



Targeted Constituents

● Significant Benefit		◐ Partial Benefit		○ Low or Unknown Benefit	
○ Sediment	● Heavy Metals	○ Floatable Materials	◐ Oxygen Demanding Substances		
○ Nutrients	● Toxic Materials	● Oil & Grease	○ Bacteria & Viruses	○ Construction Wastes	

Description The City of Knoxville provides free and convenient disposal of household hazardous substances at a central location within the city. Household hazardous waste must not be placed in the weekly curbside garbage containers or dumpsters. It is illegal to allow non-stormwater discharges to ditches, swales, curbs, storm drains or natural creeks.

Approach A typical home contains many hazardous chemicals commonly used for cleaning, repairs, construction, automobile maintenance, lawn care, or hobbies. Oftentimes, household hazardous waste will accumulate on shelves in the garage or basement. The basic definition for a household hazardous substance is that it is toxic, poisonous, corrosive, chemically reactive, flammable or combustible. Some examples of household hazardous waste include:

- Adhesives
- Ammonia or bleach
- Anti-freeze
- Automotive fluids
- Batteries
- Cleaning fluids
- Detergents
- Disinfectants
- Herbicides
- Motor oil
- Oven cleaner
- Paint
- Paint thinner/remover
- Pesticides
- Solvents
- Toilet cleaner
- Wood stains and preservatives
- Fluorescent tubes and lights

Due to poisons and toxic substances, household hazardous waste should not be included in the ordinary weekly garbage collection that is collected curbside. Instead, the City of Knoxville has a free and convenient disposal facility at 1033 Elm Street for the collection of household hazardous waste. Contact the Solid Waste Management Facility for questions at telephone 215-6700 or visit the Office of Solid Waste website at <http://www.ci.knoxville.tn.us/solidwaste/>

Prohibition To Discharge Due to federal mandates, the City of Knoxville has adopted a Stormwater and Street Ordinance to prohibit discharge of all chemicals and manmade materials into creeks, streams, ditches, swales, pipes, storm drains, and any surface which drains into these waterways. See BMP RH-01 (Non-Stormwater Discharges to Storm Drains) for a list of allowable discharges; anything else is strictly prohibited. This prohibition includes all types of fluids, whether discharged directly into a stream or storm drain, or discharged indirectly upon the ground. In addition to fines and legal action from the City of Knoxville, the state government (TDEC) can also assess severe penalties for polluting waters of the state (defined as any blue-line stream on a USGS quadrangle topographic

map), which also includes sinkholes and known areas of groundwater recharge.

Disposal Options

A household hazardous waste is any substance that is toxic, poisonous, corrosive, chemically reactive, flammable or combustible. The typical home contains many hazardous chemicals commonly used for cleaning, repairs, construction, automobile maintenance, lawn care, or hobbies. Oftentimes, household hazardous waste will accumulate on shelves in the garage or basement.

City residents can transport household hazardous wastes to the collection center located at 1033 Elm Street. The following items are not accepted at the Household Hazardous Waste Collection Center:

- Ammunition and explosives
- Medical waste
- Radioactive waste
- Unidentified materials

City residents can also drop off used and unwanted computer equipment (at no charge) at the facility on 1033 Elm Street. A maximum of two obsolete computers or game systems can be dropped off for recycling. Consult the Office of Solid Waste website for current information, hours, policies, locations, limitations and telephone numbers.

Whenever possible, purchase nontoxic and biodegradable products. Or use natural cleaning solutions such as vinegar or lye soap. Always follow the directions on the product label, and clean up any spills immediately. In general, do not purchase more of a hazardous product than can be reasonably used.

Recycling

The City of Knoxville promotes recycling whenever possible. Materials which are brought to the Household Hazardous Waste Collection Center (if in clean and labeled containers) can be left at the Re-Use Area. City residents may pick up and reuse these materials free of charge.

Related BMPs

These BMPs have additional information about waste disposal and alternatives:

Table AM-01-1	Quick Reference for Disposal Alternatives
AM-07	Spill Prevention and Control
AM-08	Waste Management and Recycling
RH-01	Non-Stormwater Discharges to Storm Drains

References

<http://www.cityofknoxville.org/solidwaste/> (website for the Office of Solid Waste)
the Knoxville Stormwater and Street Ordinance (see Engineering Dept. website)

Household Hazardous Waste Collection Center
 (part of the Solid Waste Management Facility)

Directions from I-275:

Take the westbound Baxter Avenue exit.
 Turn south onto Elm Street.
 Turn right into the Solid Waste Management Facility.

Once inside the facility, ask for information at the weigh station.

