



# Household Hazardous Waste Recycling Guide

Help protect our valley's water supply

Visit our website:

[ClarkCountyNV.gov/water-quality](http://ClarkCountyNV.gov/water-quality)

Contact our Water Quality staff at 702-668-8674 or e-mail  
[waterquality@cleanwaterteam.com](mailto:waterquality@cleanwaterteam.com)



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# What is Household Hazardous Waste?

## And why should I care?

Look around your home and storage areas. If you see used oil, used auto fluids, gasoline, diesel fuel, pesticides, fertilizers, drain and oven cleaners, adhesives, pool chemicals, batteries, paint thinners, solvents, paint, light bulbs, televisions, computers, and prescription/non-prescription drugs, then you are looking at chemicals and substances known as Household Hazardous Waste (HHW).

But, what makes a product hazardous and how can you tell? Most HHW is characterized by at least one of the following attributes:

- The waste is reactive; meaning it can cause explosions
- The waste is corrosive; meaning it can dissolve materials
- The waste is ignitable; meaning it has the potential to catch fire
- The waste is toxic; meaning it can be poisonous to living things

The most straightforward way to determine if a product is hazardous is to read the label. Look for the words "Poison", "Danger", "Warning", or "Caution". Products that don't have any of these words on the label are the least hazardous.

Each year tons of HHW ends up in landfills. Disposal in this manner may contribute to the contamination of groundwater. Groundwater is contaminated when rainwater or other liquids seep through the layers of trash in the landfill, picking up contaminants from HHW and turning them into leachate. Most landfills are properly lined so that leachate is contained; however, some are not designed for certain hazardous materials. You may think that washing hazardous wastes down the drain or toilet to the sewer is acceptable, but it is not. These sewers are connected to the sewage treatment plants that process wastes, and HHW can negatively impact the treatment process. Dumping into the storm drains is also not acceptable because they flow untreated to Lake Mead, our valley's main source of drinking water. These drains can be found in roads and parking lots, and are designed to alleviate flooding. Any contamination from landscaping, soil, sidewalks, streets, and parking lots that is washed into a storm drain can cause significant water quality degradation of our water supply.

## What can you do to help?

- Recycle or properly dispose of HHW
- Be sure the label lists the ingredients in the product
- Follow product instructions and use the product only as intended
- Only buy the amount of product you need

Recycling is important, but it can be complicated. This resource guide is to assist you in knowing what you can recycle and the locations where recyclable items can be taken within the Las Vegas Valley. The guide in no way endorses or promotes any of the companies listed. They are provided to inform the public of proper disposal and recycling options.



**only rain**  
in the **storm drain**



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## Automotive Products

Used motor oil and other auto fluids contain toxins.

These fluids should never be disposed of in the trash, on the ground, or in storm drains or sanitary sewers. When you transport fluids for recycling, place them in a clean plastic milk jug or similar container. Never mix products because it makes recycling very difficult.



A & A Midwest  
[www.aamidwest.com](http://www.aamidwest.com)  
*metal auto parts*

O'Reilly Auto Parts  
[www.oreillyauto.com](http://www.oreillyauto.com)  
*car batteries, oil, oil filters*

Auto Zone  
[www.autozone.com](http://www.autozone.com)  
*car batteries, oil*

Republic Services  
Recycle Center\*

Firestone Complete Auto Care  
[www.firestonecompleteautocare.com](http://www.firestonecompleteautocare.com)  
*car and marine batteries, oil*

Republic Services  
Transfer Station\*



Jiffy Lube  
[www.jiffylube.com](http://www.jiffylube.com)  
*oil, transmission fluid*

[www.republicservices.com](http://www.republicservices.com)  
*car batteries, oil, antifreeze, gas, diesel fuel, tires*

\*Must have photo ID, and be either a direct residential customer (bring bill) or an indirect residential customer (live in a rental unit complex that contracts residential service). Check website for locations.



SA Recycling  
[www.sarecyclinglasvegas.com](http://www.sarecyclinglasvegas.com)  
*car batteries, metal auto parts*

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## Home and Garden

Republic Services Recycle Center\*

Republic Services Transfer Station\*

[www.republicservices.com](http://www.republicservices.com)  
*lighter fluid, pesticides, fertilizer, adhesives, drain/oven cleaners, and pool chemicals*



\*Must have photo ID, and be either a direct residential customer (bring bill) or an indirect residential customer (live in a rental unit complex that contracts residential service). Check website for locations.



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# Light Bulbs

A simple household light bulb whether it is an incandescent, LED, or compact fluorescent (CFL) can be difficult to recycle. Some feature filaments and others contain mercury or mercury vapor, which is why they should be handled with care and treated as hazardous waste and not just thrown in the garbage.



**Home Depot** – All stores are equipped with orange CFL units to collect bulbs near the entrance/exit doors or the Returns desk.

**Lowes Home Improvement** – All stores have permanent recycling centers located at store entrances for convenience and ease.

**Republic Services\*** – accepts fluorescent bulbs Wednesday-Saturday from 9:00am-1:00pm. Check website ([www.republicservices.com](http://www.republicservices.com)) for locations.

*\*Must have photo ID, and be either a direct residential customer (bring bill) or an indirect residential customer (live in a rental unit complex that contracts residential service). Check website for locations.*

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# E-waste

The growing demand for consumer electronics equipment and the marketing of new features has caused rapid growth in the generation of electronic waste, or e-waste.



Under the general heading of e-waste are televisions, computers, monitors, printers, cell phones, VCR/DVD players, fax machines and anything with a plug. Every year in Nevada hundreds of thousands of electronic items become obsolete and if not reused or recycled end up in the landfills. **Call to confirm if items can be accepted.**

**A & A Midwest**  
702-649-7776  
[www.aamidwest.com](http://www.aamidwest.com)

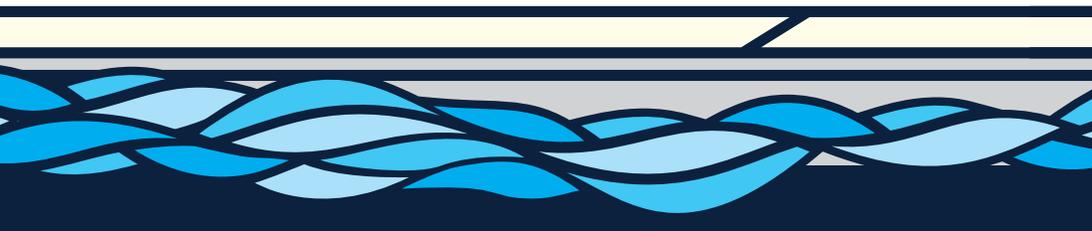
**Best Buy**  
Check area listings  
[www.bestbuy.com](http://www.bestbuy.com)

**Blind Center of Nevada**  
702-642-6000  
[www.blindcenter.org](http://www.blindcenter.org)  
*(\$30 donation for non-flat screen monitors and televisions)*

**Champion Recycling**  
702-648-4884  
[www.championrecycle.com](http://www.championrecycle.com)

**Republic Services Recycle Center\*** 702-734-5400  
**Republic Services Transfer Station\*** 702-599-5766  
[www.republicservices.com](http://www.republicservices.com)

*\*Must have photo ID, and be either a direct residential customer (bring bill) or an indirect residential customer (live in a rental unit complex that contracts residential service). Check website for locations.*



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# Paint

Most household paints are either water-based latex or oil-based. If you have leftover paint, find a local school, church, neighbor or friend to use it.



Oil-based paints, paint thinners, solvents, and paint removers are all hazardous because they contain solvents and chemicals that are flammable and must be disposed of properly.

Latex paint is not hazardous, but it must be solidified before it can go in the regular trash with the lid off. Latex paint can be hardened by adding cat litter to the can until it has the consistency of oatmeal and then let it dry or by pouring it into a cardboard box containing cat litter and let dry. The paint doesn't have to be perfectly solid, but it cannot be runny. Be sure to do this in a well-ventilated area or outdoors. For smaller amounts, you can paint cardboard or newspaper and then discard it in the garbage when dry. NEVER pour paint down the storm drains, sanitary sewer, or onto the ground.

Republic Services Recycle Center\*

702-734-5400

Republic Services Transfer Station\*

702-599-5766

[www.republicservices.com](http://www.republicservices.com)

*\*Must have photo ID, and be either a direct residential customer (bring bill) or an indirect residential customer (live in a rental unit complex that contracts residential service). Check website for locations.*

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# Batteries

Some dry cell batteries contain toxic metals such as mercury, cadmium, and lead.



These metals are contained within the battery casing and pose no risk while in use. It is when batteries are discarded that the release of these toxic metals in landfills becomes a concern. Nickel hydride batteries are environmentally safer. They contain no mercury, no lead, no cadmium, and are rechargeable.

Batteries Plus

[www.batteriesplus.com](http://www.batteriesplus.com)

*button cell, nickel metal hydride, lead acid (non-auto), lithium ion, nickel cadmium*

Best Buy

[www.bestbuy.com](http://www.bestbuy.com)

*lead acid (non-auto), lithium ion, nickel cadmium*

Battery Systems

702-257-6824 [www.batterysystems.net](http://www.batterysystems.net)

*button cell, nickel metal hydride, lead acid (non-auto), lithium ion, nickel cadmium*

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in the **storm drain**

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# Medicine Disposal



In the past, many people have flushed prescription, over-the-counter and veterinary medications down their toilet.

Someone probably told you this was a good way to keep the medication away from children and pets. However, this is not the best method of disposal as they can remain in the treated water when it is released into the water cycle. Instead, bring any unwanted medications, in original containers, to any area police substation lobby. Place the medications in a plastic bag and drop in the box. If you are unable to get to one of the drop off locations, or if you have a small amount, please go to [www.paininthedrain.com/disposal/home-disposal/](http://www.paininthedrain.com/disposal/home-disposal/) to find out how to dispose of it from home.

To find a Drop Box Location go to

- [www.paininthedrain.com/disposal/location/](http://www.paininthedrain.com/disposal/location/)

By safely disposing of your medicine, you can help prevent drug abuse and protect the environment!



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## Miscellaneous

Ammunition and explosives may be taken to the Las Vegas Fire and Rescue headquarters, 500 North Casino Center Blvd. Firearms may be taken to any Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department Substation for impound and disposal.

Fireworks may be taken to Clark County Fire Station 18, located at 575 E. Flamingo Road, the week BEFORE the 4th of July. Please call 702-455-7311 to schedule a drop off time.



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## Additional Resources

Clark County Office of Sustainability:

[www.clarkcountynv.gov/comprehensive-planning/eco-county/Pages/KeepClarkCountyCleanResourceGuide.aspx](http://www.clarkcountynv.gov/comprehensive-planning/eco-county/Pages/KeepClarkCountyCleanResourceGuide.aspx)

Helpful websites:

[www.earth911.com](http://www.earth911.com)

[www.nevadarecycles.nv.gov](http://www.nevadarecycles.nv.gov)

[www.ecyclingcentral.com](http://www.ecyclingcentral.com)

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