

# Frequently Asked Questions

What do I do with leftover paint?

How do I dispose of old electronics?

What can I do with old batteries?

Where can I take gasoline and used motor oil?

Where can I take light bulbs for recycling?

How can I recycle scrap metal or my refrigerator or freezer

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

Donate your leftover paint to friends, relatives, non-profits, even theater groups for scene/prop work.

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.

**Latex Paint Recycling:** The best option to manage latex paint is to give it to someone to use or recycle it. Visit Northampton County Department of Economic Development and Community Affairs or ReStore's Facebook pages for latex paint acceptance criteria and local latex recycling events.

Unopened cans of latex paint can be donated at Habitat for Humanity ReStore

1053 Grape Street  
Whitehall, PA 18052  
Telephone: (610) 776-7499  
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### 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.

(Back to top)

## **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) 250-2689	Cell Phones Computers & Peripherals Home Electronics
Staples	3764 Easton Nazareth Highway Easton, PA 18045 (610) 258-6344	Cell Phones Computers & Peripherals Home Electronics
AERC	2591 Mitchell Ave	Cell Phones

	Allentown, PA 18103 (610) 797-7608	Computers & Peripherals Home Electronics Batteries and bulbs
GER Solutions	795 Roble Rd Allentown, PA 18042 (484) 866-0927	Cell Phones Computers & Peripherals Televisions & Peripherals Home Electronics Batteries and bulbs
Einfalt Recycling and Salvage	221 Bushkill Street Stockertown, PA 18083 (610) 759-7998	Scrap metal Appliances Cell Phones Computers & Peripherals Home Electronics Refrigerators, Freezers, Air conditioners & dehumidifiers

[\(Back to Top\)](#)

## **What can I do with old batteries?**

Rechargeable batteries are accepted at most electronics retail locations, including **Loews, Home Depot Stores** and **Staples** without a fee, please confirm first.

### **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 or GER (see above)

### **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 of 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.)**

2-9-2016

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)**

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

[\(Back to Top\)](#)

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

It's always best, wherever possible, provided it's not contaminated, to use gasoline in your power equipment or vehicle.

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:

<b>Company</b>	<b>Contact</b>	<b>Accepts</b>
Advance Auto Parts	Various locations	Motor Oil Antifreeze Car fluids Oil Filters Transmission Fluid
Autozone Auto Parts	Various locations	Motor Oil Antifreeze Car fluids

		Oil Filters Transmission Fluid
Firestone Complete Auto Care	3804 Easton Nazareth Highway Lower Nazareth, PA 18045 (610) 759-5701	Motor Oil Car Batteries
Walmart	Various locations	Motor oil

[\(Back to top\)](#)

## 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**, **Lowe's** or **Staples** for free proper disposal and recycling.

Please DO NOT throw them in the trash.

Conventional, straight or circular, fluorescent bulbs can be taken to AERC or FreeCycle or HHW events.

Refrigerators, dehumidifiers and scrap metal can be recycled at Einfalt's Recycling and Salvage (see above). Refrigerant will be removed at recycling.

## How can I recycle my refrigerator or freezer?

Einfalt Recycling and Salvage	221 Bushkill Street Stockertown, PA 18083 (610) 759-7998	Scrap metal Appliances Refrigerators, Freezers, Air conditioners & dehumidifiers
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[\(Back to top\)](#)

2-9-2016