



What is Household Hazardous Waste?

Many common items around your home contain toxic or hazardous ingredients. These items must be disposed of properly, and not tossed out in your garbage or recycling bins or put down the drain.

See below for a list of common household items that contain toxic and hazardous ingredients as well as information on disposal and recycling programs available to San Francisco residents.

Common Hazardous & Toxic Household Items



Kitchen

- Oven cleaners
- Insect sprays, baits, and foggers
- Mouse and rat poisons and baits
- Metal polishes
- Drain openers
- Houseplant insecticides



Garage

- Paint (including latex, oil, and spray paint)
- Motor oil
- Automotive batteries
- Antifreeze
- Lighter fluids
- Paint thinners and strippers
- Transmission and brake fluid
- Fuel additives
- Carburetor and fuel injection cleaners
- Air conditioning refrigerants
- Starter fluids
- Wood and metal cleaners and polishes



Bathroom

- Mercury thermometers (glass thermometer with silver liquid)
- Aerosols
- Hypodermic needles
- Toilet cleaners
- Tub, tile, shower cleaners
- Bleach (laundry)
- Expired or unused medicines
- Nail polish remover



Other

- Burnt-out Fluorescent bulbs
- Photochemicals
- Mothballs
- Electronic devices (see back for more information)



Garden

- Pesticides
- Fertilizers
- Insecticides
- Lime
- Weed killer



For more information please visit SFEnvironment.com or call (415) 355-3700.

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Home Pick-Up

San Francisco residents can have used motor oil, oil filters, and latex paint picked up at home for FREE. There's a \$35 fee for other hazardous and toxic products such as oil-based paint, pesticides, solvents and antifreeze. If you are elderly or disabled, this service is FREE. Call (415) 355-3777 to schedule a pick-up.

Drop-Off Programs

Free drop-off facility for most products

You can bring batteries, paint, motor oil, pesticides, cleaners and other products to a free drop-off facility, located at 501 Tunnel Avenue, operated by SF Recycling & Disposal, Inc. The facility is open Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. There's a limit of 15 gallons or 125 pounds per trip. Bring proof of San Francisco residency, such as a driver's license or utility bill. For directions or more information, call (415) 330-1400 or check the facility website at http://www.norcalwaste.com/sf_hhw.htm.

Product-specific drop-off Sites

SF Environment, in partnership with local businesses, offers more than 100 convenient drop-off locations where San Francisco residents can recycle latex paint, used motor oil, fluorescent bulbs, mercury thermometers and household batteries — including rechargeable, laptop and cell phone batteries

There is no cost to drop off these items at the participating sites. For a list of locations and what products they accept, call our hotline at (415) 554-4333 or visit our website at sfenvironment.com and go to the Residential Toxics section.

What Can You Do?

1. Choose less toxic products. Reduce toxic products in your household by making safer, less toxic product choices. For more information, call (415) 355-3700 or visit <http://es.epa.gov/techinfo/facts/safe-fs.html>.
2. Buy only what you need to get the job done. Buying large quantities just creates more waste if it goes unused.
3. Share with family and friends. If the leftover product is still usable, ask family, friends, and neighbors if they want it. Check with local organizations too.
4. Dispose of leftover or unusable products properly The following programs are available to San Francisco residents to properly dispose of unwanted toxic household products.



Unwanted or Unusable Electronics

Electronic products, including computers, TVs, and cell phones, can contain significant amounts of heavy metals and other toxic materials. Although these products are safe while in use, they must be disposed of properly to prevent toxic materials from entering the environment. In California, it is illegal to dispose of computers, televisions, and other electronics in the trash because they contain mercury, cadmium, and other toxic materials that may contaminate soil and groundwater.

For electronic waste disposal options please call our hotline at (415) 554-4333 or visit our website at sfenvironment.com and go to the Residential Toxics section.

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