



HAZARDOUS WASTE



Hazardous waste is the most dangerous of all wastes. It can immediately affect humans and the environment or its full effects may take years to appear.

The Ministry of Environment uses the following definition: **"Hazardous Waste is dangerous to human health and the environment. It includes toxic, corrosive, flammable, reactive and radioactive waste from homes, industry and agriculture."**

The average Canadian household produces 35 litres of hazardous waste each year. Not including industrial or agricultural hazardous waste, Ontario homes produce a total of 140 million litres per year.



CORROSIVE
Substances that eat and wear away at many materials.
ex. battery acid, drain cleaner



FLAMMABLE
Liquids that can ignite under any circumstance.
ex. lighter fluid, turpentine



TOXIC
Materials that, even in small quantities are poisonous.
ex. rat poison, chlorine bleach



REACTIVE
Materials that can create an explosion or deadly vapours.
ex. ammonia, chlorine bleach



RADIOACTIVE
Materials that give off small doses of radiation.
ex. Ionizing smoke detectors



Do What You Can!

Stewardship Ontario has introduced a new program which aims to teach residents about the benefits of recycling common household wastes such as paint cans, batteries and petroleum products at dowhatyoucan.ca

The new Ontario-wide Municipal Hazardous or Special Waste (MHSW) program will ensure that consumer products such as paint, solvents, used oil filters, single use batteries, antifreeze, propane tanks, fertilizers and pesticides are managed in an environmentally appropriate manner once consumers no longer need or want them.

That means less of these materials going to landfill sites. The target is to divert more than 33,000 tonnes of potentially hazardous or special waste in the first five years, up from the 16,000 tonnes currently collected.

As the program is implemented, and begins to show major benefits; more locations will open up and the effectiveness of the concept will be realized across Ontario. Do your part. Do what you can!

Hazardous Waste Facts

The total amount of hazardous waste estimated to be generated in Ontario annually is between 20,000 & 86,000 tonnes per year!

One teaspoon of motor oil down the sewer drain can contaminate up to 10,000 litres of water. That's as much water as your home uses in a month!

Canadians purchase more than one billion litres of motor and lubricating oil every single year!



Of the one billion litres, Ontario consumes 389 to 500 million litres, or, almost half of the country's intake!

Approximately 14 million gallons of paint is sold in Ontario each year. Of this amount, only 10% is recycled each year.

HOUSEHOLD ITEM	HAZARD	DISPOSAL	SAFER ALTERNATIVES
Disinfectants	Toxic	Use existing product, then convert	Use 125mL borax in 4.5 liters of water
Drain Cleaner	Toxic Corrosive	Waste Depot	Use a handful of baking soda with 125mL of vinegar & allow to sit 1 hour then clear out.
Chlorine Bleach	Toxic Corrosive	Use existing product, then convert	Use 1 part hydrogen peroxide to 5 parts of water per load.
Spray Starch	Flammable	Use existing product, then convert	Mix 15mL corn starch with 250mL water in pump spray bottle
Paint Strippers	Flammable Toxic	Waste Depot	Use a heat gun and sandpaper.
Stains & Finishes	Flammable Toxic	Waste Depot	Use latex paint or natural earth pigment finishes
Fertilizers	Toxic	Use existing product, then convert	Organic fertilizer, compost, mulch
Herbicides	Toxic	Waste Depot	Keep grass short, hand weeding
Dish Detergents	Phosphates	Use existing product, then convert	Use commercial phosphate free or environmentally friendly soaps
Silver Polish	Toxic Corrosive	Waste Depot	Soak in boiling water with baking soda, salt & a piece of aluminum
Floor Cleaner	Toxic Corrosive	Waste Depot	Use 75mL washing soda & 125mL ammonia in 4 litres of warm water
Furniture Polish	Toxic	Use existing product, then convert	Use 1 part lemon juice to 2 parts olive or vegetable oil
Batteries	Toxic	Waste Depot	Use rechargeable batteries or adapter & power cord