

# Household Hazardous Waste Disposal Guide and Water Conservation Tips

[Cover Design To Be Developed]



Published by the Spokane Aquifer Joint Board.  
Local water providers united for safe drinking water.

Dear Community Member,

Did you know that the hazardous products we use in our homes and yards can end up in our drinking water, lakes and the Spokane River? Your above-ground practices affect our land, air and water. Most people don't realize that a large amount of water going into storm drains receives no treatment.

This guide can help you reduce your use of hazardous products and properly dispose of waste. For each area of your home, information found under "**Waste Facts, Safer Alternatives & Tips**" suggests less harmful substitutes to hazardous products. You may find that some of these substitutes require more "elbow grease," but they can reduce your exposure to hazardous substances.

This guide also provides water saving tips for each area of your home and yard. Living over the Spokane Valley Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer can make it hard to see the need for water conservation. After all, the region has no watering restrictions and it seems like there will always be enough water. But the truth is that water conservation saves a lot more than just water. Using less water saves energy, reduces pollution, saves you money, protects future water supplies and keeps water in the Spokane River for fish and wildlife.

Jeremy Jenkins, President  
Spokane Aquifer Joint Board and  
Regional Sponsors



# Product Awareness: Household Contaminants

Protect your family and our environment from the comfort of home.

- **Know what's in products.** Read labels carefully and look for words such as: caution, warning, danger, toxic, flammable, explosive, hazardous, corrosive, harmful or fatal if swallowed, use in ventilated area. Avoid ingredients such as: lead, mercury, polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), poly chlorinated biphenyl (PCB), volatile organic compounds (VOC), solvents, asbestos, benzene, toluene, xylene, ethylene dibromide or chemical names that are too long to be easily pronounced.
- **Follow manufacturers' directions.** Properly dispose of unused products and containers and don't purchase more than you need.
- **When in doubt ask!** For cleaning, repair and maintenance service contracts, ask questions about the products they will use and request the least toxic products available.
- **Safely store hazardous products:**
  - Keep out of the reach of children and pets.
  - Store corrosive materials in the original containers.
  - Clearly label and date containers.
  - Keep containers tightly sealed and dry.
  - Keep products in a well-ventilated area away from a source of ignition.
  - Store batteries and flammable chemicals away from direct sunlight.
  - Secure products so they won't tip over or leak.
  - Store toxic products at least 100 feet away from a well or water.
  - Store products on shelves above any flood waters.



# Bathroom Waste



Waste Type	Disposal	Waste Facts, Safer Alternatives & Tips
Cat Litter	Trash	Double bag all pet waste. Cat litter should never be flushed. TIP: Install pet door for outdoor access.
Chlorine Disinfectant	HHW	To discourage mold or mildew, use ½ cup borax in 1-gallon hot water. Do not rinse off the borax solution.
Drain Opener with Lye	HHW	To prevent clogging, use a drain strainer. To unclog: 1 <sup>st</sup> try plunger. 2 <sup>nd</sup> pour ½ cup baking soda, followed by ½ cup vinegar. Cover drain tightly, wait 5 minutes. 3 <sup>rd</sup> pour teakettle of boiling water down drain. Repeat if needed. 4 <sup>th</sup> use a drain snake or compressed air.
“Flushables”	Trash	Never flush products labeled “flushable” like baby, personal, and multi-purpose cleaning wipes. They can clog your pipes and damage pumps.
Medicine	HHW or Trash WD	DO NOT flush medications down toilets or drains Remove medications from original containers and place in plastic bag. Spokane City and County residents may put medicines in the trash for incineration. <a href="http://www.takebackyourmeds.org">www.takebackyourmeds.org</a> .
Mercury Thermometer	HHW	If broken: “Use stiff cardboard to push smaller pieces of glass and mercury beads together into a pile. Gently fold a paper towel around the pieces. Pick up bundle and place in a zipped plastic bag.” Get medical assistance for significant mercury exposure. Tip: Use electronic or non-mercury thermometer.
Sharps, Needles, & Syringes	HHW WD	Never put sharps or a container with sharps in the trash. Seal in a puncture resistant container and label. Take to HHW. Waste Management offers a mail -in program 509.924.9400 or <a href="http://www.wm.com">www.wm.com</a>
Toilet, Tub & Tile Cleaner	HHW	Use baking soda or non-chlorine based scouring powder. Use vinegar and warm water for windows, mirrors and smooth surfaces.

# Bathroom Water Saving Tips



## **The #1 water waster in your home is the toilet.**

A leaking toilet can waste 15,000 gallons of water a month. To check if your toilet has a leak, place several drops of food coloring in the toilet tank. If the color seeps into the toilet bowl within 30 minutes without flushing, your toilet has a leak.

### **Toilets:**

1. Purchase WaterSense® labeled toilets to reduce the amount of water used for each flush.
2. Put all products labeled “flushable” into the trash instead of flushing them. Save water and prevent clogged sewer lines.

### **Showers and Baths**

3. Replace old showerheads with WaterSense® labeled models and save up to 750 gallons a month.
4. Time your shower to keep it under 5 minutes and save up to 1,000 gallons per month.
5. Take 5-minute showers instead of baths. A full bathtub requires up to 70 gallons of water.

### **Sinks:**

6. Turn off the water while you brush your teeth and save up to 4 gallons a minute.
7. Plug the sink instead of running the water to rinse your razor and save up to 300 gallons a month.

# Cleaning & Laundry Waste



Waste Type	Proper Disposal	Waste Facts, Safer Alternatives & Tips
Chlorine Bleach	Use or HHW	Use borax to whiten or choose non-chlorine dry bleach. Never mix chlorine bleach with other products.
Dryer Sheets	Trash	Dryer sheets contain 7 hazardous air pollutants, 25 VOCs, and 2 carcinogens: acetaldehyde and benzene. Acetaldehyde is a common ingredient used in fake fragrance blends and impacts kidneys, nervous and respiratory systems. TIP: Reduce static cling. Add ¼th cup of white vinegar to the rinse cycle. Or use wool dryer balls with a few drops of organic essential oils.
Flea Powder	HHW	Vacuum regularly. Dispose of bags in trash. Bathe and comb your pet regularly. Use mild soap. If fleas are found on the comb, dip the comb in a glass of soapy water. Citrus is a natural flea deterrent but, do not use citrus oil on cats. Use cedar shampoo, oil and cedar-filled sleeping mats. Cedar repels many insects including fleas.
Moth Balls & Moth Flakes	HHW	Clean used clothing or furniture before introducing into home. Wash woolens before storing; store in cedar chest or sealed cardboard boxes. Moths: Make moth-repelling sachets using: cedar or juniper chips, bay leaves, cinnamon sticks, cloves, eucalyptus leaves, lavender, pepper corns or dried lemon peels wrapped in cheese cloth.
Solvents	HHW	Use soap based cleaner.
Spot & Stain Remover with Solvent	HHW	<b>White vinegar:</b> Remove yellow underarm perspiration stains and odor, mildew stains, whiten and brighten clothes. Add one cup of distilled white vinegar to the final rinse. <b>Corn starch, talcum powder or white chalk:</b> Absorb oily stains. <b>Salt:</b> Sprinkle salt on red wine spills. Let the salt absorb the liquid, brush it off the fabric and rinse. <b>Hydrogen peroxide</b> remove underarm yellowing, dye from nail polish, curry and red wine stains.

# Cleaning & Laundry

## Water Saving Tips

1. Reuse your towels at home or while staying at a hotel.
2. Pre-rinse clothes only when necessary.
3. Wash only full loads of laundry or match the water level to the size of the load.
4. Wash dark clothes in cold water to save water, energy, and help your clothes retain their color.
5. Shop for a new washing machine by visiting the Consortium for Energy Efficiency website and compare resource savings among Energy Star models. Some can save up to 20 gallons of water per load.



## Choose Energy Star and WaterSense Approved Appliances and Fixtures



# Garage Waste



Type of Waste	Proper Disposal	Waste Facts, Safer Alternatives & Tips
Auto Batteries (Lead Acid)	HHW	Find vendors at <a href="http://www.SpokaneWasteDirectory.org">www.SpokaneWasteDirectory.org</a>
Auto Maintenance	HHW	Antifreeze, automatic transmission fluid (used), brake fluid, carburetor cleaner, diesel fuel, gasoline, used motor oil, and oil filters are all hazardous to the environment. Do not mix these products. Take each in a separate container to a HHW drop site located at all transfer stations. 5-gallon containers max. For over 15 gallons call Clean Harbors 509-535-3847. Never pour down a storm drain. Fix leaky cars ASAP.
Car Wash Water	On Lawn	Use biodegradable soap. Wash cars on the lawn or go to the carwash. Never wash cars on the driveway or street or near a storm drain.
Chrome Polish	HHW	Apply a paste of baking soda and water with a sponge. Let the mixture set for 5 minutes. Rinse and wipe dry with a soft cloth.
Engine Degreaser	HHW	Never mix degreaser with oils or other auto fluids. Use citrus and vegetable oil products.
Rust Remover	HHW	<b>Vinegar:</b> Place rusty item in a vinegar bath, soak 30 minutes and scrub off remaining surface rust. <b>Borax:</b> Mix Borax (or baking soda) and lemon juice to form a paste. Apply the paste to the rust, and let it sit 30 minutes. Use a brush to remove rust. <b>Potato:</b> Slice the potato in half. Sprinkle the cut side with salt or baking soda. Rub the cut side of the potato over the rusted area. The acid in the potato will lift the rust, and the salt (or baking soda) will help scrub it away.
Tires	WD	Find vendors at <a href="http://www.SpokaneWasteDirectory.org">www.SpokaneWasteDirectory.org</a>



# General Water Saving Tips



1. Teach children to turn off faucets tightly after each use.
2. Install water-saving devices such as aerators and low volume shower heads, toilets and washing machines.
3. Monitor your water bill for unusually high use. Your bill and water meter are tools that can help you discover leaks. For private wells, consider installing a water meter.
4. Know where your master water shut-off valve is located. If a pipe bursts, this could save water and prevent damage.
5. Be a leak detective! Check all hoses, connectors, and faucets regularly for leaks and fix them right away. Leaky faucets may saturate a septic system causing it to fail or result in higher electric bills for private well owners.
6. Winterize outdoor spigots when temperatures dip below freezing to prevent pipes from leaking or bursting.
7. Use a commercial car wash that recycles water. Or, use a hose nozzle and wash your car on the lawn, then you'll water your grass at the same time.
8. Wash your pets outdoors, in an area of your lawn that needs water.
9. When cleaning out fish tanks, give the nutrient-rich water to your non-edible plants.
10. Use a broom instead of a hose to clean patios, sidewalks and driveways.
11. Install a rain barrel to collect rainwater for garden use.
12. Use a pool cover to help keep your pool clean, reduce chemical use and reduce water loss through evaporation.

# Kitchen Waste



Waste Type	Proper Disposal	Waste Facts, Safer Alternatives & Tips
Aerosol Cans	HHW	Partially used aerosol are HHW. For empty aerosol cans, remove the tip and throw in trash. Use non-aerosol containers, such as pump spray, roll on, or liquid.
Aluminum Cleaner	HHW	Place item in pot with equal parts of white vinegar and water, bring to boil, let stand overnight. Rinse and dry.
Ammonia-based Cleaner	HHW	Mix 1 qt. warm water with 1 tsp. borax, and 1 tsp. liquid soap. If soaking baked on food, try filling the dish with 3 tbsp. baking soda mixed with 1 qt. water.
Fats, Oils & Grease	Trash	Collect Fats, Oils & Grease (FOG) in a disposable, leak proof, bag or container, and place in trash to protect sewer pipes.
Floor Care Products with Solvent	HHW	For vinyl floors, mix ½ cup white vinegar or ¼ cup borax with 1-gallon warm water. For wood floors, mix ¼ cup oil soap with 1-gallon warm water. For carpets and upholstery wash immediately with cold water or club soda.
Food Waste	Green Bin Compost	Compost food wastes to enhance the soil in your garden. See Master Composters/Recyclers pg. 27
Furniture Polish	HHW	Mix 1-part lemon juice to 1-part olive or vegetable oil, apply with rag. Or use oil soap to clean and a soft cloth to polish. Rub a paste of salt and vegetable oil on wood furniture to remove water stains, wipe off.
Oven Cleaner (Lye Base)	HHW	Mix 3 Tbsp. baking soda with 1 qt. warm water. Sponge on. Don't let the substance touch electric elements. Wait 20 minutes, and clean. For tough stains, scrub with non-steel-wool pads and baking soda. Caution: Some oven surfaces are harmed by abrasives. Purchase a self-cleaning oven.
Plastic Bags	Grocery Stores	Never put plastic bags in the recycling bin. Take re-useable grocery bags when you go shopping.

# Kitchen Water Saving Tips



## Drinking Water:

1. Designate one glass for your drinking water each day or refill a water bottle. This will cut down on washing glasses.
2. Keep a pitcher of drinking water in the refrigerator instead of running the tap.

## Dish Washing:

3. Fill one basin with wash water and the other with rinse water when washing dishes by hand. Don't let the water run.
4. Scrape then soak pots and pans to remove food residue.
5. Cut back on rinsing dishes if your dishwasher is new. Newer models clean more thoroughly. Energy Star dishwashers save water and energy. Visit the [Consortium for Energy Efficiency website](#) to compare water use between models.
6. Run only full loads in the dishwasher. Save up to 1,000 gallons a month.

## Food Preparation

7. Select the proper pan size for cooking. Large pans may require more cooking water than necessary.
8. For food safety and water savings - defrost food in the refrigerator - not under running water.
9. Wash fruits and vegetables in a pan of water and then use it to water plants.
10. Use the garbage disposal sparingly. Compost food waste and save gallons every time.

# Lawn & Garden Waste



Your gardening practices have everything to do with water quality and conservation. The chemical and fertilizer products you use on your landscape could end up in our drinking water through runoff or leaching. Leaching is a problem in the Spokane Valley, due to the permeable soils that overlie the Aquifer. Apply lawn chemicals sparingly and never fertilize right before it rains. If you over water, the chemicals and fertilizers are transported down through the soils, into storm drains and into the groundwater supply, instead of being taken up by plants. Do not use chemicals near open water such as streams, rivers or lakes.

**Always ask yourself, as you’re applying products to your landscape, “Would I want to drink this?”**

Type of Waste	Proper Disposal	Waste Facts, Safer Alternatives & Tips
Fertilizer	HHW	Use compost, manure, bone meal, fish emulsion, mulch or other organic amendments that release nutrients slowly. Avoid fertilizing or apply smaller amounts throughout the year instead of one large application once a year. Learn how to compost your food wastes to enhance the soil in your garden. Master Gardeners pg. xx
Fungicide	HHW	Remove / dispose of diseased plants, leaves, and branches.
Herbicides Moss & Weed Killer	HHW	Keep your plants healthy so that chemicals are not as necessary. Choose disease, pest and drought resistant plants. <b>Weeds:</b> Use mulch or fabric covers to prevent weeds or pull weeds manually. <b>Moss:</b> Thatch and fertilize. Infrequent and heavy lawn watering encourages rooting and will help dry out moss. Thin trees to reduce shade.



LAWN & YARD

## Lawn & Garden Waste continued

Pesticides & Insecticides	HHW	Choose the least toxic compounds such as horticultural oils, soaps and botanical insecticides. <b>Aphids:</b> wash plants with soapy water or introduce Lady Bugs. <b>Ants:</b> Place cucumber peels or slices at the ants' point of entry. Bitter cucumbers work best. Dry, crushed mint leaves or cloves also work as ant deterrents. <b>Mosquitos:</b> Thai lemon grass plants contain citronella and are a natural and effective repellent. <b>Flies:</b> Small sachets of mint, bay leaves, cloves, eucalyptus oil or sweet basil can be placed where flies are attracted. <b>Slugs &amp; Snails:</b> Place small trays with beer in affected areas. They will be attracted to the beer and unable to escape the tray. <b>Rodents:</b> Use a mouse trap
Pet Waste	Trash	Scoop, double bag and throw in trash, never in yard waste or compost.
Pool Water	Drain to lawn	Allow chlorine to dissipate for one week. Then drain pool water and backwash slowly onto your yard; NEVER in the sewer, street or storm drain.
Power Equipment	Air Quality	Consider switching to manual or electric yard and garden tools to do the work without the exhaust. Use leaf blowers only for blowing leaves into piles on the lawn. Please do not use them to blow dust, dirt and debris from sidewalks or driveways.
Recreational Fires	Air Quality	Wood burning fire pits, fire bowls, chimeneas are allowed. It's important to note before you purchase one of these devices that there are restrictions for their use. Spokane Regional Clean Air Agency 509-477-4727
Rock Salt & Deicer	HHW	Clear snow from sidewalks and driveways before it turns to ice. Use tube sand in icy areas like steps and walk ways.

# Lawn & Garden Water Saving Tips



## Landscaping Design:

1. Plant less lawn area or remove lawn and replace with mulch, trees, shrubs, groundcovers and/or perennials.
2. Choose drought tolerant fescue/bluegrass mix turf, plants and groundcovers that require less water and crowd out weeds.
3. Place a 2"-4" layer of mulch around plants and trees.

## Landscaping Irrigation:

4. Water in the morning or evening so less water evaporates.
5. Set your sprinklers to deliver large drops of water instead of a fine mist that evaporates quickly.
6. Set your sprinklers so they don't water impermeable surfaces such as concrete, asphalt or compacted ground.
7. Install drip irrigation for trees, shrubs, groundcovers, and flowers.
8. Adjust your watering frequency and length based on temperature and rainfall. For sprinkler systems, install rain shut-off devices that will automatically shut off your sprinklers when it rains or weather-based irrigation equipment that adjusts run times based on real-time data.
9. Increase the organic matter in your soil. This will help hold water longer, reducing the need to water so frequently.
10. When the kids want to cool off, use the sprinkler in an area where your lawn needs it most.

## Landscaping Maintenance

11. Adjust your lawn mower to the height of 2.5 to 3 inches. Taller grass shades roots and holds soil moisture better than short grass.
12. Leave lawn clippings on your grass, this cools the ground and holds in moisture.
13. Apply the minimum fertilizer needed. Fertilizers promote plant growth and increase water consumption.
14. Aerate your lawn periodically. Holes every six inches will allow water to reach the roots, rather than run off the surface.

# Office Waste

**NO electronics in the Trash or Blue Recycle Bins.**



<b>Waste Type</b>	<b>Proper Disposal</b>	<b>Waste Facts, Safer Alternatives &amp; Tips</b>
Cell Phone	WD	Drop off for recycling at Best Buy, Staples, RadioShack, Target, and many more. Visit the Spokane Waste Directory for locations.
Computer, Laptop, Tablet	E-Cycle WD	E-Cycle Washington is a free program that makes it easy for Washington residents to recycle their broken, obsolete or worn-out electronics. Electronic products contain valuable materials that can be recycled and toxic chemicals that should be kept out of the landfill. Visit the Spokane Waste Directory to find the nearest ecycle or donation drop-off sites such as Goodwill, Value Village,
Keyboard, Mouse, Printer	WD	Recycle at Best Buy, Goodwill, Staples, Office Depot and many more. Visit the Spokane Waste Directory for locations.
Shredded Paper	Trash or WD	Keep it out of the blue recycle bin. It is the worst contaminant at the recycling center. Reuse it as packing material, animal bedding or compost.
Toner Cartridge	WD	Recycle at Best Buy, Staples, Office Depot. Visit the Spokane Waste Directory to find locations.

# Remodeling & Construction Waste



Waste Type	Proper Disposal	Waste Facts, Safer Alternatives & Tips
Asbestos Containing Materials	Graham Rd	Remodeling, demolition and repair projects can result in the releases of harmful, invisible asbestos fibers. Wear protective equipment. Property owners are responsible for proper removal and disposal. For proper labelling and disposal guide books call SRCAA 509-477-4727.
Caulk & Tile Adhesive	Graham Rd	Homes built between 1950 & 1970 may contain toxic substances like PCBs in caulks & tile adhesive. Minimize exposure by using facemasks & gloves in demolition.
Fluorescent Light Ballast	HHW	May contain toxic PCBs. Take to a Household Hazardous Waste drop site. Install LED lights.
Lead-Pipes and Solder	HHW	Lead was banned in 1986 for plumbing systems. Replace lead pipes with red & blue PEX tubing.
Paint	HHW	<b>Oil and lead based</b> paints go to HHW. Small amounts of <b>Latex</b> paint (1" or less) allow to solidify and put in trash. Use paint up or give it away.
Paint Stripper with Solvent	HHW	Alkali type paint removers are available. A trisodium phosphate solution (1-pound to 1-gallon hot water) may do the job. Wear rubber gloves! Brush on, wait 30 minutes, then scrape off. Wet sand to remove lead-based paint. Follow HUD instructions for lead paint.
Paint Thinner	HHW	Allow paint particles to settle; strain the paint thinner and reuse. Choose latex paints and stains that clean with water.
Smoke Detector	Return to MFG	Ionization type contains radioactive materials. Return to manufacturer for disposal. Install nonionizing, photoelectric-type detectors.
Thermostat	HHW	Older electric thermostats may contain mercury. See WD



# Workshop Waste



Waste Type	Proper Disposal	Waste Facts, Safer Alternatives & Tips
Adhesives & Glue	HHW	If solvent is dry, put in garbage. If liquid, bring to HHW drop site. Choose water-based glues.
Batteries	HHW	Avoid batteries containing mercury or cadmium (NiCd and button-cell batteries) Use rechargeable or alkaline batteries. Use fewer battery-operated products.
Fiberglass - Epoxy Resins	HHW	Search products that meet the Safer Choice Standard <a href="https://www.epa.gov/saferchoice/products">https://www.epa.gov/saferchoice/products</a>
Fluorescent, CFL or HID	HHW	Replace fluorescent, CFL or HID bulbs with LED lights. For other locations see <a href="http://www.LightRecycle.org">www.LightRecycle.org</a>
Gun Cleaner	HHW	Search products that meet the Safer Choice Standard <a href="https://www.epa.gov/saferchoice/products">https://www.epa.gov/saferchoice/products</a>
Kerosene oil	HHW	Use LED portable lanterns.
Lighter Fluid	HHW	Use wooden or paper matches
Pool & Spa Chemicals	HHW	Search products that meet the Safer Choice Standard <a href="https://www.epa.gov/saferchoice/products">https://www.epa.gov/saferchoice/products</a>
Varnish	HHW	Use shellac, tung oil, or linseed oil.
VOC Storage	Air Quality	Choose low or zero VOC (Volatile Organic Compound) containing products (paints and solvents). Cap gasoline to reduce evaporation.
Wood Preservative	HHW	Use borax-based products. Never use creosote, arsenic, or pentachlorophenol. When possible, use decay resistant woods, such as cedar, redwood, or “plastic wood”.

# Transfer Stations Make Proper Disposal Easy

**Free** Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) and Recyclables drop off.

**Fees apply** for Yard / Food Waste and Trash

Transfer Stations provide clean and convenient, one-stop drops for recyclables, household hazardous waste (HHW), yard / food waste and trash. Look through your home and garage or shed for the inescapable assortment of cans, bottles and boxes of leftover household cleaners, oil-based paints, stain removal products, and automotive fluids of all sorts. If used in any other way than for what they were intended, they are considered hazardous materials, and could harm our drinking water.

Secure the entire load in your vehicle or trailer. Vehicles arriving with unsecured loads at public or private transfer stations in Spokane County can be charged an “Unsecured Load” fee.



**Spokane County Regional Solid Waste System: Hotline 509-477-6800.**

[www.SpokaneCountySolidWaste.org](http://www.SpokaneCountySolidWaste.org)

**Spokane County** North and Valley Transfer Stations are open to all Spokane County residents 7 days a week, except holidays (New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Fourth of July, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, and Christmas).

**Winter Hours:** November 1 through March 31, 8:30am to 4:00pm

**Seasonal Hours:** April 1 through October 31, 8:30am to 5:00pm

HHW is accepted on Saturday and Sunday only.

**City of Spokane** Waste to Energy, HHW and Recycling facilities are open seven days a week 7:30am -5pm, except holidays, for **all** waste types.

**Kootenai County** Transfer Stations are open to the public and waste hauling companies seven days a week. Entry gate opens at 8:00 a.m. and closes to the public at 4:55 p.m. every day. Be unloaded and out of the facility by 5:00 p.m. each day.



### North County

HHW / Recycling / Yard & Food / Trash  
N. 22123 Elk-Chattaroy Road  
Colbert, WA 99005  
HHW only Sat & Sun



### Valley Transfer Station

HHW / Recycling / Yard & Food /Trash  
3941 N. Sullivan Road  
Spokane Valley, WA 99216  
HHW only Sat & Sun



### Waste to Energy Facility (WTE)

HHW /Recycling / Yard & Food /Trash  
2900 S. Geiger Blvd.  
Spokane, WA 99224 Call 311.

**WTE Facilities** are open seven days a week 7:30am - 5pm, except holidays, for **all** waste types.

SpokaneCity.org



### University (Sunshine) Transfer Station

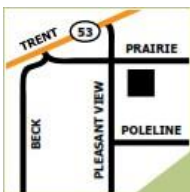
HHW /Recycling / Yard & Food /Trash  
3941 N. University Road  
Spokane Valley, WA 99206 Call 509-924-5678  
Seven days a week from 7:30am to 5:00pm, except holidays for **all** waste types.



### Kootenai County

#### Ramsey Road Transfer Station

HHW / Recycling / Garbage  
3650 N. Ramsey Road  
Coeur d'Alene, ID 83815



### Kootenai County

#### Prairie Transfer Station

HHW / Recycling / Garbage  
15580 W. Prairie Avenue

# Quick Reference Guide – Recycling

## Recycling Center

### No-cost drop-off:

Items must be sorted for deposit  
in separate containers.

### Newspapers, Phone Books, Magazines & Catalogs

- Clean and dry only

### Cardboard & Paper Bags (clean, dry and flattened)

- Corrugated cardboard and packaging
- Uncoated ("non-shiny") paper bags only, any color
- ⊘ **NO** pizza boxes or waxed cardboard

### Other Paper

- Clean & uncoated (*staples and paper clips OK*)
- Paperboard - cereal boxes, shoe boxes, soda boxes, paper tubes, etc.
- Paperback books
- Junk mail & office paper
- Spiral notebooks

### Not Accepted

- ⊘ Plastic bags
- ⊘ Shredded paper
- ⊘ Milk cartons
- ⊘ Lids

Materials should be empty,  
clean and dry.



### Aluminum Cans

- Rinsed & clean, no labels

### Tin Cans

- Rinsed & clean, labels OK

### Glass

- Bottles & jars only
- Rinsed, empty & clean, labels OK

### ⊘ NO

window glass  
mirrors  
light bulbs  
ovenware or ceramics  
drinking glasses  
eyeglasses

### Ferrous Metals (magnetic)

- Tin Plate
- Steel
- Cast Iron

### Non-Ferrous Metals (non magnetic)

- Aluminum (siding, screen doors, foil & pie plates)
- Brass
- Copper
- Stainless
- Lead

# Quick Reference Guide – Recycling

## Recycling Center

**Plastics** must be sorted into separate containers, no larger than 5 gallon.

- Empty, rinsed & clean; labels OK
- 4 oz size up to 5 gallon

### Code 1 Bottles & Jars

- Water and soda bottles, etc.



### Code 2 Bottles & Jars

- Milk jugs, shampoo and liquid detergent bottles, etc.



### Other Plastic Bin

- Bottles & Jars - most codes 3-7
- Tubs - all codes (*yogurt, butter, dairy, produce*)
- Clamshells (*bakery, produce*)
- Cups & Trays
- Buckets (*no metal*)
- Nursery pots - clean, no larger than 5 gallon

### Not Accepted

-  NO Plastic bags or film
-  NO Styrofoam®
-  NO Motor oil or chemical containers
-  NO Lids
-  NO Garbage cans

Questions on where to dispose of items not listed here?  
[SpokaneWasteDirectory.org](http://SpokaneWasteDirectory.org)

# Quick Reference Guide- HHW


## Household Hazardous Waste

### What To Bring

#### Accepted as HHW (no-cost drop-off):

- Aerosol cans (*if not empty*)
- Automotive batteries
- Automotive liquids - antifreeze, brake fluid, gasoline, oil (*5 gallons or less containers; 15 gallons maximum; do not mix*) 
- Batteries: button, lantern, alkaline, lithium ion, rechargeable 
- Fire extinguishers
- Fluorescent lighting: CFL bulbs, metal halide and high pressure sodium lamps – limit of 10 (whole only)
- Glues and adhesives
- Household cleaners - ammonia, bleach, disinfectants, oven & toilet cleaners, etc.
- Mercury containing products - thermometers, thermostats
- Oil-based paints (latex paint should be dried and placed in regular garbage) 
- Pesticides and garden chemicals
- Paint thinners and solvents
- Pool and spa supplies
- Propane tanks (up to 5 gallon or call, 625-6580)
- Road flares

#### Sharps (needles, syringes, lancets):

- From **personal use only**
- Seal in a puncture-resistant container (*coffee can, liquid detergent jug, bleach bottle*)—**Please no milk or soda jugs.** 
- Label and bring to the HHW for **no cost disposal.**
- **Commercial sharps** may be disposed of by appointment only. Fees apply. Call 625.6580 to make an appointment.

### IMPORTANT

- ▶ No mercury-containing lights may be knowingly placed in waste or recycling containers for disposal. To learn of other local collection locations, go to [www.LightRecycleWA.org](http://www.LightRecycleWA.org)



# Quick Reference Guide – HHW

## Household Hazardous Waste

### What **NOT** To Bring

#### Not accepted as HHW:

- ⊘ Biological wastes
- ⊘ Commercially generated hazardous waste
- ⊘ Computers, monitors, televisions, DVD players, and e-readers. For locations, go to [ecyclewashington.org](http://ecyclewashington.org) or call **1.800.RECYCLE**
- ⊘ Containers of HHW over 5 gallons
- ⊘ Empty aerosol cans
- ⊘ Empty containers – treat as garbage or recycle
- ⊘ Explosives – (call local law enforcement)
- ⊘ Garbage – haul to the transfer stations or Waste to Energy facility.
- ⊘ Medications (see page 7)
- ⊘ Radioactive waste
- ⊘ Tires (*residential*) – treat as garbage.  
Large loads, call for rates and disposal appointment: **625.6580**.
- ⊘ Latex paint



### Reuse Table

Paints, hobby chemicals and garden supplies often retain usefulness for years and can be reused. The HHW area has a **Reuse Table** where **some** products are made available at no charge to Spokane County residents.



Questions on where to dispose of items not listed here?  
[SpokaneWasteDirectory.org](http://SpokaneWasteDirectory.org)

# Quick Reference Guide – Yard & Food Waste

## Clean Green (Yard and Food Waste)

### Rates Apply:

#### Clean Green includes:

- Leaves
- Weeds
- Brush
- Prunings
- Grass clippings
- Beauty bark
- Pine needles and pine cones
- Sod less than 3" thick  
(shake out rocks & dirt)
- Woody materials up to 3" in diameter and 6' in length

#### Food scraps and food-soiled paper are also Clean Green:

- Meat, fats, fish, poultry, bones, eggshells
- Leftovers and table scraps
- Non-liquid dairy products
- Vegetable and fruit trimmings, raw or cooked
- Non-shiny, food-soiled paper towels, napkins, plates and cups
- Paper coffee filters and tea bags
- Cardboard pizza boxes
- Paper pulp cartons from eggs and berries

**Questions on current disposal rates and method of payment?  
Call 625.6580**



#### Materials not allowed in Clean Green:

- ⊘ **NO** glass
- ⊘ **NO** regular or compostable plastic bags
- ⊘ **NO** grease or liquids
- ⊘ **NO** plastic-coated or "shiny" paper containers
- ⊘ **NO** pet waste, kitty litter or manure
- ⊘ **NO** dirt, rocks, brick, or concrete
- ⊘ **NO** dimensional wood, lumber, plywood, particle board or plastic/composite lumber

**Clean Green = Compost**





# Quick Reference Guide – Trash

## Garbage

### Rates Apply:

Questions on current disposal rates and method of payment?  
Call 625.6580



### Materials Not Accepted On Tipping Floor

- ⊘ NO Asbestos
- ⊘ NO Lead
- ⊘ NO Liquids
- ⊘ NO Explosives
- ⊘ NO Radioactive substances
- ⊘ NO Sharps & medical waste
- ⊘ NO Hazardous materials
- ⊘ NO Uncontained animal feces
- ⊘ NO Large animal carcasses over 15 lbs (call 625-6580 for special disposal appointment)
- ⊘ NO Propane tanks larger than 5 gallons

- **Mixed loads** - Must be weighed separately or will be charged at the garbage disposal rate. (i.e., yard waste, recyclables or garbage in one vehicle)
- **Appliances** - refrigerators, freezers, washing machines and other "white goods" are charged the garbage disposal rate. Refrigerant is recovered, hazardous components removed and the metal recycled.
- **Tires** - up to four tires allowed in a load of residential garbage; over-sized tires must be cut into thirds. **Commercial loads** of more than four tires can be disposed of by appointment only. Call 625-6580 to arrange.
- **Medications** - Recommended disposal:
  1. Make medicine unusable (add wet coffee grounds to moisten pills; mix liquids with cat litter, dirt or cayenne pepper).
  2. Remove any identifying information from containers.
  3. Put in garbage.**NEVER** flush away medications in toilets or pour down drains. Medicines can contaminate water supplies, lakes, rivers and streams.

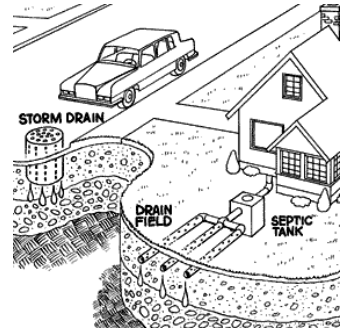
# A-Z Index of Waste Types

<b>Waste Type</b>	<b>Pg.</b>
Aerosol Cans (empty)	9
Adhesives & glues	16
Aluminum Cleaner with Acid	9
Ammonia-based Cleaner	9
Asbestos Containing Materials	15
Auto Batteries	7
Auto Maintenance: Antifreeze, Automatic Transmission Fluid (used), Brake Fluid, Carburetor Cleaner, Diesel Fuel, Gasoline and Used Motor Oil	7
Batteries	16
Car Wash Water	7
Cat Litter	3
Caulk & Tile Adhesive	15
Cell Phone	14
Chlorine Bleach	5
Chrome Polish	7
Computer, Laptop, Tablet	14
Disinfectant	3
Drain Opener with Lye	3
Dryer Sheets	5
Engine Degreaser	7
Fats, Oils and Grease (FOG)	9
Fertilizer	11
Fiberglass & Epoxy Resins	16
Flea Powder	5
Floor Care Products with Solvent	9
Fluorescent Light Ballast	15
Fluorescent Lights, CFL or HID Bulbs	16
Flushables	3
Food Waste	9
Fungicide	11
Furniture Polish	9

<b>Waste Type</b>	<b>Pg.</b>
Gun Cleaner	16
Herbicides, Moss & Weed Killer	11
Kerosene oil	16
Keyboard, Mouse, Printer	14
Lead Pipes & Solder	15
Lighter Fluid	16
Medicine	3
Mercury Thermometer	3
Mercury Thermostats	15
Moth Balls & Moth Flakes	5
Oven Cleaner (lye base)	9
Paint – Latex, Oil & Lead Based	15
Paint Stripper with Solvent	15
Paint Thinner	15
Pesticides / Insecticides	12
Pet Waste	12
Plastic Bags	9
Pool Water	12
Pool & Spa Chemicals	16
Power Equipment	12
Recreational Fires	12
Rock Salt - Deicer	12
Rust Remover	7
Sharps, Needles & Syringes	3
Shredded Paper	14
Smoke Detector	15
Solvents	5
Spot & Stain Remover	5
Tires	7
Toilet, Tub & Tile Cleaner	3
Toner Cartridge	14
Varnish	16
Volatile Organic Compound (VOC)	16
Wood Preservative	16

# Septic System Maintenance

We live and work over our sole source of drinking water... some of the cleanest and most affordable water in the world. Help take care of it. Inspect and maintain your septic system and drain field. **Here are things you can do.**



1. Get regular inspections and maintenance. Call the Spokane Regional Health District for septic system inspections 509-324-1581. The WA state Board of Health rule for on-site sewage systems requires the homeowner to do a full evaluation, every 1-3 years, for a system consisting of a septic tank and a gravity drain field. All other systems must have a yearly evaluation (WAC 246-272A-0270). You may not need to pump every time, but it's good to budget as though you will.
2. Choose a date or time of the year for inspection that's easy to remember and mark it on the calendar.
3. Keep your system functioning. Know what you can and can't flush or pour down the drain. No pet waste, medications, grease or toxic chemicals. Don't use the garbage disposal or use it sparingly.
4. Watch for cues that your tank is nearing its capacity, or your system is failing. If you see liquid surfacing in the drain field or backing up into drains in the house, get a licensed plumber or septic hauler to check it right away. Pump the system as needed.
5. Keep trees at least 30 feet from edge of drain field to keep their roots from invading. And never drive over the system.
6. Conserve water. Too much water can cause solids to escape your tank and plug your drain field.
7. Visit [SpokaneWasteDirectory.org](http://SpokaneWasteDirectory.org) to find septic pumpers and haulers.

## **Municipal Contact Information**

**City of Airway Heights** – cawh.org, 509.244.5578

**City of Cheney** – cityofcheney.org, 509.498.9209

**City of Liberty Lake** – libertylakewa.gov, 509.755.6700

**City of Millwood** – millwoodwa.us, 509.924.0960

**City of Spokane** – my.spokanecity.org, 509.625.7900

**City of Spokane Valley** – spokanevalley.org, 509.720.5000

**Spokane County** – spokanecounty.org, 509.477.3600

## **Other Assistance**

**Consortium for Energy Efficiency** - library.cee1.org

**Energy Star** - energystar.gov

**IDA<sub>H2</sub>O Master Water Stewards** 208-292-1287 jekins@uidaho.edu

**Spokane Aquifer Joint Board** – spokaneaquifer.org, 509.847.4337

**Spokane Conservation District Smartscape** [spokansmartscape.org](http://spokansmartscape.org)

**Spokane Regional Clean Air Agency** – spokanecleanair.org,  
509.477.4727

**Spokane Regional Health District** – srhd.org, 509.324.1560 ext. 3

**Spokane River Forum** – spokaneriver.net, 509.535.7084

**Spokane Riverkeeper** – spokaneriverkeeper.org, 509.835.5211

**Washington State Department of Ecology** – ecy.wa.gov,  
509.329.3400

**Washington State Department of Health** Drinking  
Water Division, doh.wa.gov/ehp/dw

Daytime – 509.329.2100, After Hours – 1.877.481.4901

**WaterSense** - epa.gov/watersense

**WSU Master Composters/Recyclers** - 509.477.2181  
mastergardener@spokanecounty.org

# Contact Information

**In an emergency call 911 for Fire or Police.**

## **City of Spokane 311**

**Spokane County Solid Waste Hotline – 509.477.6800**

Spills to Sewers Daytime 509.477.1984, After Hours 509.459.9330

## **Outside the City of Spokane**

Ecology 24-Hour Spill Response – 509.329.3400

# Waste Disposal

**City of Spokane Solid Waste Collection – 509.755.2489**

[spokanecity.org/solidwaste](http://spokanecity.org/solidwaste), in the city call 311.

**Clean Harbors - 509-535-3847** Small Business and residents with HHW quantities over 5 gallons – By appointment only on Saturday and Sunday. Appointment times: 9:00-10:00 am and 2:00 -3:00 pm at North County and Valley Transfer Stations. Fees apply. Credit Card or Check only.

**E-Cycle Washington** – [1800recycle.wa.gov](http://1800recycle.wa.gov), 1-800-RECYCLE

**Light Recycle Washington** – [lightrecycle.org](http://lightrecycle.org)

**Recycle Washington** – 1.877.592.2972

**Spokane County Regional Solid Waste System** – 509.477.6800

[spokanecountysolidwaste.org](http://spokanecountysolidwaste.org)

**Spokane Waste to Energy** – 509.625.6580 [spokanewastetoenergy.org](http://spokanewastetoenergy.org),

**Sunshine Disposal** – [sunshinedisposal.com](http://sunshinedisposal.com), 509.924.5678

**Waste Management** – [wm.com](http://wm.com) 509.924.9400

Wondering what to do with your waste?

The logo features a stylized landscape with three green pine trees on a green hill. A blue river flows from the trees towards the right. The text "Got Waste?" is written in large blue letters, and "Put it in the right place!" is written in green below it. At the bottom, the website address "Visit SpokaneWasteDirectory.org" is written in white on a green background.

**Got Waste?**  
Put it in the right place!

Visit [SpokaneWasteDirectory.org](http://SpokaneWasteDirectory.org)