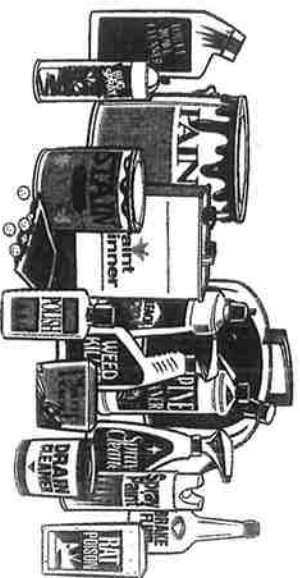




For Household Hazardous Waste



Located at the

City of Spencer Transfer Station

3101 West 18th St.

Spencer, IA 51301

To schedule an appointment call

712-580-7277

or email rcc@spenceriowacity.com



**SAFE, SMART,
SOLUTIONS FOR IOWA**

What should I expect at the Household Hazardous Waste Facility?

Before you come...

- Please call for an appointment
- Take an inventory of the materials you would like to dispose.
- Keep products in their original containers.
- Place the materials upright in a lined box to collect any leaks or spills.
- Contain any leaking or damaged containers separately in a heavy or double plastic bag.
- Place the box of containers on a level surface in the vehicle.
- Drive directly to the regional collection center to drop-off your materials. Try not to leave the chemicals in the vehicle while you go to work, run errands or make any other unnecessary stops as containment and temperature may severely affect the chemicals.

When you arrive at the facility...

- Have your I.D. available for proof of your residency.
- Wait for a staff member to assist you.
- There will be a short information form for you to fill out while your car is being unloaded.



Swap Shop Program

Various items can be acquired from the Swap Shop at the Collection Center. Items that are safe and in good condition, such as household cleaners, car care supplies and latex paints, are available to residents at no charge. Due to the hazardous nature of the chemicals being accepted, the shop hours are the same as the regular RCC collection hours. This is for the safety of our employees and visitors. Please come by, and check it out!

HHW Facility at the City of Spencer Transfer Station

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Spencer, IA 51301

Phone: (712) 580-7277

rcc@spenceriowacity.com



Hours of Operation:

M--F 8:00 a.m. -- Noon

Appointments are Available Monday - Friday

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What is Household Hazardous Waste? How do I dispose of it?

What is a household hazardous waste, or HHW?

An HHW is a product that is toxic, corrosive, flammable or reactive. Products that are hazardous usually have labels with the words **DANGER**, **WARNING** or **CAUTION**.

Other key phrases to look for are the following:

- "Harmful or Fatal if swallowed."
- "Do not use near heat or flame."
- "Causes severe burns on contact."

What types of HHW's are accepted at the facility?

- **Automotive products**—Most liquid automotive products are hazardous and should



never be poured down drains, on the ground or placed in the trash. These products include antifreeze, brake fluid, cleaners, degreasers, fuels, lead-acid batteries, oil, oil filters, waxes and windshield washer fluid.

- **Batteries**—Rechargeable batteries such as Ni-Cad, Ni-Mh, Lithium and automotive batteries are not safe to put in the landfill. Remember: *if it's rechargeable, it's recyclable!*

- **Cleaning Products**—These include polishes, drain cleaners, oven cleaners, rug/upholstery cleaners, stain removers, etc.

- **Cooking Oil**—Though not hazardous, landfills do not accept liquids and these substances are harmful to drains. Cooking oils such as vegetable oil, peanut oil, etc. can now be brought to the RCC for recycling.

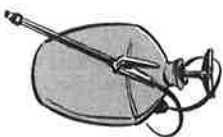
- **Fluorescent bulbs/compact fluorescent bulbs**—These contain mercury vapor and should be handled with care.

- **Mercury-containing Devices** (fever thermometers, thermostats, mercury switches)

- **Pesticides (bug and weed killers)**

The best way to dispose of a small amount of these products is to use it. **DO NOT** use banned pesticides; instead, bring them to the RCC for proper disposal. Some examples of banned pesticides are:

- Aldrin
- Chlorthane
- DDT
- Dieldrin
- Dursban
- Silvex
- 2,4,5-T



- **Propane Cylinders**—Small propane cylinders are accepted. Cylinders larger than the 20 pound size are accepted on a case-by-case basis.

- **Solvents (paint stripper, paint thinner)**

- **Waste paint**—There are two types of paints, stains and varnishes—latex and oil-based or alkyds. Latex paints will indicate the product can be cleaned with soap and water.

Oil-based paints contain hazardous materials. They may contain toxic metals such as lead, mercury and cadmium, and the containers usually say that they are "**COMBUSTIBLE!**" and should be cleaned with mineral spirits or paint thinner.

What materials are not accepted at the Regional Collection Center (RCC)?

- Asbestos Materials (shingles, house siding, pipe insulation, etc.) that contains asbestos
- Explosives
- Radioactive Materials
- Smoke Alarms (return to manufacturer)
- Non-hazardous Wastes (cosmetics)
- For materials not accepted, please call the RCC to find a safe disposal method.

How should I handle and store waste automotive products?

- Please bring oil and oil filters to the RCC in disposable containers such as milk jugs or 5-gallon buckets with tight lids.
- Store flammable materials in approved containers, away from ignition sources and in a well-ventilated area.
- If you must dispose of fuels, bring them to the RCC.
- Containers may not be returned.

What can I do with my latex paint?

You can dispose of latex paint in your regular garbage after it has been properly dried out.



How do I dry out my latex paint?

- Add kitty litter or saw dust to the paint can and mix.
- Place in a well-ventilated area until mixture is completely dry and keep away from children and pets.
- After it is dry, set it out with your regular trash. Be sure to remove the lid so that the waste hauler can see that the paint is dry.

What is the safest way to store pesticides until they can be disposed?



- Always store pesticides in their original containers, complete with labels, that list ingredients and directions for use and antidotes.
- Never transfer pesticides to other containers.
- Store in dry, protected areas. Concrete surfaces cause metal containers to corrode.