

Household Hazardous Waste



Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) are products that can be an environmental or health hazard when stored or disposed of improperly. A product or substance is hazardous when it contains one or more of the following properties:

- Corrosive/Caustic – Example: drain cleaner
- Reactive – Example: ether
- Flammable – Example: gasoline
- Toxic/Poisonous – Example: pesticides

Reading the labels on products can help identify some potentially harmful substances. Check for words such as CAUTION, WARNING OR DANGER. These can indicate a product is a household hazardous waste.

Stevens County is a member of the Otter Tail County Regional Waste Program. A mobile unit collects and transports HHW from Stevens County to the Otter Tail County HHW Facility for disposal. Monthly collections are scheduled on an annual basis.

2009 Collections

All collections are from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and free of charge to County household residents.

- May 6 – Stevens County Highway Garage on Hwy 9 North of Morris
- June 17 – Chokio County Highway Garage on Hwy 28 East of Chokio
- July 22 – Stevens County Highway Garage on Hwy 9 North of Morris
- September 30 - Stevens County Highway Garage on Hwy 9 North of Morris

Unable to make one of the collections? You can bring your HHW to the Otter Tail County HHW Facility in Fergus Falls. Click on the following site for directions and times of collection.

Otter Tail County HHW Facility (http://www.co.otter-tail.mn.us/solidwaste/hhw_exchange.php)

Examples of Acceptable Items from Your Home

Automotive	Lawn & Garden
Carburetor Cleaner	Bug Spray
Degreasers	Insect Killer
Gasoline - Fuels	Ant Poison
Used Motor Oil	Fertilizer
Oil Filters	Rodent Bait
Grease	Pesticide Aerosols
Kerosene	Flea Products
Brake Fluid	Pool Chemicals
Transmission Oil	Weed Chemicals

Antifreeze	
Household Items	Home Improvement
Metal Cleaners Lighter Fluid Oven Cleaners Nail Polish Remover Drain Cleaners Spot Removers Moth Balls Aerosol Cans with Solvents Floor & Furniture Polish	Latex/Oil Paint Stain, Varnish, Lacquer Paint Thinner Turpentine Furniture Stripper Wood Preservatives Roofing Tar Glues Concrete Cleaner

Examples of Items not Accepted

- Explosives
- Medical Waste
- Radioactive Materials
- Business, Agricultural and Commercial Waste
- Asbestos
- Fluorescent Bulbs

More Helpful Resources:

Household Hazardous Waste (<http://www.pca.state.mn.us/waste/hhw/index.html>)

Fluorescent Bulbs



Using energy-efficient fluorescent light bulbs makes good sense—you save money on electric bills and help protect the environment.

But because they contain mercury, fluorescent bulbs of all shapes and sizes from households must be recycled to avoid polluting the environment and posing a health threat. Never throw these bulbs in the trash—it's illegal to do so. Also, do not put bulbs out for curbside recycling or in the rural recycling trailer. If you want more information on fluorescent bulbs go to: <http://www.pca.state.mn.us/publications/w-hhw4-30.pdf>.

Bulb Recycling

Household bulb recycling is free, businesses pay a small fee. Drop-off bulbs for recycling during business hours at:

Engebretson Recycling
 23780 470th Ave, Morris
 Telephone: (320)589-3804
 Hours: M—F 8 a.m.—4 p.m.
 Sat.: 8 a.m.—noon

Used Oil & Oil Filters

Used oil and filters often contain hazardous contaminants, such as flammable fuels and their additives, lead and other toxic metals. Used oil that is disposed of improperly can kill vegetation and wildlife and pollute surface water and ground water. For this reason, it is illegal to: pour used oil on the ground; down a drain or sewer; put in the trash or apply to roads for dust suppression. For more information check out:

<http://www.pca.state.mn.us/publications/hhw-oilchange.pdf>.



Recycle your used oil at the following County sponsored locations. If you are a farmer and have large quantities to recycle, call the Environmental Services at (320) 589-7420 for a recycler to pickup oil at your farm.

- County Hwy. Garage—Morris
- County Hwy. Garage—Chokio
- Engebretson Recycling—Morris



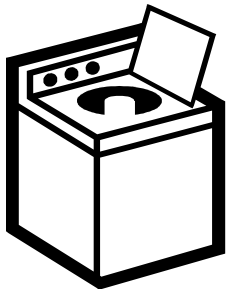
Recycle your used oil filters at one of these County sponsored locations. Filters need to be drained free of all oil.

- County Hwy. Garage—Morris
- County Hwy Garage—Chokio
- Morris City Garage—Morris
- Engebretson Recycling—Morris

Electronic & Appliance Recycling



Electronic products containing cathode-ray tubes (CRTs –more commonly known as picture tubes) because they contain lead. Therefore they may not be placed in the garbage (MN Stat. §115A.9565).CRTs are considered the largest single source of lead in Minnesota's municipal waste, containing 5-8 pounds of lead per unit. Lead makes up approximately 20% of each CRT. The ban will keep toxic lead out of landfills and will increase the amount of materials being recycled.



Major appliances sometimes called “white goods,” include but are not limited to air conditioners, dishwashers, washer/dryers, furnaces, microwaves, refrigerators, stoves, and water heaters. By law, appliances must be reused or recycled (MN Stat. §115A.9561). Appliances often have hazardous components such as capacitors, ballasts containing polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), switches containing mercury, or chlorofluorocarbon (CFC) refrigerant gas, commonly known as Freon.

You can recycle electronics and appliances for a fee at: Engebretson Disposal & Recycling
23780 470th Ave, Morris
Telephone: (320)589-3804

Household Battery Recycling & Disposal

Once a battery is used up or no longer useful, the battery's chemical will determine how best to dispose of it. Some batteries may contain toxic metals like mercury, lead, cadmium and silver, which can contaminate our air and water when incinerated or disposed in a landfill. Many stores that sell electronics or batteries will accept used batteries. Be sure to call first.

In Stevens County we conduct four annual household hazardous waste collection opportunities in which you can dispose of household batteries (not vehicle batteries) free of charge. Check out the schedule of collections in the household hazardous waste section of this website. For more information on household batteries visit the MPCA website at: www.pca.state.mn.us/hhw and search for household batteries.

 **Rechargeable batteries: recycle at retailer or HHW site**



Nickel cadmium (Ni-Cd) **Lithium ion (Li-ion)** **Nickel metal hydride (Ni-MH)** **Small sealed lead acid (Pb)**

- ▶ To recycle, check with your local store, or find one by calling the Rechargeable Battery Recycling Corp. at 1-800-8-BATTERY, or going to their web site at www.rbrc.org.

 **Single-use batteries: take to retailer or HHW site**



Button **Lithium**

- ▶ Lithium batteries may be reactive. Place each in a separate plastic bag or place non-conductive (electrical) tape over the battery terminals.
- ▶ Place tape around each button battery.

 **Vehicle batteries: take to retailer**



Lead acid

- ▶ By law, auto battery retailers must accept up to five lead-acid batteries from consumers free of charge.

 **Single-use batteries: safe to place in trash.**



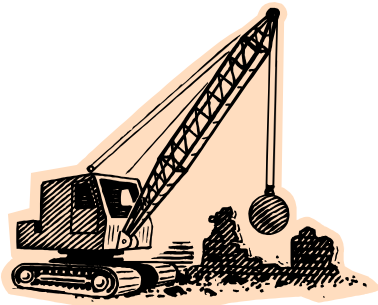
Carbon zinc **Alkaline**

- ▶ **Alkaline exceptions:** if purchased in 1993 or earlier, take to your HHW collection site.



Use Rechargeables – These batteries can be recharged up to 1,000 times before a recycling facility takes them apart and their metals are recovered. Like compact fluorescent bulbs, while the initial cost is higher, you save money in the long run.

Demolition Debris Landfill



Location: Hwy. 9 South of Morris
Hours: 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. M-F, 8 a.m.-Noon Sat.
Telephone: (320) 589-3804

Stevens County has a demolition debris landfill that is permitted by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency to accept materials from the demolition of buildings, roads, and other structures.

Examples of Materials accepted for a Fee			
Concrete	Brick	Bituminous Concrete	Untreated Wood
Masonry	Glass	Rock	Roofing
Shingles	Tile	Insulation	Plastic Building Parts
Conduit	Metal	Wiring	Glass Building Parts
Drywall	Ceramic Fixtures	Pipe	

If you are doing a construction project and have no way to haul the material to the demolition debris landfill, dumpsters are available by contacting the above telephone number.

Compost and Tree Sites - Yard waste such as leaves, garden trash and grass clippings can be disposed near the demolition debris landfill compost site free of charge. Trees and branches can also be disposed but will be charged a fee.