

## How Can I be a Responsible Consumer?

*Proper care is essential when dealing with HHW*

### Buy Responsibly

- Compare and read labels. Consider products that are safer and non-toxic.
- Only buy what you need to minimize disposal of leftovers.

### Use Responsibly

- Always read and follow directions and precautions on labels.
- Always keep hazardous materials out of children's reach in a dry, secure place.
- Store materials in their original containers away from food and sources of heat or sparks. Do not remove labels.

### Dispose Properly

- DON'T place hazardous wastes in trash cans or refuse containers. These wastes may injure collection personnel, contaminate groundwater and damage collection containers or vehicles.
- DON'T flush HHW down household or storm drains. These wastes can ruin septic fields, pollute groundwater or pass through municipal treatment systems to surface waters.
- DON'T dump, burn or bury hazardous wastes.



#### Tip:

Use white vinegar, salt and water for surface cleaning and baking soda as a toilet cleaner. Search online for instructions to make additional green cleaners.



#### Tip:

Air dry or solidify paint by adding kitty litter, wood chips or sawdust. Once the paint is solid, place it out with your regular trash.



Bureau of Environmental Services  
6751 Columbia Gateway Drive  
Suite 514  
Columbia, MD 21046  
410-313-6444  
[www.HowardCountyRecycles.org](http://www.HowardCountyRecycles.org)



# Household Hazardous Waste

## A Guide for Howard County Residents



Alpha Ridge Landfill  
Residents' Convenience Center

2350 Marriottsville Road  
Marriottsville, MD 21104

**April - November**  
**SATURDAYS ONLY**  
**8 a.m. - 4 p.m.**

*Proof of County residency  
(driver's license) is required.*

[www.HowardCountyRecycles.org](http://www.HowardCountyRecycles.org)

## What are Household Hazardous Wastes?

Many of the products we use in our home and routinely throw away with our trash are considered HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTES.

Products which are corrosive, flammable, reactive or toxic pose risks if used, stored or disposed of improperly. Consider using less hazardous products instead.

HHW Collection Saturdays April - November

### Before you go...

- Bring materials in their original container or in a secure, clearly labeled, leak-proof container.
- Make sure lids are tight.
- Group similar materials to make unloading easier.
- DON'T mix different or unknown materials together in the same container.

### At the collection site...

- You will be directed to the HHW drop-off area and asked to place your items on one of the analyzing tables.
- On-site chemists will examine the materials. They may ask for your help in identifying any unknown or unlabeled materials that you have brought. Based on their analysis, they will determine the proper packaging for transport and disposal of the hazardous materials.

## YES We Accept

- **Automotive fluids (transmission fluids, brake fluid, etc)**
- **Batteries\* (rechargeable, button, etc)**
- **Degreasers**
- **Fluorescent light bulbs/CFLs\***
- **Gasoline, diesel fuel**
- **Cleaners/powders**
- **Insecticides, pesticides, herbicides**
- **Mercury (thermostats)\*\***
- **Paint (Latex and oil-based)**
- **Photography chemicals**
- **Rust removers**
- **Solvents/strippers**
- **Swimming pool chemicals**

\*Local retail stores may offer free customer take-back programs for certain material. For more information visit [www.HowardCountyMD.gov/HHW](http://www.HowardCountyMD.gov/HHW)

\*\*Mercury thermostats and thermometers can be taken to the Howard County Health Department for recycling.

## NO We Cannot Accept

- **Commercial, industrial or medical wastes.** This includes biologically active wastes. Contact a local waste service company for handling instructions.
- **Radioactive materials.** Call the Maryland Department of the Environment, Office of Radiological Health, at 410-537-3300.
- **Asbestos.**
- **Kepones (an insecticide)**
- **PCB's**
- **Dioxin**
- **Explosives or Ammunition.**

### Tip:

Even green, natural cleaners can be hazardous. Please also dispose of these products responsibly.

