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Preserving the environment through integrated recovery and disposal.

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PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Authority Announces End of Household Hazardous Waste Collection Season

The Oneida-Herkimer Solid Waste Authority’s (Authority’s) Household Hazardous Waste facility will be closing for the season on Saturday, September 30th. The facility will be available again on Monday, April 1st, 2024.

Since the Authority started collecting household hazardous waste in 1992, over 1 million gallons of household hazardous waste have been accepted for proper disposal. In 2022, 27,873 gallons of hazardous waste were safely treated, and 28,150 gallons of paint were recycled.

What’s accepted?

The following items are accepted for disposal from April through September at the Authority’s Household Hazardous Waste facility located at 80 Leland Ave Extension in Utica:

- Chemistry Sets
- Cleaning Solvents
- Degreasers
- Fertilizers
- Furniture Stripper
- Glues
- Sealants
- Pesticides
- Kerosene
- Oil-Based Paint
- Latex-Based Paint
- Wood Preservatives
- Unusable Gasoline
- Rust Preventatives
- Rust Removers
- Pool Chemicals
- Polishes
- Photographic Chemicals
- Paint Thinners
- Oven Cleaners

Household hazardous wastes should be brought to the Authority’s facility in their original packaging as long as the packaging is free of any leaks or other damage. Employees at this facility are trained on the proper sorting and storage of household hazardous waste items, and making sure that they are brought in their original packaging helps ensure workers’ safety and can help streamline the disposal process.

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Residents can drop off 14 wet gallons and/or 20 dry pounds of household hazardous waste per trip. The Household Hazardous Waste facility is located at 80 Leland Ave Extension in Utica and is open April through September, Monday-Friday 8am-4pm and Saturday 7am-2pm. Certain businesses may qualify to use this facility but first must obtain approval and set up a drop off appointment, which can be arranged by contacting the Authority at 315-733-1224 or ohswa@ohswa.org.

Paint products can now be recycled year-round through the PaintCare program! Starting in May 2022, the PaintCare program has established drop-off sites at retailers that sell paint products. To learn more about what's accepted through the PaintCare program and to find a drop-off site closest to you, please visit <https://www.paintcare.org/states/new-york/>.

How to Minimize Household Hazardous Waste

1. Read up on the products that you use and make the switch to nontoxic or less toxic alternatives.
2. If you need to use potentially hazardous products, buy only what you need and share the rest with someone who may also need it.
3. Use only the amount that is recommended on the label. Using twice the amount of a hazardous product doesn't always mean it will work twice as well.
4. Regularly check the containers that your hazardous products are in. If you notice a leak or if the package starts deteriorating, safely dispose of the chemicals before you have a big hazardous mess on your hands.
5. Carefully read the entire label on your hazardous products. Labels have helpful information on the proper use, storage and disposal of hazardous chemicals.
6. Never illegally burn or dump household hazardous wastes. These products are toxic as they are, and can cause much larger issues if they are illegally burned or dumped.

Year-Round Item Reminder

The Authority's Utica and Rome EcoDrops are available for year-round disposal of special or one time waste items. This includes:

- Household Garbage
- Household Recycling
- Green Waste
- Electronics
- Appliances
- Tires
- Bulky Rigid Plastic
- Bulk Items
- Automobile Batteries
- Rechargeable Batteries
- Scrap Metal
- Used Motor Oil
- Used Antifreeze
- Used Cooking Oil
- Propane/Helium Tanks
- Construction & Demolition Debris

Some items are subject to a disposal fee. The Utica EcoDrop is located at 80 Leland Ave Extension and is open Monday-Friday 8am-4pm and Saturday 7am-2pm. The Rome EcoDrop is located at 575 Perimeter Road and is open Monday-Friday 8am-4pm and Saturday 8am-12pm.

For any questions on the Authority's Household Hazardous Waste Facility or its EcoDrop facilities, please visit www.ohswa.org or contact the Authority at 315-733-1224 or ohswa@ohswa.org. Information can also be found on the Authority's Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn pages.