

GREEN SCENE

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Please consider the environment before printing a copy of this bulletin. The information will remain available on our web site.



The Town of Glastonbury



INTRODUCTION

Most households have these products: gasoline, oil-based paints and stains, pesticides, insecticides and household cleaning products, to name a few. How we dispose of these materials can be problematic. Also known as household hazardous waste, if disposed of improperly, significant environmental impacts may result. With increased public awareness of the environment, many Towns were faced with developing programs for the safe disposal of these materials. Individual municipal programs proved very costly. Glastonbury's solution was to develop a cost-effective and convenient regional solution for its residents.

REGIONAL HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DISPOSAL

In 1996, the Town of Glastonbury, along with the Towns of Hebron, Manchester, Marlborough, Somers, Stafford and Vernon, formed the Capital Region East Operating Committee (CREOC) and received State of Connecticut, Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) funds to construct a permanent hazardous waste collection facility in the Town of Manchester. The seven towns of CREOC serve a population in excess of 150,000 people.

This facility provides an economical and environmentally sound disposal alternative for disposing of household hazardous materials, such as oil-based paints, thinners, solvents and cleaners.

A product is hazardous if it has at least one of the following properties:

- ☞ toxicity
- ☞ flammability
- ☞ corrosiveness
- ☞ reactivity



While latex paints may be dried out and disposed of with regular refuse, oil- and lead-based paints are hazardous materials and must be disposed of properly.

Examples of symbols indicating hazardous materials that call for special handling



Poisonous



Flammable



Corrosive



Explosive

Many times, these materials are disposed of by dumping down the drain or discarding in the trash. These improper disposal methods result in potentially significant environmental impacts to our water supplies and land, and harm to wildlife and humans.

Our regional approach has resulted in a very successful program for our community.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

For spring collection dates at the regional household hazardous waste collection facility, please use the link immediately following. There is no charge to Glastonbury residents to use the facility during these scheduled times:

www.glastonbury-ct.gov/index.aspx?page=252

For more information about the proper disposal of various household items, please link to the guide on our web site:

www.glastonbury-ct.gov/index.aspx?page=918

Following is a link to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) web site, which may also be useful in determining which of your household products may require disposal as hazardous waste:

www.epa.gov/osw/consERVE/materials/hhw.htm

For information about which materials are acceptable for recycling, as well as a printable flyer, visit:

www.glastonbury-ct.gov/index.aspx?page=251

GLASTONBURY'S GREEN INITIATIVES PROGRAM

Glastonbury's Green Initiatives program operates under the direction of the Town Manager. The committee is chaired by the Purchasing Agent and the Superintendent of Sanitation. Committee members from across Town departments participate and contribute ideas and suggestions committed to a "greener" community.

The committee assembles information about products and services and makes the information available to specific departments that can evaluate them and develop applications in Town projects with the approval of the Town Manager.

These "Go-Green" bulletins contain information about the results of product evaluations and other accomplishments of Town departments. We hope this information can provide you insight to the Town's green initiatives and also lead others in the community to find ways to use environmentally preferable products. Please contact us if we can help you with further information or if you have additional suggestions. ■



Examples of household items which may contain elements requiring them to be disposed of as hazardous waste:

- Acids
- Cleaners
- Fluorescent light bulbs/lamps
- Mercury-containing products
- Oil-based paints
- Paint thinners
- Pesticides and insecticides
- Solvents

