

Household Hazardous Waste FAQs

1. How can I get rid of latex paint?

Latex paint is non-hazardous. It can be dried out and thrown in your regular trash. Mix sand or kitty litter into the paint to speed up the drying process. Once the paint is dry you can throw the can, with the lid off, into the trash. If you have a lot of paint, line a cardboard box with a garbage bag then fill with crumpled up newspaper and kitty litter. Pour the paint into the bag and mix with the newspaper and kitty litter. The empty paint can and bag of hardened paint can be thrown away in the regular trash. **If you think your paint was made prior to 1992 it may contain mercury or lead and should be brought to a household hazardous waste collection. Please mark the container "Contains lead or mercury". Refer to page 12 of the Household HazWaste Info Packet for additional information.

2. How do I dispose of old electronics?

Towns, retailers, non-profits, and recyclers that accept used electronics are listed on pages 10 and 11 of the Household HazWaste Info Packet.

3. What can I bring to a collection?

Please refer to page 3 of the Household HazWaste Info Packet for a detailed list of accepted items. If you have an item you are unsure of you can contact the HazWaste Hotline at (860) 278-3809.

3. Can I go to any collection?

If you live in a participating town you can attend any MDC-sponsored Household Hazardous Waste Collection. Refer to page 1 of the Household HazWaste Info Packet for a list of participating towns.

4. How do I dispose of unwanted medications?

Please refer to page 13 of Household HazWaste Info Packet for detailed disposal instructions.

5. How do I dispose of Compact Fluorescent (CFL) Bulbs?

Home Depot now accepts unbroken CFLs at the returns desk of local stores. CFLs can also be brought to Household Hazardous Waste Collections. For other disposal options and instructions for cleaning up broken CFLs see page 5 of the Household HazWaste Info Packet.

5. How do I dispose of my air conditioner?

Air conditioners cannot be accepted at Household Hazardous Waste Collections. Please contact your town's Department of Public Works or Recycling Services regarding the disposal of your air conditioner.