

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE INFORMATION

Transportation Tips:

- Tighten caps and lids
- Leave materials in original containers
- Never put chemicals that may react with each other in the same box when preparing chemicals for transport
- Pad boxes with newspaper to minimize spills
- Drive directly to center
- NEVER MIX CHEMICALS
- NEVER SMOKE

Acceptable materials

General Household

- Acids (corrosives)
- Chemistry-set chemicals
- Flammable liquids
- Oil paint and art supplies
- Paint strippers, turpentine, thinners
- Hobby supplies (rubber cement, airplane glue, etc.)
- Lead paint
- Mercury
- Mercury containing devices
- Oil paint in aerosol cans
- Photography chemicals
- Solvents and adhesives
- Fiberglass resins
- Fluorescent bulbs (standard and new “compact” if unbroken)
- Unlabeled and unknown chemicals

Kitchen

- Drain cleaner
- Lighter fluids
- Oven cleaners
- Ammonia (in large quantities)

Laundry

- Bleach (in large quantities)
- Spot removers

Lawn and Garden

- Cesspool cleaners (corrosives)
- Fire starters
- Fungicides
- Herbicides
- Insecticides
- Pesticides
- Poisons
- Pool chemicals
- Anything labeled combustible

Automotive

- Batteries (auto and motorcycle size)
- Antifreeze
- Brake fluid
- Carburetor cleaners
- Contaminated motor oil
- Radiator flush
- Solvents and degreasers
- Tire cleaners
- Transmission fluid
- Waste fuels (gasoline, kerosene, etc.)

Other

- Propane tanks – up to 20 pounds, which is the standard barbeque grill size.

Additional materials not included in this list may also be accepted at vendor discretion.

Unacceptable materials

- Latex paint – see below
- Alkaline batteries – see below
- Asbestos – look in yellow pages for a licensed contractor.
- Construction waste (asbestos shingles, railroad ties, etc.)
- CRTs (TVs, computer monitors, etc.)
- Explosives or any ordnance (gunpowder, ammunition, unknown cylinders, flares, etc.) – call Fire Department
- Fire extinguishers – call Fire Department
- Hypodermic needles and medications – call your local Board of Health for a list of disposal options.
- Smoke detectors – may be disposed of with your regular trash or mailed to manufacturer
- Helium tanks
- Freon tanks

Household batteries and other mercury-containing devices

Alkaline batteries manufactured after 1994 have considerably less mercury than those manufactured before 1994. Many newer batteries have green trees on them or some other means of letting consumers know that they are not producers of mercury and can be thrown in your regular trash. The Minuteman Hazardous Products Facility in Lexington will collect batteries manufactured before 1994 or ones for which you can't determine the mercury content.

NiCad, button batteries, zinc and lithium batteries of all sizes will be collected at the Minuteman facility. You should also call your local Health Department. There may be other places in your town that will collect these batteries on a regular basis.

Latex paint

Latex paint is not a hazardous product, it is simply a messy product. For that reason, we will not collect it at our hazardous product facility because the disposal is expensive. **If you bring it to the Minuteman Hazardous Products collection facility, it will not be accepted and you will go home with it.** In most cities and towns, however, latex paint may not be put in the regular curbside trash in a liquid form. To help you get rid of it with less trouble, and with less cost to the Minuteman Hazardous Products Facility, any of the following disposal options can be used.

1. Open the can and let it dry out, if there is just a small amount and it can be done safely. The cans can then be put in the regular trash with the lids off, or in a plastic trash bag so the collectors do not think it is hazardous.
2. Put kitty litter or purchased "waste latex paint hardener" product available at Home Depot, Lowe's and many hardware stores into the can and then let the paint dry out (solidify. The can of solidified paint may be put in a plastic bag and put in your curbside trash.
3. Line a box with newspaper and pour small amounts of paint into the box, letting each layer dry and solidify before adding another. The "painted" box can be put in your regular trash.

Under no circumstances should paint in a liquid form be put into your regular trash because that material is compacted and will leak when being transported.