

# Snyder County

## HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION

### FREE TO ALL SNYDER COUNTY RESIDENTS



**LOCATION:** **Former** – SELINGROVE CAREERLINK  
713 Bridge St. Selinsgrove

**DATE:** **Saturday, September 24<sup>th</sup> 2011**  
(Same Day as SELINGROVE STREET FAIR)

**TIME:** **8:00 am – 1:00 pm**

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE is leftover household products that contain corrosive, toxic, ignitable, or reactive ingredients that require special care when it is time to dispose of them.

#### **BRING US YOUR UNWANTED:**

- Pesticides - Herbicides, Fungicides, Insecticides, Fertilizer w/Herbicides.
- Oil Based Paints and Paint Related Products
- Pool Chemicals
- Cleaners
- Poisons, Corrosives and Flammables
- Antifreeze & PCB Oil
- Mercury Thermometers & Other Mercury Products
- Fluorescent Light Tubes & Bulbs
- Batteries - Car & Rechargeable Only
- Driveway Sealers
- Solvents
- Solid Poisons
- 1 or 2 lb Propane Cylinders

#### **NOT ACCEPTED ARE:**

- Unwanted Medicines
- Latex Paint
- Radioactive or Medical Materials
- Explosives, Fireworks, Ammunitions and Ordnance
- Compressed Gas Cylinders larger than 2 lbs.
- Smoke Detectors and Fire Extinguishers
- Chemically Treated Lumber
- Electronics
- Asbestos
- Refuse & Tires
- Non-Rechargeable Batteries

#### **IMPORTANT PARTICIPATION INFORMATION BELOW:**

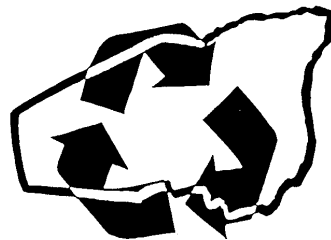
- Bring materials in their original, labeled, and sealed containers when possible. **Never mix chemicals together.**
- For your safety, transport the waste in your trunk or the back of a pick-up, away from the passenger area. If you don't have that separation you need to be careful what materials you bring and how they are packaged. **ALWAYS KEEP IN ORIGINAL CONTAINER WHEN POSSIBLE.**
- **This event if FREE to all SNYDER COUNTY RESIDENTS** - Proof of Snyder County residency, such as a driver's license, will be required at the check-in area.
- NO containers will be returned.
- The drop-off event will be held Rain or Shine.

## OUR MISSION

Our mission is to HELP YOU properly dispose of items from your home that could be considered Household Hazardous Waste “HHW.” We want to protect our homes and our environment from the affect of improper disposal of HHW.

On the average households generate nearly four pounds of HHW a year. This can create dangerous situations in your home if stored, handled or disposed of incorrectly. Taking the time to properly dispose of HHW keeps the toxins out of the environment, protecting you and your family as well as emergency responders.

The Snyder County Solid Waste Management Authority (SCSWMA) in cooperation with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection “PADEP,” and Snyder County Commissioners are working together to bring you this collection event.



### WHAT IS HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE?

What qualifies as Household Hazardous Waste (or what we in the recycling biz like to call HHW)? Hazardous products contain materials that have the following characteristics:

**Toxic:** Capable of causing injury or death through ingestion, inhalation or skin absorption. Example: Pesticides and insecticides.

**Flammable/Ignitable:** Catches fire easily. Example: gasoline and paint thinner.

**Corrosive:** Chemical action can burn or destroy living tissues or other materials when brought into contact. Example: strong acids or gases and drain cleaners.

**Reactive:** Can detonate or explode through exposure to heat, sudden shock, pressure or incompatible substances. Example: pool chemicals, chlorine bleach, and sodium.

### Warning Signs

Labels on hazardous products contain certain “signal words.” Words such as DANGER and POISON indicate a product is toxic, flammable or corrosive. All other hazardous products will have WARNING or CAUTION on their labels. Hazardous products will have an “affirmative action statement” of the hazard or hazards the product presents; for example “Flammable,” “Harmful if Swallowed,” “Causes Burns,” etc. All household hazardous waste have both the “signal words” and “affirmation action statement.” **It’s the law!**

### DISPOSAL

From bleach to paint thinner, if not properly discarded, household hazardous waste can be harmful to the environment and to us. In regards to disposal, the best thing you can do is to use the entire product according to the label directions or find someone who will use it. Of course banned or restricted pesticides, old medicines, and products with labels whose safety instructions are no longer readable should not be used or shared. If neither use nor sharing are options, store the product according to its label and wait for the HHW Collection Day.

Improper disposal of household hazardous wastes can include pouring them down the drain, on the ground, into storm sewers, or in some cases putting them out with the trash. The dangers of such disposal methods might not be immediately obvious, but improper disposal of these wastes can pollute the environment and pose a threat to human health.

# BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

Recommendations on how to dispose of the following items not accepted at the collection event.

**Latex Paint:** We will **not** accept latex (water-based) paint at this Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) collection. Modern latex paint is not considered hazardous to the environment. To determine if it is latex paint, look for the following words on the label: latex, acrylic, emulsion or wash with water. If your paint can be cleaned up with water it is a latex paint and will not be accepted at this HHW collection. Latex paint can be placed in your regular garbage, once it has been solidified.

If there is just a small amount of paint remaining in the can, take off the lid, place the can outside and let the paint harden. For cans with more paint, stir in an absorbent (either kitty litter or a paint hardener). Leave the lids off and place the solidified cans in your garbage.

**Batteries:** The need to recycle **alkaline batteries** including AA, AAA, C, D, and 9-volt varieties has changed. The battery industry has made them more environmentally safe. Although they are safer we still recommend that you look into purchasing rechargeable batteries because they can save you money and are better for the environment.

All **rechargeable batteries** should be recycled. They can often be found in cellular and cordless phones, cordless power tools and laptop computers. Rechargeable batteries can be dropped off at my office, Lowe's, Best Buy, Staples or Radio Shack.

**Used Motor Oil & Antifreeze:** Check with your local garage or call the recycling coordinator (Debbie 374-6889) for a list of recyclers. **DO NOT MIX TOGETHER.**

**Fluorescent Lamps and Compact Florescent Bulbs (Spiral Bulbs):** Fluorescent lamps contain mercury and should be recycled. There are many companies that provide this service. Spiral bulbs can be recycled at Lowe's. For more options call the office or check the web.

**Electronics:** The Authority holds an electronics collection event each spring. Best Buy and HandUP Foundation both accept some electronics for recycling. Check with me for additional options for recycling electronics.

**Smoke Detectors:** There are a few things you should know before you throw your old smoke detector in the trash. The most common types of smoke detectors contain a small amount of a radioactive material called Americium 241. When installed in your home or office this material poses little threat. As long as the detector is not tampered with or broken the fire protection benefits vastly outweighs the potential health risk from the radiation. But, because of the Americium 241 you should never take a smoke detector apart or burn it in your fireplace or backyard burning barrel.

Because the amount of Americium 241 in these devices is small, households can dispose of single household smoke detectors as ordinary trash. But, just because you can throw it in the trash doesn't mean you should throw it in the trash. I recommend you mail it back to the original manufacturer in a box marked "For Disposal". The manufacturer must then dispose of it as hazardous waste. If you have a First Alert smoke detector send it to First Alert, Radioactive Waste Disposal, 780 McClure Rd, Aurora, IL 60504. If you have another brand call the office and I will help you find the right shipping address to send your smoke detector back to the manufacturer.

**Treated Lumber:** Pressure-treated wood is lumber that has been impregnated with a combination of chemicals so that it will last longer than untreated wood. But, at some point this pressure-treated wood may need to be replaced. When it is time to dispose of the treated wood there are some thing you should **NOT** do. You should never burn this wood because of the chemicals that were used to make it last longer in the first place. It should not be composted or ground and used for mulch. Do not drop this wood off at your local composting site. About the safest way to dispose of this wood is to send it to the landfill for disposal.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Debbie Wolf 570-374-6889 (New Number)  
SNYDER COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY  
713 Bridge St., Suite 9, Selinsgrove, PA 17870