

Hazardous Waste

Hazardous Waste materials have properties that make them dangerous or potentially harmful to human health or the environment. Hazardous Wastes can be liquids, solids, contained gases, or sludges. They can be the by-products of manufacturing processes or simply discarded commercial products, like cleaning fluids or pesticides. A Hazardous Waste exhibits one or a combination of the following characteristics: ignitability, corrosivity, reactivity, or toxicity.

Conditionally Exempt Small Quantity Generators (CESQGs)

- ♦ Produce less than 220 lbs or 28 gallons - approximately $\frac{1}{2}$ of a 55 gallon drum - of hazardous waste in any given month; or no more than 2.2 pounds of acutely hazardous waste in any calendar month
- ♦ Never accumulate more than 2,200 lbs. or approximately 5 drums of hazardous waste on your property
- ♦ Can apply to utilize Tompkins County's permanent Household Hazardous Waste facility to dispose of its hazardous waste in a cost-effective, environmentally-sound manner
- ♦ For more information or to obtain an application form, call 273-4496

The following recommendations are designed to help a business manage and reduce its hazardous waste generation. For more information, please call 273-4496.

Fluorescent Bulbs

- ♦ Manage bulbs in a manner so that breakage is minimized
 - Save empty fluorescent bulb boxes to store spent bulbs in
 - Label storage boxes "Used Lamps" and with an accumulation start date
- ♦ Purchase low-mercury (green end cap) lamps
- ♦ Recycle bulbs by contacting a certified recycler or through Tompkins County Solid Waste's program; call 273-4496 for more information

Batteries

- ♦ Invest in rechargeable batteries and a charger for dry cell household batteries (some battery chargers are solar-powered)
- ♦ Increase the life of dry cell batteries by storing them safely in a cool, dry place
- ♦ Purchase equipment that does not require batteries
- ♦ Set-up your own recycling program through www.rbrc.org
- ♦ Rechargeable batteries can be recycled; call 273-4496 for more information

Computers

- ♦ Computers can be recycled at Tompkins County's RSWC; call 273-4496 for more details.
- ♦ Consider renting or leasing equipment instead of buying outright
- ♦ Upgrade portions of a system instead of the entire computer and look to buy products that can be partially upgraded
- ♦ Donate unwanted computers to local agencies
- ♦ Computers must be recycled under NYS c7 scrap metal exemption or disposed of as hazardous waste

