

Columbia County's HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE (HHW) PROGRAM

DISPOSE OF YOUR "Toxic Trash" SAFELY

WHAT IS HAZARDOUS IN MY HOUSEHOLD?

Many products you use in your yard and home contain chemicals that can harm people, fish and wildlife if used or disposed of improperly. The Columbia County HHW Program was set up to properly dispose or recycle of household hazardous waste.

The HHW Program accepts nearly all household items that contain one or more of the following 'key words' on the label:

- Warning - Caution - Poison - Dangerous - Toxic- Flammable – Combustible - Ignitable - Corrosive – Oxidizer

HHW PRODUCTS ACCEPTED FOR FREE DURING HHW COLLECTION EVENTS:

Propane tanks	Compressed gas cylinders	Small Arms Ammunition
Fertilizers	Pesticides	Gasoline/Diesel
Fluorescent lights	Light Ballasts	Art/Hobby Chemicals
Solvents/Thinners	Pool/Spa Chemicals	Poisons
Aerosol Products	Herbicides	Items containing Mercury
Antifreeze – Batteries	Cleaners/Disinfectants	

The HHW Program cannot accept

- Unwanted/unused medicines/pharmaceuticals
- General Garage or Trash
- Empty Containers

The following items are **NOT** accepted at HHW events, **but they accepted for free during regular business hours at the Columbia Transfer Station, Monday -Saturday, 8am to 5pm.**

- Latex or acrylic paint, oil based paint, stains, primers, sealers, and clear coatings (such as shellac and varnish). For more information on products that may be dropped off and additional drop off locations go to www.paintcare.org
- Medical sharps **only in approved containers**. Approved containers may be purchased at the Transfer Station scale house, Walmart and most local pharmacies.
- Used motor oil

HHW COLLECTION EVENTS

Bring HHW to The Columbia County Transfer Station's HHW Building **ONLY** during the scheduled HHW collection events.

The Transfer Station is located at 1601 Railroad Avenue, St. Helens, OR 97051

HHW Event schedule for 2015 at the Transfer Station:

- Saturday, February 28th, 8am to Noon
- Saturday, June 27th, 8am to Noon
- Saturday, October 31st, 8am to Noon

At these remote collections **ONLY** PaintCare will also be accepting latex or acrylic paint, oil based paint, stains, primers, sealers, and clear coatings (such as shellac and varnish)

- Saturday, April 11th, Vernonia Lake Park, Vernonia from 8 AM to Noon.
- Saturday, August 15th, Rainier, at the RV Trailer parking lot next to Rainier Sewage Treatment Plant from 8am to Noon
- Saturday, October 3rd, Clatskanie City Park, Clatskanie, 8am to Noon

HOW DO I TRANSPORT MY HHW?

Prepare and transport your materials properly. This will minimize risks to you, your family, property and staff from accidental spills or dangerous mixing of materials

- **Keep products in original containers.** If a product does not have its original label, label it yourself if you're sure of the contents to help staff dispose of your materials safely and correctly.
- **Do not mix products together.** Dangerous reactions can occur when some materials are mixed.
- Make sure products are **properly sealed to prevent leaks and spills.** If a container is leaking, secure it in a secondary leak-proof container (**not a plastic bag**).

Pack containers in sturdy boxes and Secure your HHW items in the rear of your vehicle (truck bed, hatchback, trunk, etc.) as it eases the removal of the HHW from your vehicle, away from the driver, passengers, pets, heat, sparks or flames. **Do not put items in plastic bags**

SMALL BUSINESS PARTICIPATION

Conditionally Exempt Generators (CEG's/CESQG) are businesses that do not generate more than 220 pounds of hazardous waste each month.

Hazardous waste from CEGs cannot be dropped off at HHW events since these events are for hazardous waste from households only.

CEGs may call Graham Gadzia of Clean Harbors, the County's HHW contractor at 253-639-4240 to make an appointment to drop off commercial hazardous waste.

CEGs can also bring commercial hazardous waste to the Metro Central Transfer Station in NW Portland

Questions? Contact Kathy Boutin-Pasterz, Solid Waste Program Coordinator for Columbia County at 503-397-7259 or by email at KathleenBoutin-Pasterz@co.columbia.or.us

Helpful Tips and Information

How do I reduce my use of hazardous waste?

- Buy only what you need.
- Choose to use less-toxic products in your home and garden.
- If you need to buy products that are hazardous, buy only what you will use in a reasonable period of time.
- Learn about alternative garden and yard care methods.
- Select safer alternative products whenever you can.
- Share leftovers with someone who can use them. One exception: Please don't give away old pesticides. They generally lose their effectiveness after two years, and old pesticides often contain chemicals that are now banned (e.g., DDT, Kelthane).