

# HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE



**ECO-DEPOT** is a free service for properly disposing of hazardous waste from Rhode Island households. Since 2001, this program has kept millions of pounds of hazardous waste out of Rhode Island's environment.

## WHAT IS HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE?

Household hazardous waste (HHW) is anything labeled with a skull & crossbones, or words like "toxic," "poison," "flammable," "combustible," etc. coming from a household. Most homes have a fair number of HHW products stored in the garage, basement, shed, bathroom, and kitchen.

Hazardous substances can easily catch on fire or can react or explode when mixed with other substances. Just as they require special care when you use them, they require special care when you throw them away. Otherwise, you may cause serious injury to yourself, your loved ones, and pets. When you don't dispose of them properly, you could pollute the environment by poisoning the sewer and septic systems, drinking water, groundwater, and the earth.

## REDUCE YOUR HHW

One way to reduce your HHW is to switch to green cleaning products. Most everything in your home can be cleaned with a few cheap, safe, and easy-to-use ingredients you can combine yourself, like tap water, baking soda, vinegar, and plant-based liquid soap.

Download a recipe guide at [rirrc.org/clean-green](http://rirrc.org/clean-green)



## THE USUAL SUSPECTS

The average household stores about **10 gallons** of common hazardous waste. Check the list below to see if you have any of these items in your home:

Antifreeze	Metal polishes
Arts & crafts chemicals	Mothballs
Batteries (rechargeable & long-lasting)	Motor oil & filters
Bug sprays	Muriatic acid
Charcoal lighter fluid	Nail polishes & removers
Compact fluorescent light bulbs	Oven cleaner
Disinfectant	Paints
Drain openers	Paint thinners
Driveway sealer	Pool chemicals
Flea dips, sprays & collars	Propane tanks
Fluorescent light bulbs & lamps	Rug & upholstery cleaners
Gasoline	Sharps/Needles
Household pest & rat poisons	Shoe polish
Houseplant insecticides	Turpentine
Lawn chemicals & fertilizers	Varnishes and stains
Mercury thermostats	Windshield wiper fluid

## MORE OPTIONS

These items have disposal options in addition to Eco-Depot that may be more convenient for you. Visit [atoz.rirrc.org](http://atoz.rirrc.org) for details. All are accepted at Eco-Depot events as well.

- Antifreeze (< 10 Gal)
- Batteries (rechargeable & long-lasting)
- Compact fluorescent light bulbs
- Fluorescent light tubes
- Motor oil (< 10 Gal) & filters
- Paint
- Propane tanks
- Sharps/Needles



## APPOINTMENTS

**Appointments are necessary.** They prevent everyone from showing up at once, which reduces wait time. We try to service 25 cars every 15 minutes—you don't even get out of your vehicle. Call **401-942-1430 x3241** or visit [www.EcoDepotRI.org](http://www.EcoDepotRI.org) to make an appointment for an upcoming collection.

You can view the entire Eco-Depot schedule at [www.EcoDepotRI.org](http://www.EcoDepotRI.org)