

HAZARDOUS WASTE DISPOSAL PROGRAM

INTRODUCTION

Every year, the Board's Health and Safety Department arranges for the pickup, transport and disposal of hazardous waste chemicals generated from the Board's Secondary schools/sites. In schools, waste chemicals are normally generated from the following areas: Transportation Technology, Woodworking, Art and Science Departments and Custodial areas. Occasionally, hazardous waste chemicals are generated from other sites such as the Keaton and Catholic Education Centre.

Hazardous wastes can be defined as used or unwanted chemicals or chemical products that may be regulated under the Environmental Protection Act, (EPA).

The Health and Safety Department evaluates all chemical wastes to determine suitability for the waste pickup.

Sites/Secondary schools considered to be generators under the EPA, Regulation 347, are assigned a generator number as per the regulatory requirements. These wastes require special handling for disposal. In addition to Regulation 347, the Transportation of Dangerous Goods Act and Regulations outline how dangerous goods are to be handled and transported.

CHEMICAL MANAGEMENT/MINIMIZATION

Effective chemical waste management begins with the decision to purchase chemicals. With some advance planning, chemical hazardous wastes can be reduced. Try to estimate your maximum use and buy accordingly. Some chemicals have a short shelf life, therefore it is important to be aware of this and only purchase quantities that can be expected to be used up within the shelf life. It is the goal of the school board to minimize the volume of hazardous wastes. The advantages to waste minimization are:

- Safer workplace
- Lower purchase and disposal costs
- Less waste placed in the environment

Listed below are some suggestions on reducing the volume of chemical hazardous wastes generated at the DPCDSB:

- 1) Substitution – using a less hazardous or non-regulated chemical which may work just as well in an experiment or changing the procedure, if possible, so a hazardous chemical is not required. An example of this has been implemented by using alcohol instead of mercury thermometers.
- 2) Scale Reduction – this involves using micro scale experimental techniques which reduces waste and chemical exposure.
- 3) Chemical Recycling – some chemicals that are no longer of use to a school may be of use to another school. Contact the Health and Safety Department if you have chemicals for recycling.

HAZARDOUS WASTE INVENTORY FORMS

Each year, the Health and Safety Department sends out a "Hazardous Waste Inventory Form" to schools/sites, See Appendix A. This form is to be completed by individuals who generate chemical hazardous waste and/or who work in an area where hazardous waste is generated. Typically, the form is completed by the Department Head or designate. Forms are to be returned to the Health and Safety Department within the specified time. The inventories are reviewed and then sent with the paperwork to a

number of different licensed waste disposal companies to obtain a quote. The successful vendor then does a pickup, transport and disposal of the school board's hazardous wastes before the end of the year.

DISPOSAL GUIDELINES

The following are guidelines/procedures for the more common types of wastes identified on the Hazardous Waste Inventory Forms:

Oil and Oil/Water Waste from Transportation Technology:

This type of waste is not picked up with the scheduled hazardous waste pickup organized yearly by the Health and Safety Department.

This program charges fees for the services that generate their hazardous waste. Instead these schools are responsible for organizing their own pickup through the Purchasing Department and the licensed contractor retained to dispose of this type of waste.

Empty Gas Cylinders:

Empty gas cylinders present a unique problem as it is not always obvious when they are empty. Empty gas cylinders should never be disposed into the regular garbage. Compressed gases are not allowed in Science so there should be limited quantities in schools and at sites. When required, the smallest size of cylinder should be used to do the work. Before purchasing, check to determine if the cylinders can be returned to the supplier. Disposal elsewhere is expensive and difficult and not covered by the Health and Safety Department.

Batteries:

Batteries are not picked up by the annual hazardous waste pickup. This includes car, rechargeable and household batteries. Some batteries can be recycled.

For rechargeable battery recycling: www.rbr.org.

For information about recycling or setting up a battery recycling program contact the Raw Materials Company at 1-888-We Reduce:

For battery recycling and drop off contact: East Pen Power Batteries at 905 624 6700

Paint Cans:

Latex paint can be disposed in the regular garbage provided the cans have been allowed to dry and no liquid paint residue is present. All other paints will be picked up by the hazardous waste company. For multiple cans, paint should be bulked or poured into one container to reduce the number of containers and costs.

Mercury Thermometers:

Mercury thermometers for disposal are considered to be chemical waste. In the case of a broken thermometer, the free liquid needs to be properly collected and placed in a leak proof container together with broken glassware, gloves, etc. used for cleanup. Mercury vapours pose an inhalation hazard and a broken thermometer needs to be properly cleaned up.

Dissection Specimens:

Dissection Specimens are not hazardous wastes. Specimens must be separated from preserving fluid and then placed in plastic bags. Double bagging is recommended. The bags can be disposed with regular garbage at the local landfill site. Large quantities of preserving fluid must be picked up and disposed by a licensed contractor. Additionally, “formaldehyde-free” specimens must be used.

SHARPS WASTE DISPOSAL

Sharps are used at Dufferin Peel CDSB in some Secondary school programs such as Science and Health Care Services. Additionally, custodians may encounter sharps through their routine activities.

The term “sharps” is defined as “any sharp or pointed object that can cut or pierce the skin.” Sharps can cause injury through a cut or puncture wound. There may be an additional risk if the sharps are contaminated with a biological fluid for e.g. blood. Some examples of sharps are needles, lancets, scalpels and microscopic slides.

Sharps waste shall be placed in a Dufferin Peel approved Sharp’s waste container. These are available by ordering through the Board’s Purchasing Department buyer for Health & Safety. Replacement containers must be reordered through the Board’s Purchasing Department. An approved Sharps waste container typically is made of puncture resistant material and has a biohazard symbol on the container. There is also a fill line on the container and the container is used only once and then closed and disposed. The container should never be filled past the fill line and sharps should never be forced into the container.

Sharps waste will be picked up and disposed with the hazardous waste pickup that occurs in June for Secondary schools. Schools can initiate and schedule with the licensed and tendered waste disposal company their own additional pickup as required. Similar to other types of hazardous wastes, the sharps waste must be identified on the hazardous waste inventory forms that are submitted to the Health and Safety Department before the scheduled pickup.

Containers:

Containers for keeping chemical waste until pickup should be the same type as those containers that the chemicals arrived in from the supplier. At the time of waste pickup, a replacement container will be provided by a licensed contractor. It is important that replacement container requirements are indicated on the hazardous waste inventory forms that are submitted to the chemical waste disposal company.

See Figures 1, 2 and 3 below:

Figure 1:

Item Number: 14505

General-Purpose Sharps Container, Yellow - 946 mL (1 qt) Capacity



Catalogue Page #: 141

Product Description

- + Secure, easy-to-store container offers safe disposal of sharp instruments
- + Features clear locking top and easy horizontal load opening
- + Safe to autoclave or incinerate

Figure 2:

Item Number: 14522

Tyco General Purpose Sharps Container, Yellow - 3.78 litre (1 gallon U.S.) Capacity



Catalogue Page #: 141

Product Description

- + Secure, easy-to-store container offers safe disposal of sharp instruments
- + Features clear locking top and easy horizontal load opening
- + Safe to autoclave or incinerate

Figure 3:

Item Number: 14506

Tyco General Purpose Sharps Container, Yellow - 7.56 litre (2 gallon U.S.) Capacity



Catalogue Page #: 141

Product Description

- + Secure, easy-to-store container offers safe disposal of sharp instruments
- + Features clear locking top and easy horizontal load opening
- + Safe to autoclave or incinerate

APPENDIX A**THE DUFFERIN-PEEL CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD****HAZARDOUS WASTE INVENTORY FORM 2010****FAX to Health & Safety Dept., CEC @ 905-890-4970 – DEADLINE:****PLEASE PRINT:****Completed by:** _____ **Position:** _____**Location:** _____ **Date:** _____

(School & Administration Department)

Product Name	Manufacturer (if known)	Storage Location	Quantity (approximate)	Physical State		
				Liquid	Solid	Gas

Page _____ of _____

1) Number of replacement containers required: _____ 5 gallon drums, _____ 45 gallon drums

2) Type of Drum, Container, and any other specifics related to the container replacement: _____.