

## Directions to Eco-Depot

### Location

Central Landfill, 65 Shun Pike, Johnston, Rhode Island

### Eco-Depot Hours

Scheduled Saturdays: 8 am-12 noon at the Central Landfill and 8 am to 1 pm off-site.

By Appointment: Call 942-1430 x241 to schedule.

### From Providence

Take Rte. 6 West to 295 South. Take Exit 5, Resource Recovery's exit, bear right and follow for 0.5 miles. Entrance to Central Landfill Complex is on the right.

### Traveling on 95 South (and all points north)

Take 95 South to Exit 14/Rte. 37 West to 295 North. Take Exit 5, Resource Recovery's exit, take left and follow approx. 0.5 miles to Central Landfill Complex on the right.

### Traveling on 95 North (and all points south)

Take 95 North to 295 North. Take Exit 5, Resource Recovery's exit, bear left and follow for 0.5 miles. Entrance to Central Landfill Complex is on the right.

### \*At Central Landfill Complex

Turn into entrance, pass guard house and follow road to the scale house. Follow signs to Eco-Depot shed where an attendant will remove your HHW from the trunk of your car.

**For your safety, please stay in your vehicle.**



RHODE ISLAND  
RESOURCE RECOVERY  
CORPORATION

#### Eco-Depot

65 Shun Pike, Johnston, RI 02919  
Phone: 401-942-1430 x241

[www.rirrc.org/ecodepot](http://www.rirrc.org/ecodepot)

The Rhode Island Resource Recovery Corporation (RIRRC) is a non-profit, quasi-public agency that was created by the General Assembly in 1974 to serve the solid waste management needs of the state. RIRRC is dedicated to reducing reliance on landfilling through resource conservation programs such as waste reduction, recycling and composting.

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## A safer home. A cleaner state.

### How to dispose household hazardous waste



**ECO-DEPOT**

A Rhode Island Resource Recovery Program

## "But I didn't mean to.."

A community would be horrified if a vandal were to contaminate the public drinking water supply by adding a poisonous substance to it. But when homeowners dump a can of paint thinner down a drain or into a storm drain, many don't regard this to be dangerous. However, just the opposite is true. The effects of pouring HHW into Rhode Island's water resources are just as disastrous. When hazardous products are poured down the drain, they harm septic systems and can leach into drinking water wells. In neighborhoods equipped with public sewers, they may damage wastewater treatment facilities and degrade the quality of Rhode Island's shoreline. Storm drains are a direct route to nearby waterways. Rainfall moving over and through the ground that has been contaminated with pesticides, motor oil, and other human pollutants transports the pollutants into storm drains and catch basins where it travels to lakes, rivers, wetlands, and beaches.

If you want clean beaches to enjoy and safe water to drink, you must do your part to ensure that you aren't polluting them, even unintentionally.

You may be surprised to learn that most pollution is caused by many small infractions by careless citizens rather than from a single source such as an oil tanker spill. Every year Americans improperly dispose 192 million gallons of used motor oil into our environment. This is almost the same amount of oil leaked into the Gulf of Mexico by the catastrophic BP oil spill in 2010.

## What is Household Hazardous Waste (HHW)?

Most homes have a fair number of products stored in the garage, basement, shed, bathroom and kitchen that contain hazardous chemicals. The leftover and unused contents of these products are known as “household hazardous waste.”

Hazardous substances are toxic, corrosive, and can easily catch on fire or can react or explode when mixed with other substances. Read the labels. If you see the words, “caution,” “hazardous,” “danger,” “flammable,” or “poison,” you need to use these products with extreme care. Just as they require special care when you use them, they require special care when you throw them away. If you don’t, you may cause serious injury to yourself, your loved ones, and pets. And when you don’t dispose of them properly, you could pollute the environment by poisoning the sewer and septic systems, drinking water, groundwater, and the earth.

Improperly discarded household hazardous wastes also pose a threat to sanitation workers because the products can ignite or explode in the garbage trucks. Trash handlers have been unintentionally injured by fumes and splashing chemicals.

## The Usual Suspects

The average household stores about 10 gallons of common hazardous waste. Check the list below to see if you have any of these items in your home:

Batteries  
    rechargeable nickel cadmium batteries

Gasoline

Oil-based paints

Fluorescent light bulbs and lamps

Compact fluorescent light bulbs

Pool chemicals

Propane tanks

Lawn chemicals, fertilizers and weed killers

Turpentine

Bug sprays

Antifreeze

Paint thinners, strippers, varnishes and stains

Arts and crafts chemicals

Charcoal lighter fluid

Disinfectant

Drain clog dissolvers

Driveway sealer

Flea dips, sprays and collars

Houseplant insecticides

Mercury Thermostats

Metal polishes

Mothballs

Motor oil and filters

Muriatic acid (concrete cleaner)

Nail polishes and nail polish removers

Oven cleaner

Household pest and rat poisons

Rug and upholstery cleaners

Shoe polish

Windshield wiper fluid

## Do I Have Choices?

You have several.

If the product is still useable (its shelf life hasn’t expired), check with your friends and neighbors to see if they might be able to use it up. It is always preferable to use a product rather than waste it.

Although chemical products are usually safe when used according to label directions, these products can become dangerous when people are unaware, or forget, that they are handling hazardous products. If you must buy hazardous products, buy only the smallest amount you need. Keep in mind that it is much safer to choose the least toxic products available. It may require a little more muscle on your behalf but you won’t have to worry about keeping toxic and dangerous products in your home. This is especially true if you have young children and pets.

There are many non-hazardous substitutes you can choose. Lemon juice, vinegar, hot water, borax, soap, and baking soda are good, safe alternatives for cleaning products. Practicing organic gardening guarantees safe lawns and gardens. Household spices are great substitutes for pest control products. For detailed recommendations and “recipes,” visit our website at [www.rirrc.org/ecodepot](http://www.rirrc.org/ecodepot), or call our recycling hotline at 942-1430 x775.

## Frequently Asked Questions

**Do you take latex paint? What if the paint can isn’t labeled?** Latex paint may be disposed of with your regular trash after you have allowed the paint to dry or harden thoroughly. If you are unsure of the contents, bring it to Eco-Depot to be on the safe side.

Eco-Depot is a year-round program offered on select Saturdays each month from 8 am to 12 noon at the Central Landfill in Johnston, and from 8 am to 1 pm at off-site municipal locations. Please call 942-1430 x241 or visit [www.rirrc.org/ecodepot](http://www.rirrc.org/ecodepot) for specific collection dates.

**Have the hours changed? Do you still close in the Fall?** Eco-Depot is a year-round program offered on certain Saturdays each month from 8 am to 12 noon. Call 942-1430 X241 or visit [www.rirrc.org](http://www.rirrc.org) for specific collection dates.

**Why is this only available on some Saturdays?** Properly disposing hazardous waste is very expensive. Plus, transportation of HHW in bulk is highly regulated by the Federal government and the Department of Transportation. We offer over 35 opportunities each year to properly dispose HHW to help accommodate everyone’s needs.

**Why do I need to book an appointment?** Appointments allow you to drop-off quickly, usually in less than 15 minutes. Also, we are only able to accommodate a certain number of drop-offs each Saturday.

**Can I come to the Eco-Depot more than once?** This program is totally funded by the Resource Recovery and is a FREE public service for Rhode Island residents. There is no limit on visits.

**What does Resource Recovery do with the collected HHW?** All HHW is sorted and consolidated and transported off site and recycled per Federal and State Regulations.

You must book an appointment to drop off your HHW. Please call us at 942-1430 x241 to schedule a date and time at either a regional off-site collection or at the Central Landfill. An inventory form will be mailed to you. Or simply use our easy online form at [www.rirrc.org/ecodepot](http://www.rirrc.org/ecodepot) to book your appointment.