

# Managing Household Hazardous Waste in Lexington County, SC



A Program Funded by  
 Lexington County Solid Waste Management  
 and  
 The Lexington Countywide Stormwater Consortium



## Reduce Your HHW

Avoid being a repeat customer. Help the county reduce costs while protecting your health and the environment.

- **REFUSE** hazardous products. Go to [www.epa.gov/saferchoice](http://www.epa.gov/saferchoice) for a list of alternatives such as water-based products in place of solvent-based products.
- **REDUCE** leftovers by buying smaller amounts.
- **REUSE** leftovers by donating products to friends, neighbors, and nonprofit groups. See a list of charitable organizations at <https://lex-co.sc.gov> → Solid Waste → Recycling
- **RECYCLE** Know your disposal options and when safe, use alternatives to HHW Drop-off Events.

## Businesses

HHW generated by businesses, including non-profits, churches, schools, home-based businesses and rental properties, is **not** accepted at Drop-off Events or at Collection and Recycling Centers. Some materials are accepted at the Edmund Landfill. Others must be taken to a company that handles HHW. For additional information, contact Lexington County's Recycling Coordinator at (803) 785-3340 or [tsander@lex-co.com](mailto:tsander@lex-co.com).

## Questions?

**Lexington County Solid Waste Management**  
 (803) 755-3325 \* [tsander@lex-co.com](mailto:tsander@lex-co.com)  
<https://lex-co.sc.gov> --> Solid Waste Management

**Lexington Countywide Stormwater Consortium**  
 (803) 785-8121 \* [mwhite@lex-co.com](mailto:mwhite@lex-co.com)  
[www.lcswc.com](http://www.lcswc.com)

# Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Disposal Guide

Please keep for future reference

= Recycle = Flush with lots of water in sewer drain (sink), NOT in septic tank or storm drain = Dispose of dried solids in the trash = Take to a Lexington County HHW Drop-off Event

Automotive	Lawn and Garden	Home Improvement	Household Items
Auto batteries <sup>a</sup>	Bug spray	Concrete cleaner (acid)	Batteries, household <sup>d</sup>
Antifreeze <sup>a</sup>	Fertilizer with weed killer	Furniture stripper	Cleaner with ammonia <sup>e</sup>
Brake fluid	Fertilizer w/out weed killer	Glaze and spackle	Cleaner with bleach <sup>e</sup>
Carburetor cleaner	Insect killer	Glue, water-based	Cosmetics and perfumes
Degreaser	Lighter fluid	Glue with solvents <sup>b</sup>	Disinfectant
Fuel additive	Pool chemicals	Latex paint <sup>c</sup>	Drain and oven cleaner
Gasoline and fuels	Roach and ant poison	Oil-based paint	Empty aerosol cans <sup>f</sup>
Transmission fluid	Rodent bait	Paint remover	Empty containers
Used motor oil <sup>a</sup>	Weed killer	Paint thinner	Essential oils
Used oil filters <sup>a</sup>		Putty, grout and caulk	Fire extinguishers
Used motor oil bottles <sup>a</sup>		Stain, varnish and lacquer	Glass cleaner
Windshield washer		Turpentine	Light bulbs, CFL/fluorescent <sup>a</sup>
Wax		Wood preservatives	Light bulbs, other

**Additional Notes**

a Recycle at Lexington County's Collection and Recycling Centers. NOT in curbside roll cart.

b Solvent containing products have the words "flammable," "combustible," or "contains petroleum distillates" on the labels.

c Call (803) 785-3340 or email [tsander@lex-co.com](mailto:tsander@lex-co.com) for instructions on how to dry out latex-based paint.

d Recycle at Batteries Plus Bulbs or take to Lexington County electronic recycling drop-off events.

e NEVER mix products containing bleach with those containing ammonia. A toxic gas may form!

f Can be recycled in curbside roll cart.

g Recycle at Lexington County's Edmund Landfill.

For the location and hours of Lexington County's 11 Collection and Recycling Centers and the Edmund Landfill or for additional information...  
<https://lex-co.sc.gov> → Solid Waste (803) 755-3325 \* [tsander@lex-co.com](mailto:tsander@lex-co.com)



# Household Hazardous Waste (HHW)...

...are products found in and around the home that are considered to be hazardous and are a potential source for serious health risks. HHW includes waste items that are:

- Corrosive
- Explosive/reactive
- Flammable/combustible
- Toxic

HHW can be found in all areas of the home including the kitchen, bathroom, garage, and garden. To identify HHWs in your home, look for these words on labels:

- Caution
- Danger
- Explosive
- Flammable
- Poison

## Importance of Proper Disposal

The best method of disposal is to use the product completely as intended. Old HHW can present a danger to children and pets. If disposed of improperly, HHW can contaminate the air, soil, surface and ground water, wastewater treatment systems, and septic tanks. Certain types of HHW have the potential to cause physical injury to sanitation workers when thrown in the trash. For example, pool chemicals often cause fires in the landfill. It is important to know which disposal method is best for each type of HHW.

## Know Your Disposal Options

While some materials are hazardous and must or should be taken to Lexington County's HHW Drop-Off events, others can safely be recycled at Lexington County's 11 Collection and Recycling Centers, at the Edmund Landfill or may be safely flushed down the drain or be discarded in household garbage. HHW Drop-off Events are expensive so when safe alternatives exist, residents are encouraged to use them first.




## Pack and Transport HHW Safely

- Leave items in original, labeled containers.
- Make sure containers are tightly sealed.
- If container is leaking, transfer to a new, clean container and re-label.
- Don't mix products together.
- Box containers to prevent them from tipping over during transportation.
- Be prepared to leave your containers at HHW Drop-off Events.



## Recycling Locations

Most materials marked with the recycling symbol  on the chart provided are accepted at Lexington County's 11 Collection and Recycling Centers and at the Edmund Landfill, but NOT in curbside recycling roll carts.

### For locations and hours:

Visit <https://lex-co.sc.gov> → Solid Waste Management

Call (803) 755-3325 \* Email [tsander@lex-co.com](mailto:tsander@lex-co.com)



## HHW Accepted at Drop-off Events

- Acids
- Brake fluid
- Bug spray
- Carburetor cleaner
- Degreasers
- Fertilizer with weed killer
- Fire extinguishers
- Furniture stripper
- Glue with solvents
- Insect killer
- Lighter fluid
- Mercury including thermometers, thermostats and debris
- Mothballs



- Paint (NOTE: Up to 8 gallons of **liquid** paint is accepted per household at each event.)
- Paint related materials (e.g. thinner, stripper)
- Pesticides, insecticides, fungicides, herbicides
- Polish with solvents
- Pool chemicals
- Roach and ant poison
- Rodent bait
- Spot remover
- Spray paint
- Stain, varnish and lacquer
- Turpentine
- Weed killer
- Wood preservatives

**NO LIMITS** on any items except paint as stated above.

HHW is only accepted from Lexington County residents.

## HHW NOT Accepted at Drop-Off Events

- Ammunition and explosives (*call the Sheriff's department at 803-785-8230 for disposal instructions*)
- Asbestos materials (*call Lexington County Solid Waste Management at 803-755-3325 ext. 6*)
- Empty containers (*put in household garbage*)
- Material generated by businesses (*call 803-785-3340 for assistance*)
- Medicines and syringes (*for disposal instructions, go to <https://lex-co.sc.gov> → Solid Waste Management → Recycling*)
- Personal care products and perfumes (*put in household garbage*)
- Putty, grout, caulk, glaze, spackle (*dry and discard*)
- Radioactive materials (e.g. smoke detectors) (*return to the manufacturer or call 803-785-3340*)
- Unknown gasses or chemicals in bulk form (*call 803-785-3340 for assistance*)



## HHW Drop-off Events

- Materials are accepted at events from Lexington County residents at no charge.
- Materials generated by businesses, including non-profits, churches, schools, home-based businesses and rental properties, are NOT accepted at events.
- For details about dates and locations, go to <https://lex-co.sc.gov> → Solid Waste Management
- To be notified by email of recycling and HHW event dates, locations and other details, contact Lexington County's Recycling Coordinator at (803) 785-3340 or [tsander@lex-co.com](mailto:tsander@lex-co.com).