara Business Hazardous Waste Program.



The CESQG program provides affordable, convenient, and legal disposal of hazardous waste for qualifying businesses that generate less than 27 gallons (220 pounds or 100 kilograms) of hazardous waste per month and accumulate less than one quart (1 kilogram) of extremely hazardous waste. Electronic waste is also accepted. For more information, please call (408) 299-7300.

Other Programs and Services

HHW Re-use Program

Leftover paints, household cleaners, and other re-useable products are not hazardous wastes if they can be safely re-used. The HHW collection facilities offer a FREE "Re-use Program" for residents interested in obtaining re-useable products. The program is open to the public on days of the HHW drop-off events. Call (408) 299-7300 for available days, hours and locations.

City Programs

The County of Santa Clara provides the HHW program for free to residents from participating cities.

The City of Palo Alto operates an independent collection service for their residents. Residents of the City of Palo Alto can contact the *City of Palo Alto, Public Works* at (650) 496-6980.

Storage

Store hazardous chemicals in closed, leak-proof containers, away from children and pets. Different household hazardous wastes must not be mixed within a container. Store flammables away from heat and other chemicals. Avoid stockpiling by following the Reduce, Re-use, and Recycle Disposal Hierarchy.



Transportation

Residents must follow the legal requirements for hazardous waste transportation by not carrying more than 15 gallons or 125 pounds of hazardous products to the HHW collection events.



Use caution when handling hazardous chemicals and place in closed, leak-proof containers to prevent spills and possible mixing of chemicals. Place containers in the trunk, away from passenger areas. Waste containers are discarded and not returned.

Disposal Hierarchy

Reduce

- Buy non-toxic alternatives if available.
- Buy only what you need.
- Use the products completely.
- Store products to prevent spoilage.

Re-use

- Give products to someone who can use them.
- Visit the County's Re-use Program.

Recycle

- Bring wastes to the HHW drop-off events.

