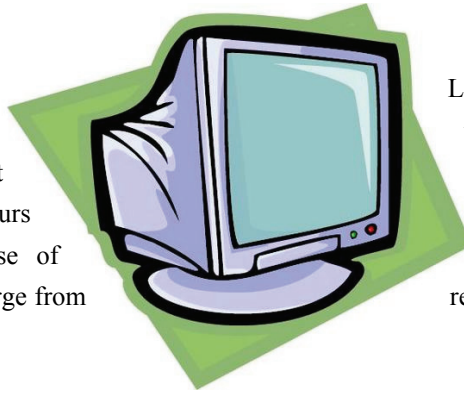


HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE FACILITY

Hazardous materials appear in people's homes in such forms as paints and stains, cleansers and polishes, motor oil and antifreeze, pesticides and herbicides, computers and fluorescent bulbs, just to name a few.

In the past, the only disposal option for these items in Lancaster County was placement in a landfill. Seeking to provide a better alternative, one that adhered more closely to its mission of managing waste in an environmentally safe and reliable manner, the Authority began construction of Pennsylvania's first permanent Household Hazardous Waste Facility (HHW) in 1990. Construction of this collection center was completed in January 1991 and represented a cooperative effort by the Authority's staff, Board of Directors and the Citizens Advisory Committee. The \$200,000 facility is specifically designed to provide a safe disposal option for hazardous waste items. It allows for the separation of hazardous waste items from household trash; this is beneficial to the environment and minimizes exposure to waste collection workers. In 2004, over five thousand Lancaster County residents brought in two hundred tons of household hazardous waste.

Many communities outside throughout the year, during which waste to designated locations. But collection center, with convenient hours Lancaster County residents are able to dispose of basis. It accepts most items free of charge from but aren't limited to:



Lancaster County hold one-day collection events time residents may bring household hazardous because Lancaster's HHW Facility is a permanent during the week and Saturdays, Lancaster household hazardous wastes on a continual residents of Lancaster County. These items include,

* Computers * cell phones * fluorescent bulbs * automotive products (transmission and brake fluids, antifreeze, used oil and batteries)
* floor and furniture polish * mercury thermometers * adhesives * gasoline * kerosene * household batteries * old chemistry sets
* paints and paint-related products (stains, turpentine, thinners, rust inhibitors) * pesticides * herbicides * insecticides * photographic and pool chemicals * household cleansers

Materials accepted at the facility must be generated in the home. Materials from schools, businesses and farms are not accepted. Computers, fluorescent bulbs and cellular phones are the exception; the Authority will accept them from residents for free, and in limited quantities from small businesses who will be assessed a fee. Some items that are not accepted at the HHW Facility include: propane tanks, radioactive waste, explosives, and ammunition.

Trained HHW Facility staff members sort and classify the materials before storing the waste in specially designed containment units located in the facility. A contracted hazardous waste hauler packs the items in drums, manifests the material and transports it to a hazardous waste incinerator, landfill or other treatment facility for proper waste management. Some materials are recycled such as computers, cellular phones, fluorescent bulbs, used motor oil, lead-acid batteries and antifreeze.

The Authority's HHW Facility also includes the collection of small household batteries like those from toys, cameras, flashlights, watches, and hearing aids. In 1991, the Authority initiated a curbside battery collection program for Lancaster County households. The Authority provides residents with small orange plastic battery bags. When filled, the bags can be placed at the curb on the same day as garbage collection. The Authority requires waste haulers to keep the battery bags separate from other waste

collected. Haulers drop off the bags at facility scalehouses where they are then taken to the HHW Facility where non-recyclable batteries are placed in containers, sealed and sent to the Frey Farm Landfill for safe disposal. Rechargeable and button-cell batteries are sent to a recycling facility.

The Authority initiated a computer-recycling program in 2001, which was one of the first of its kind in the region. In 2003, cell phones were added to the list of electronic materials accepted free of charge from residents. In 2004 the Authority initiated a mercury-recycling program whereby residents who brought in materials that contain mercury (glass thermometers, fluorescent bulbs, thermostats, etc.) received a free digital thermometer in exchange.

Safety is of major importance in the HHW Facility. Three-hour fire-rated walls, a blast-relief shaft, a carbon dioxide fire suppression system, explosion- and vapor-proof wiring and lighting, and epoxy-coated floors for spill containment are some of the safety features included within the 960-square-foot facility.

For more information about the Authority please contact our office at (717) 397-9968 or visit us at www.lcswma.org.