



Household Hazardous Waste Alternatives

Instead of this: You can use this:

Household Cleaner	Combine 1 tsp liquid soap, 1 tsp borax, 1 squeeze of lemon, and 1 qt warm water.
Window Cleaner	Combine 2 tsp vinegar with 1 qt warm water.
Disinfectant	Combine 1/4 cup borax with 1/2 gallon hot water.
Drain Cleaner	Pour 1/2 cup borax in drain followed by 2 cups boiling water.
Toilet Cleaner	Pour 1/4 cup baking soda into bowl and drizzle with vinegar. Let sit for 1/2 hour. Scrub and flush.
Mildew Remover	Dissolve 1/2 cup vinegar with 1/2 cup borax in warm water.
Carpet Cleaner	Sprinkle cornstarch or baking soda on dry rug and vacuum.
Furniture Polish	Mix two parts olive/vegetable oil to one part lemon juice. Apply mixture and let stand for several hours. Polish with dry, soft cloth.
Silver Polish	Soak items in 1 qt warm water mixed with 1 tsp baking soda, 1 tsp salt and a small piece of aluminum foil.



Items Not Accepted

Medical Waste – Needles and unwanted medications are accepted year round at all police stations. Properly packaged materials are also accepted as trash curbside and at any recycling center year round from **residential customers ONLY**.

Compressed Gas Tanks – Contact the supplier or manufacturer.

Explosives – Call Anne Arundel County Fire Marshal Division at 410-222-7884 for assistance.

Ammunition – Call Anne Arundel County Police Department at 410-222-8610 for assistance.

Smoke Detectors – Mail back to the manufacturer or accepted as trash curbside and at any recycling center year round.

Fire Extinguishers – Contact the supplier or manufacturer.

Latex Paint – Accepted year round at all three County Recycling Centers. Please solidify prior to bringing it to a County Recycling Center.

Motor Oil – Accepted year round at all three County Recycling Centers.

Antifreeze – Accepted year round at all three County Recycling Centers.

Propane Tanks – Empty one-pound and twenty-pound propane tanks are accepted at our County Recycling Centers year round.

Batteries – Auto and Marine batteries are accepted at our County Recycling Centers year round. Alkaline batteries can be included within household trash. Visit Call2Recycle.org for local rechargeable battery recycling options.



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January 2026



Anne Arundel County

Household Hazardous Waste

Chemicals



Cleaners & Solvents



Gas & Kerosene



Oil-Based Paints



Did You Know?

- Americans generate 1.6 million tons of household hazardous waste (HHW) per year.
- The average home can accumulate as much as 100 pounds of HHW in the basement, garage and other storage areas.
- In 2025, Anne Arundel County paid \$422,240 to dispose of 347,622 pounds of HHW received from residents.

You Can Help Reduce Your HHW Disposal Costs



Reduce Your HHW

The best way to deal with HHW is to avoid creating it. The following tips can help you do just that.

- **Purchase Less.** Buy only the amount you need, even if a larger container offers a price discount.
- **Use it up.** Use up all of the products you have before you buy any more. Most products do not expire.
- **Give it away.** Find someone or any charity that can use your excess material.
- **Simplify.** Use multi-purpose cleaners rather than having a full collection of specialized products.
- **Use safer alternatives.** Buy less-toxic alternatives. Avoid the ones with the words “poison” or “danger” on the label. These safer items can be found in your local grocery store.

HERITAGE OFFICE COMPLEX

2662 Riva Road
Annapolis, MD 21401
(Between the County Pool and Board of Education)

Anne Arundel County Residents ONLY
Proof of Residency Required

**NO COMMERCIAL VEHICLES
OR COMMERCIAL WASTE**



Disposing of Household Hazardous Products Safely



Household Hazardous Waste Drop-off Days provide opportunities for County residents to safely dispose of products containing harmful chemicals.

Items accepted include:

- Oil-based paints & staining agents
- Paint solvents
- Pesticides & fertilizer
- Household & automotive cleaners
- Transmission, brake and other automotive fluids
- Oil and antifreeze contaminated with water or other products
- Pool chemicals
- Gasoline, kerosene & other fuels
- Hand-held signal, smoke & roadside flares
AERIAL & PARACHUTE FLARES ARE NOT ACCEPTED
- Asbestos / Asbestos shingles & tiles
MUST BE WETTED AND DOUBLE-BAGGED.
- LIMIT = FOUR 40 lb. BAGS per RESIDENT per EVENT.

Special Notes:

- Alkaline batteries (A,C,D) may be disposed of in your regular trash.
- Rechargeable batteries are accepted at HHW events. For additional recycling options outside of these events visit Call2Recycle.org.



Mercury

Mercury is a silver colored, heavy metal that can change from a liquid to a gas. Mercury has many uses, but it can also be harmful to humans and wildlife.

The following mercury containing items are accepted:

- Thermometers
- Thermostats
- Elemental Mercury
- Fluorescent light tubes
- Mercury vapor lamps



Safety Tips

Please follow these tips for quick and safe disposal:

- Read labels for safe handling instructions.
- Keep products in their original containers.
- Place several small containers together in a non-returnable box for quicker processing.
- Do not mix products.



Cooking Oil, Latex Paint, Motor Oil, Antifreeze, and Propane Tanks

Cooking oil, latex paint, motor oil, antifreeze, and propane tanks are not accepted curbside. They are not hazardous and are accepted for disposal at all recycling centers. Latex paint should be solidified before it is dropped off. Mix with kitty litter, sawdust, or dirt to harden. For disposal, please seal the hardened paint in its original container, then bring the container(s) to any recycling center year round. Empty one-pound and twenty-pound propane tanks are accepted at all recycling centers year round.

If you have no future use for your excess latex paint, please give it to a friend or donate it to a local charity.

GLEN BURNIE

Northern Recycling Center
100 Dover Rd., Glen Burnie
(near the Glen Burnie Mall)

MILLERSVILLE

Central Recycling Center
389 Burns Crossing Rd., Severn (off Route 32)

DEALE

Southern Recycling Center
5400 Nutwell Sudley Rd., Deale (Route 2 South to Route 258 East to Nutwell Sudley Rd.)



Diesel Fuel, Kerosene, Transmission Fluid, and Hydraulic Oil

Maryland Environmental Services (MES) offers year round collection of diesel fuel, kerosene, transmission fluid and hydraulic fluid at drop off sites throughout Maryland. This service is for residential use only. Residents may drop off up to 5 gallons per visit. To find a MES location near you, please visit: <https://menv.com/service/used-oil-antifreeze-recycling/>

These materials are also accepted at Household Hazardous Waste events, they are not accepted by curbside collection or at County recycling centers.



Fluorescent Tubes and Bulbs

Fluorescent tubes and compact fluorescent light bulbs are only accepted for recycling during household hazardous waste drop-off events.

In addition, both Home Depot ® and Lowes ® offer free residential recycling of unbroken CFLs at all of their stores nationwide (No tubes or ballasts accepted.)



Moving?

Most moving companies will not transport oil-based paint, solvents, pesticides, weed killers, combustibles, or other hazardous materials. Be sure to plan ahead and visit us at one of our events listed on our website at www.aacounty.org/household-hazardous-waste-drop-off or call the Recycling and Waste Reduction Division at 410-222-7951 for more information.



Hazardous Waste Facts and History

Anne Arundel County began collecting household hazardous waste in 1988. Since 2004, the program has served over **69,913** customers, removing **6,370,393** pounds of toxic chemicals and household/boating products from the waste stream.

Unless used or disposed according to directions, household chemicals present a threat to the environment. Special handling is required for proper disposal.

In the past, common home, garden and automotive products were tossed into the household trash and buried in landfills. However, we now know this presents an increased threat to the surface and ground water that we drink.

As rain percolates through a landfill, it picks up and carries with it traces of chemicals in the layers of trash. Eventually, both the rain and the chemicals could reach public and private drinking supplies and other bodies of water.

New disposal areas at the Millersville landfill, called "cells," are double-lined and include a system that collects any liquids which may pass through the first liner. This liquid is removed, treated, and disposed of at a County water reclamation facility.

When full, cells are "capped" in order to prevent rain from soaking in. Despite these advances in landfill management, it is still important that the waste stream be detoxified. We rely on programs like the Household Hazardous Waste Drop-off Day and your cooperation to make this happen.

Individuals needing special accommodations should contact the Recycling Division at least seven (7) working days prior to the Household Hazardous Waste Drop-off Day at 410-222-7951, or the Maryland Relay Service at 711.