## WHAT IS HHW?

HHW is a leftover household product that has a label or ingredients that contains any of the following warnings: flammable, ignitable, corrosive, reactive, or toxic. These warnings can be found in anything from drain cleaners, motor oil, to pesticides.

Disposing HHW down the drain, sewer, or trash can cause chemicals and toxins to pollute our environment, especially our ground water supply which can contaminate our parks, drinking water, farms and more.

When HHW is taken to the BuRRT Collection Center, the waste can be properly disposed, recycled, or reused. Recycling HHW conserves resources and energy that would otherwise be expended in the production of more hazardous materials.

#### THE HHW COLLECTION CENTER ACCEPTS\*:

Paint & Solvents **Poisons** Batteries (multi-use only) Pool Chemicals **Automotive Oil** Fluorescent Light Bulbs Gasoline **BBQ** Propane Tanks Antifreeze Fire Extinguishers **Cleaning Supplies** Mercury **Finishes and Stains** Corrosives Thermostats **Photographics** Aerosols

Pesticides/Herbicides

\*Quantity limits apply Fertilizers (see website).

#### **NOT ACCEPTED:**

**Asbestos** 

**Motor Oil Filters** Needles/Sharps Medical Waste **Pharmaceuticals** 

Ammunition Gunpowder **Explosives** Radioactive Materials-

(i.e. smoke detectors)

## **PAINTS & SOLVENTS**

There are several different types of paints and solvents. Some paints, like latex, are not considered hazardous, while oil based paints are. Here's how you can properly handle your paints and solvents:

**LATEX PAINT** (water-based acrylic paint) contains water-soluble binders so it is not considered a hazardous waste, thus you can put it in your trash can as long as the paint is dry or solidified first. Or, you can take the leftover paint to the HHW Collection Center to be recycled.

• To dry out your paint can, try mixing in kitty litter, paint hardener, or saw dust and leave the lid off. Once the liquid has dried and is not runny, you can throw it with the rest of your household trash.

**OIL BASED PAINT** is made out of synthetic resins derived from petroleum and when not properly stored or recycled the vapors and chemicals can pose a health threat on our environment.

**SOLVENTS** like stains, varnishes, lacquer, acetone, and turpentine should never be put down the drain, toilet, or poured outside.

All paints & solvents are accepted at the BuRRT **HHW Collection Center.** 

Empty paint & solvent cans and containers cannot be recycled because of their toxic residue and should be thrown in the trash.

#### MOTOR OIL & ANTIFREEZE

All automotive oil, antifreeze, and coolants are environmentally hazardous because of the blend of additives, such as lubricants, buffers and corrosion inhibitors. Even if the label says "Non-Toxic" or "Less-Toxic" they should be treated with caution and disposed of appropriately.

- Do not dispose of oil or antifreeze in the trash because liquid can leak in a trash truck and spill onto our roads.
- Clean up spills with an absorbent (kitty litter, shredded newspaper, vermiculite, rags, etc.), then bag waste materials and discard in the trash.
- Collect and store used oil or antifreeze in sealed and labeled, plastic or metal container, away from heat sources, children, and pets. The original container is best. Do not mix with any other substance and if you accidently do, be sure to tell the HHW Collection Center.

All motor oil, coolants, and antifreeze liquids are accepted at the BuRRT HHW Collection Center in quantities of five (5) gallons or less.



Empty containers cannot be recycled because of their toxic residue and should be thrown in the trash.

#### CHEMICALS & CLEANERS

Household chemicals and cleaning products, such as: pesticides, fertilizers, detergents, and sprays can contaminate our groundwater, rivers, and soil when not properly disposed. Not to mention they can have serious effects on human health if they are ingested, absorbed through the skin, or inhaled. Play it safe and look for warning labels to help determine if your chemical or cleaner might be toxic:

"Harmful if swallowed"

"Hazards to humans and domestic animals"

"Skin and eye irritant"

All types of powders and liquids from chemicals and cleaners are accepted at the BuRRT HHW **Collection Center.** 



Household cleaner containers, such as Clorox bottles, tile scrub bottles, etc, can be recycled if the container is plastic or metal, accepted in the local program, and is completely empty.

Think less toxic options. It's easy and usually less expensive to make your own non-toxic cleaners which are healthier for you and our environment.

## **FLUORESCENT LAMPS**

Most CFLs contain 1-3 mg of mercury per bulb. Even in small amounts mercury is poisonous when not handled properly and creates a potential risk for landfills and waste incinerators where it can contribute to air and water pollution.

Despite potential pollution if not disposed of properly, the use of CFLs actually helps reduce total mercury emissions in the U.S. because of their significant energy savings. Using CFLs reduces demand for electricity, which in turn reduces the amount of coal burned by power plants, which reduces emissions of mercury when the coal is burned.

To properly store your old CFLs or tubes, place them in the same box in which they were pur

chased. If that is long gone, place them in a sturdy container (i.e. box or bucket) with a lid. Label your container and keep it in a safe spot, away from children, and pets. If you can't find a large enough box, try to bring them to the collection center soon after changing them out.

When transporting fluorescent lamps put them in your trunk, back seat, or wrap them so they won't roll around or break.

For information handling broken bulbs, visit the EPA's website: <a href="https://www.epa.gov/cfl/cflcleanup.html">www.epa.gov/cfl/cflcleanup.html</a>

#### **SHARPS**

Sharps include hypodermic needles, syringes, and lancets. They are typically used in the home for insulin injection or for administering medications to treat other chronic diseases.

Santa Fe residents can put their sharps in the trash carts, as long as they are not thrown in loosely.

- Use an empty laundry detergent bottle with a screw-
- on lid to store used sharps. It is recommended to label the bottle with "Needles or Sharps" so that it does not pose a risk to your family, neighbors, or trash collector.
- Once the laundry detergent bottle is full, secure the lid tightly and place it in your trash container.
- Do not store used sharps in glass bottles, soda bottles, aluminum cans, or coffee cans which may break or

lacks a secure lid. Always keep storage containers for used sharps out of the reach of children.

Managing and disposing of household generated sharps safely reduces pollution to our environment and prevents injury and the risk of disease transmission from needle-sticks.

SHARPS
Do NOT
RECYCLE!

Sharps are NOT accepted at the BuRRT HHW Collection Center and they should NEVER be put in recycling trailers, carts or bins, left on streets, in parks, or anywhere they could injure someone.

## **HHW COLLECTION CENTER**

2600 Buckman Road, Santa Fe, NM 87507 Open: **Fridays & Saturdays** (except Holidays) from 8:00am to 4:45pm

For more information, call (505) 424—1850



## Storage & Transportation

- Do not dispose of any liquid HHW products in the trash because liquid can leak from the trash truck onto the ground.
- Collect and store HHW separately in a sealed and labeled container, away from heat sources, children, and pets. The original container is best.
- Do not mix with other chemicals!
- Clean up spills with an absorbent (kitty litter, shredded newspaper, vermiculite, rags, etc.), then bag waste materials and discard in the trash.
- Remember to follow any instructions for use and disposal provided on product labels.

Santa Fe Solid Waste Management Agency



THE

RESIDENTIAL GUIDE to

# Household Hazardous Waste

How to Properly Handle Household Hazardous Waste in Santa Fe



Rethink Our Waste www.SantaFeRecycling.org

