

Household Hazardous Waste Collection Options

www.muni.org/sws –
click on **Hazardous Materials Management**

Drop-off services are FREE for households only (up to 40 lbs). A hazardous waste pick-up service is also available on a call-in basis. Phone (907) 428-1742 or (907) 343-6262 for further information.



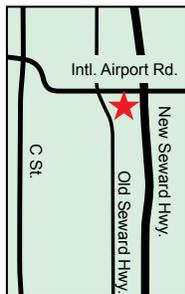
The Hazardous Waste Collection Center is located at the **Anchorage Regional Landfill**, at the intersection of the Glenn Highway and Hiland road, near Eagle River.

Hours of Operation:

Tuesday through

Saturday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. This facility accepts hazardous wastes from households and businesses.

The Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facility is located at the **Central Transfer Station**, at the intersection of E. 54th and Juneau, east of the Old Seward Highway.



Hours of Operation:

Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. This facility accepts hazardous waste from households only.

Drop off these household items:

- PAINT
- PAINT THINNERS
- GASOLINE
- BATTERIES
- FERTILIZER



- CLEANERS
- PESTICIDES
- HERBICIDES
- USED OIL
- ANTIFREEZE



Medical Waste Disposal



It is important to dispose of medicines and medical waste properly to protect refuse workers, the public and the environment. Large medical facilities work directly with Solid Waste Services to ensure proper disposal of their medical wastes, but proper disposal also is important for doctor's offices, veterinary clinics, assisted-living support providers and individual home owners. Only

medical waste from private homes (individual and assisted-living support providers) can be disposed at the Girdwood and Central Transfer Stations. All medical waste from offices, clinics, and commercial in-home health services must be taken directly to the Anchorage Regional Landfill prior to 1:30pm and declared at the scale house.

Below are resources and guidelines to ensure that medical wastes are properly handled, containerized and, if required, effectively treated prior to disposal.

The wastes of primary interest are:

Medicines, which can be prescription or non-prescription (over-the-counter), for people or pets.

Sharps, such as lancets, syringes and needles used in the home to control diabetes, allergies or any other medical conditions.

Other infectious wastes, such as bodily fluids (blood, excrement) or other potentially infectious materials.

More details can be found in SWS's Medical Waste Disposal Policy at www.muni.org/sws. Click on "How Do I ...?" near the upper right corner of the screen. Choose "How Do I Dispose of....?" then click "Medical Waste."



Medicines

Reduce the amount of over-the-counter medications that will potentially be discarded by only purchasing the amount of product that you think you will use before it expires. Use all medications as prescribed.

Turn in unused or expired drugs at the next semi-annual **National Prescription Drug Take-back Day**, Saturday, April 30, 10am–2pm. Call 800-882-9539 or visit www.dea.gov or www.akeela.org/rx for drop-off locations. The event will accept all prescription and over-the-counter drugs. Be sure to black out any personal information on containers or put medications in other containers. No chemotherapy drugs, no liquids (unless in original container and tightly capped), and no needles. No illegal drugs!

The first National Prescription Take-back Day was held last fall. Medications were accepted at more than 45 locations throughout Alaska, including a half dozen locations in Anchorage. Drop-off points were primarily Trooper posts and Police Departments but several Fred Meyer stores participated as well. Overall, 1,336 pounds of drugs were collected and properly disposed in Alaska.

If you cannot attend a take-back event, follow these disposal instructions.

- Pour medication into a sealable plastic bag. Crush tablets/capsules or add a small amount of water to dissolve, and add an absorbent material such as sawdust, coffee grounds or kitty litter to make the medication less appealing for pets or children.
- Seal the plastic bag and put it in your household trash.
- Remove all personal information from the prescription label and either recycle or discard the containers.



Sharps

Used and unused sharps discarded by the individual home owner should be disposed in an appropriate sharps container that is puncture resistant, leak proof and able to be tightly sealed to prevent the sharps from spilling. Sharps collector containers suitable for home use are available from most medical supplies outlets in Anchorage. No sharps should be discarded directly into household trash; they should first be properly containerized or effectively treated. Incineration services for this purpose are available to the Anchorage home owner. Information about these services is available from your private physician or in the yellow pages under "Waste Removal – Medical."



Other infectious wastes

Infectious wastes from homes such as human and animal bodily fluids (blood, excrement) or other potentially infectious materials should be double bagged and tied securely before being discarded with household trash.

Medical wastes generated from home care of persons with infectious diseases such as hepatitis B, hepatitis C or positive HIV should not be discarded into the household trash. These wastes should be sealed in leak proof plastic containers and handled by an incineration service to be effectively treated. As with household-generated sharps, incineration services for this purpose are available to the Anchorage home owner.

Medical wastes generated through a commercial in-home health-care service should not be discarded into the household trash. The entity providing the in-home health-care service is responsible for the effective treatment and proper disposal of any medical wastes generated from that service.



New research has found that small amounts of pharmaceuticals and personal care products are entering the environment through wastewater treatment facilities. These items have made their way into aquatic environments through improper disposal of medications.

**DO NOT FLUSH MEDICATIONS
DOWN THE TOILET OR POUR
THEM DOWN THE DRAIN.**

Green Laundry Tips

- Wear things more than once. Wearing your jeans at least three times, washing them in cold water, and skipping the dryer uses five times less energy than traditional washing practices.
- Use green detergents. Look for labels that indicate biodegradable, phosphate-free, concentrated, and plant- and vegetable-based ingredients (instead of petroleum-based).
- Fabric softeners can be replaced with a cup of white vinegar added to the washer during the rinse cycle. Vinegar changes the pH of the load so soap is removed more effectively, leaving clothes soft and free of residue.
- Wash in cold water. You'll reduce energy use by as much as 90 percent. Many detergents are now designed for cold water so your clothes still get clean.
- Only wash full loads.
- If you're buying a new washer, look for Energy Star rated machines.



- Hang clothes out to dry. Alaska's dry air helps clothes dry superfast in the summer and even in winter! You don't have to hang dry all your clothes; hanging some dry will increase the speed that the remaining clothes dry in the dryer.
- Clean your dryer's lint trap frequently to increase efficiency and cut drying time.
- If your dryer has a moisture sensor, use it! It cuts energy use and reduces wear and tear on your clothes.
- Since Energy Star doesn't yet rate dryers, looking for a good moisture sensor is the next best thing when shopping for a new dryer.
- Don't use dryer sheets. Their chemical ingredients and fragrances are harmful to your clothes and your health. Instead, toss in a few tennis balls or other dryer balls to keep fibers from getting stiff.