

# Frequently Asked Questions

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## **What do I do with leftover paint?**

Paint and varnish are the most common household products that become household hazardous waste. There are two types of paints and varnishes: oil based and water based (latex). Latex paint is not considered hazardous and is NOT collected at Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) events.

**Oil paint disposal:** Oil based paint, turpentine, paint remover, paint thinner, shellac, stains & varnishes, furniture stripper and finisher and wall paper cement are all accepted at Northampton County Household Hazardous Waste events.

**Latex paint disposal:** Latex Paint is water based and NOT considered hazardous waste. It is NOT accepted at Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) events.

Unopened cans of latex paint can be donated to:

Habitat for Humanity ReStore  
1053 Grape Street  
Whitehall, PA 18052  
Telephone: (610) 776-7499

To dispose of open containers of latex paint:

How to solidify water based (latex) paint: When solidifying paint, the same safety precautions should be taken as for painting walls and other surfaces. (i.e.: wear gloves, don't smoke, keep area ventilated)

For smaller quantities: Take an absorbent material such as kitty litter, sand, saw-dust, newspaper and add to the paint. Stir paint. The paint will absorb to these materials and

speed along the drying process. The drying time depends on the amount of paint you have, and the amount of absorbent material you add.

For Large Quantities: Dump paint into an old bucket or trash bag lined cardboard box. Add absorbent material and stir. You may want to add absorbent material first to ease the mixing process.

For all methods, to ensure latex paint is dry, plunge a screwdriver or other tool into the paint. If it does not penetrate, paint is dry. Once water based paint (latex) is dry it is safe to throw in the trash.

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## How do I dispose of old electronics?

Computers and many electronics contain heavy metals and other materials that should be recycled if possible. Below are a few options for computer and electronics recycling.

1) Check with the manufacturer or retail outlet to see if a take-back, drop off, donation or mail-back program is available.

2) Find a local drop-off location:

<b>Company Name</b>	<b>Contact</b>	<b>Accepts</b>
Best Buy	4413 Birkland Place Easton, PA 18045 (610) 991-4000	Cell Phones Computers & Peripherals Televisions & Peripherals Home Electronics
Staples	3764 Easton Nazareth Highway Easton, PA 18045 (610) 258-6344	Cell Phones Computers & Peripherals Home Electronics
Com-Cycle	2330 26 <sup>th</sup> St SW Allentown, PA 18103 (610) 433-3329	Cell Phones Computers & Peripherals Home Electronics
Grand Central Landfill & Hauling	910 W. Pennsylvania Avenue Pen Argyl, PA 18072 (800) 621-2100	Cell Phones Computers & Peripherals Televisions & Peripherals Home Electronics
Free Cycle	1120 S. 25 <sup>th</sup> Street Easton, PA 18042	Cell Phones Computers & Peripherals

	(484) 866-0927	Televisions & Peripherals Home Electronics
Easton Iron & Metal	1100 Bushkill Drive Easton, PA 18042 (610) 250-6300	Cell Phones Computers & Peripherals Televisions & Peripherals Home Electronics Refrigerators, Freezers, Air conditioners & dehumidifiers

3) Bring to a Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) event.

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## What can I do with old batteries?

### Alkaline and Zinc Carbon Batteries

**(A, AA, AAA, C, D, 9V)**

These batteries are deemed 'safe' to throw in the trash by the Pennsylvania DEP, but this does not mean that these types of batteries can't be recycled.

Drop Off:

AERC Recycling Solutions  
2591 Mitchell Avenue  
Allentown, PA 18103  
(610) 797-7608

### Button Cell Batteries

**(Silver Oxide, Lithium, Alkaline)**

Button Cell Batteries have numbers on the top of them. Button cell batteries with numbers that start with an "L" can be safely thrown away or recycled as alkaline or lithium batteries, above. Those with identification numbers that begin with an "S" contain mercury, and can be taken to any HHW event for recycling.

### Lead Acid Batteries

**(Car, Boat, Motorcycle, Emergency Lighting, Alarm Systems etc.)**

Contact your local auto service center, or the battery manufacturer. Lead Acid Batteries can be taken to any HHW event for recycling.

### Rechargeable Batteries

**(Cell phone, Laptop, Camera, Power Tool, Camcorder etc.)**

Most rechargeable batteries consist of the following:  
Nickel Cadmium (Ni-Cd)

**Nickel Metal (Ni-MH)**

**Lithium Ion (Li-ion)**

**Nickel Zinc (Ni-Zn)**

Rechargeable batteries are widely accepted for free recycling at drop off locations throughout the county at most electronics retail stores.

All rechargeable Batteries can be taken to any HHW event for recycling.

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**Where can I take gasoline and used motor oil?**

All automotive items and materials including the list below are acceptable at Northampton County HHW events:

- Grease and Rust Solvents
- Fuel Additives
- Motor Oil
- Antifreeze
- Gasoline
- Carburetor Cleaners
- Transmission/Brake Fluid
- Lead Acid Batteries
- Antifreeze and Motor Oil

When dropping off motor oil, please make sure it does not contain additives, is not contaminated in any way or mixed with gasoline, anti-freeze or any other fluid. DO NOT leave motor oil on the premises when establishment is closed.

Drop-off:

**Company**

Advance Auto Parts

**Contact**

1200 Bushkill Drive  
Easton, PA 18042  
(610) 252-6801

**Accepts**

Motor Oil  
Antifreeze  
Car fluids  
Oil Filters  
Transmission Fluid

Advance Auto Parts

2633 Easton Avenue  
Bethlehem, PA 18017  
(610) 861-3699

Motor Oil  
Antifreeze  
Car fluids  
Oil Filters  
Transmission Fluid

Firestone Complete Auto  
Care

3804 Easton Nazareth  
Highway

Motor Oil  
Car Batteries

Lower Nazareth, PA 18045  
(610) 759-5701

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## Where can I take light bulbs for recycling?

Compact Fluorescent Light bulbs or CFL's are a great way to reduce your electricity bill while lessening your carbon footprint. However, these types of bulbs contain a small amount of mercury and should be handled carefully and disposed of properly at all times.

Intact CFL bulbs can be taken to any **Home Depot** or **Lowe's** stores for free proper disposal and recycling. CFL bulbs can also be taken to any County sponsored Household Hazardous Waste Event for free disposal and recycling.

Please DO NOT throw them in the trash.

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