

# TALKING TRASH IN BASTROP COUNTY

Where to take your recycling and other garbage that you can't put on the curb



The Cities of Bastrop, Elgin, and Smithville, Bastrop County, and Keep Bastrop County Beautiful, as well as many other organizations and every individual who resides here, are partners in helping to keep Bastrop County clean. On average, it costs about \$60 per household to dispose of household hazardous waste (HHW) in Bastrop County. Every two or three years, agencies are awarded grants or other funding to subsidize HHW collection events, but that is clearly not enough to keep up with the problem.

This Guidebook is intended to help families find alternative locations to bring their HHW and recycling more often, so that people don't keep these products for years at a time. Following these guidelines may also help reduce the need for huge clean-up events that may not be able to serve everyone who comes, or may not reach everyone who would want to clean out their garages and attics.

## Why can't we throw it in the trash?

Proper disposal of household hazardous waste is important not only due to environmental concerns, but also for the personal health and well being of sanitation workers and the public at large. Poisons in the home are dangerous. According to statistics from the National Capital Poison Center:

- There is one exposure to poison every 14 seconds in the US.
- More than two million poisonings are reported annually.
- The majority of poisonings involve everyday household items such as cleaning supplies, medicines, cosmetics and personal care items.
- 89 percent of all poisonings occur in the home.
- 75 percent of poisonings are ingestion of a substance.
- Children and Poison:
  - 53 percent of poisonings occur in children under the age of six.
  - Child poisonings under the age of six represent 2 percent of poison fatalities.

*Facts Poison Exposures in the United States* (Source: <http://www.poison.org/prevent/documents/poison%20stats.pdf>)

Proper Management of HHW is important to the community because it affects:

- Potential dangers to homeowners
- The safety of sanitation workers
- Costs due to damage of municipal equipment
- HAZMAT cleanup costs
- Environmental Degradation
- Economic Development: A clean community signals pride in the community and is good for business!

## How can I manage HHW and recycling at my house?

Local programs can help you dispose of HHW and recycling properly, but you can decrease the waste HHW you keep in your own home by considering some simple guidelines:

**REDUCE** the amount of waste you keep in your house by buying only what you need to do the job. Buying chemicals in bulk may not save you money if you do not use all of it. Reducing the size of HHW containers can also help you avoid creating a cluttered cabinet full of chemicals that you will need to throw out eventually.

**REUSE.** If you know a friend, relative, or neighbor who can use unexpired chemicals or paint in good condition, pass it on! You will save yourself and others in expense and convenience.

**RECYCLING** gives new life to products. When manufacturers use recycled material in their products, not only does it conserve natural resources and reduce waste in landfills, but it also reduces greenhouse gas emissions through energy savings. The U.S. national annual recycling rate allows 87 million tons of material to a useful second life, saves Americans the equivalent of the annual energy consumption of nearly 10 million U.S. households per year, and avoids greenhouse gas emissions equivalent to removing more than 33 million cars from the road each year.

## Additional Information

Household Hazardous Waste: A Guide for Texans (<http://www.tceq.texas.gov/p2/hhw/hhw>).

This website provides helpful information for individuals about the HHW program: what is HHW, what can you do with it, and who can accept it?

## Medical Waste

Non-controlled medications should not be flushed down the toilet, but may be thrown in your trash. Put medications in a sealable bag with coffee grounds or kitty litter to make it undesirable to animals or people and put it in with your regular trash.

(For more information: <http://www.fda.gov/downloads/Drugs/ResourcesForYou/Consumers/BuyingUsingMedicineSafely/UnderstandingOver-the-CounterMedicines/ucm107163.pdf>)

Under new rules from the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), you can now take controlled medications and others to disposal drop-off spots at pharmacies, hospitals, clinics, and long-term-care centers any time of the year, no appointment needed. To find a drop-off spot, call the DEA's Registration Call Center at 800-882-9539 or go to [deadiversion.usdoj.gov](http://deadiversion.usdoj.gov) and search for "drug disposal".

## Disposing of Syringes from Households

(From TCEQ flier GI-418 available at <http://www.tceq.texas.gov/publications/gi/gi-418.html>)

Syringes (also called "sharps" or "needles") CAN go into the regular trash, but you MUST follow these guidelines:

- Place needles and syringes in a hard plastic or metal container with a tightly secured lid. DO NOT use see-through plastic containers or any glass. A laundry detergent or bleach bottle makes a great container.
- Label the container "syringes" or "sharps" or "needles."
- Keep the container out of the reach of children and pets.
- When the container is full, seal it and reinforce its lid with heavy-duty tape.
- Dispose of the sealed container in the household trash.

## Paint (empty or mostly empty cans of latex paint)

If your can is less than 1/4 full, remove the lid and place the can in a well-ventilated area. The paint will dry in a few days. Once dry, the can may be thrown in your trash. Remember oil-based paint is a "household chemical" and must be disposed of as listed.

## City of Austin Resource Recovery

Many household hazardous wastes can be brought to the City of Austin Resource Recovery Center, but residents from outside of Austin will have to pay a fee. In addition, they offer free chemicals and latex paint to anyone, regardless of residency, although they will limit quantities provided for free. See [austintexas.gov/hhw](http://austintexas.gov/hhw) or call (512)974-4343 for more information and a schedule of fees.

## Free Chemicals at the Austin Reuse Store

Many brand new or slightly used items are brought to the Household Hazardous Waste Facility. Instead of disposing of them, the facility gives them to people who can use them. You do NOT need to be an Austin resident to get the free goods, although they do limit quantities that may be taken at one time. Items are free, and may include:

- Automotive Fluids
- Cleaning Products
- Fertilizers
- Paint
- Pesticides
- Solvents
- Other Household Chemicals

## Austin ReBlend Paint

Residents looking to save money when refurbishing their homes now have a free resource - Austin ReBlend paint, made from paint collected at the Household Hazardous Waste Facility. You do NOT have to be an Austin resident to get the free paint, although they do limit quantities that may be taken at one time. (<http://austintexas.gov/departments/austin-reblend> )

# Bastrop County Household Hazardous Waste and Recycling Permanent Collection Sites

	City (B=Bastrop, E=Elgin, S=Smithville)	Household Batteries	Lead-acid (car) Batteries	Rechargeable Ni-Cad, LI, Ni-MH, etc	Aluminum (C=Cans Only)	Steel	Tin	General / Other Metal	Cardboard	Newsprint	Residential Paper Waste	Glass (Jars and Bottles)	Plastics (Varying #s)	Plastic Shopping Bags	Oil and/or Automotive Fluids	Oil Filters	Tires	Electronic Waste	CFL or Fluorescent Tubes	Appliances	Freon Recovery / Disposal	Household Chemicals (pesticides, cleaners, pool chemicals, oil-paint and thinners)	Latex Paint	Bulky Pickup (Furniture, yard debris, etc.)	Other / Notes
	City of Austin Resource Recovery	X	X	X											X	X		X			X		X		
<b>Republic Services (Formerly Allied Waste)</b>	B E S				X			X	X	X	X	X	X				X	X	+				∞		
<b>Autozone-Bastrop</b>	B	X	X												X									Car parts	
<b>Barnard Tire Company</b>	B														X	X								All auto fluids as long as there is no water in container. Call for fee for tires.	
<b>Bastrop (City) Transfer Station</b>	B																							No brush	Y



# Locations of Recycling/Household Hazardous Waste Collection Sites

## City of Austin Resource Recovery

<http://austintexas.gov/hhw>

(512) 974-4343

2514 Business Center Drive

Austin, 78744

Tuesday - Wednesday: 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Saturday: 7 a.m. – Noon

Accepts HHW from non-residents for a fee: contact them for more information

## Autozone

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

(512) 285 4601

411 US Hwy 290 E

Elgin, TX 78621

## Autozone

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

(512) 285 4601

529 Hwy 71 W

Bastrop, TX 78602

## Barnard Tire Company

(512) 321 4506

1501 Chestnut Street

Bastrop, TX 78602

## Bastrop Metal Recycling

(512) 321 1695

264 FM 1209

Cedar Creek, TX 78612

## Best Buy-Bastrop

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

(512) 308-5849

761 Hwy 71 West

Bastrop TX 78602

## Brookshire Brothers

(512) 237-4401

501 Texas Loop 230

Smithville, TX 78957

## CAM Disposal

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

(512) 285-4700

274 Hwy 95 South

Elgin, TX 78621

## Goodwill Industries

<http://www.goodwill.org/>

(512) 308-9863

57 West Loop 150

Bastrop, TX, 78602

## HEB-Bastrop

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

(512) 321 1011

104 North Hasler

Bastrop, TX 78602

## HEB-Elgin

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

(512) 285 4168

1080 Hwy 290E

Elgin, TX 78621

## Home Depot

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

(512) 308 1022

525 Hwy 71

Bastrop, TX 78602

## Jay's Automotive

(512) 281 4818

301 S. Main Street, Ste. B

Elgin, TX 7862

## Lowe's

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

(512) 321 0460

719 Hwy 71 West

Bastrop, TX 78602

## O'Reilly Auto Parts-Bastrop

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

(512) 321-0703

505 W. Hwy 71

Bastrop, TX 78602

### **O'Reilly Auto Parts-Elgin**

www.oreillyauto.com  
(512)285 3491  
254 Hwy 290  
Elgin, TX 78621

### **Radio Shack-Bastrop**

www.radioshack.com  
(512) 332-0151  
494 Hwy 71 West #130  
Bastrop, TX 78602

### **Radio Shack-Elgin**

www.radioshack.com  
(512) 281 0662  
224 W. Hwy 290  
Elgin, TX 78621

### **Republic Services**

(512) 247 5647  
708 Bull Run  
Elgin, TX 78621

### **Smithville Recycling**

<http://www.ci.smithville.tx.us/Public-Works.aspx>  
(512) 321 1695  
Hwy 95, Across from Brookshire Brothers Grocery Store between Riverside Exxon and Shirocky & Son Smithville, TX 78957  
6AM to 10PM, 7 days/week

### **Staples Office Supplies**

www.staples.com  
(512) 308 9005  
767 Hwy 71 West  
Bastrop, TX 78602

### **Urban Recycling Co**

<http://www.urbanrecyclingco.com>  
512 285 3540  
607 W. Cleveland St  
Elgin, TX 78621

### **Walmart Bastrop**

www.walmart.com  
(512) 321 2288  
488 Hwy 71 West  
Bastrop, TX 78602

### **Walmart Elgin**

www.walmart.com  
(512) 285-3397  
1320 Hwy 290  
Elgin, TX 78621

### **City of Smithville Scrap Metal**

Scrap Metal accepted for free: proceeds go to projects like the Veterans Memorial Park, Independence Park, and the new Public Library. You can drop off scrap metal at the Smithville City Yard (1000 MLK Blvd) on Mondays-Thursdays from 8AM-3:30PM or call for appointments (512-237-3282). Periodically, the City schedules Clean Up Saturdays. Pick up in Smithville city limits is possible.

**For specific information about accepted materials, pickup information and other facts go to the websites listed:**

#### **Bastrop**

[www.cityofbastrop.org/users/0017/Garbage/HO Solid Waste Collection 10.9.pdf](http://www.cityofbastrop.org/users/0017/Garbage/HO%20Solid%20Waste%20Collection%2010.9.pdf)

#### **Elgin**

[www.elgintx.com/UTILITIES.asp](http://www.elgintx.com/UTILITIES.asp)

#### **Smithville**

[www.ci.smithville.tx.us/city-departments/public-works/](http://www.ci.smithville.tx.us/city-departments/public-works/)

# Transfer Stations

## Bastrop County Transfer Station

[www.co.bastrop.tx.us/uploads/documents/price\\_list.pdf](http://www.co.bastrop.tx.us/uploads/documents/price_list.pdf)

(512) 549-5166

601 Cool Water Dr.

Bastrop TX 78602

Hours: Tues-Sat, 8:00AM-4:00PM

## Bastrop (City) Transfer Station

[www.cityofbastrop.org/default.aspx?name=city.public\\_works](http://www.cityofbastrop.org/default.aspx?name=city.public_works)

(512) 332-8920

1209 Linden Street

Bastrop TX 78602

Hours: Monday-Friday, 7:00AM-4:00PM

## Lone Star Disposal and Transfer Station

[www.lonestardisposal.net/](http://www.lonestardisposal.net/)

(512) 321 3211

413 FM 20

Bastrop, TX 78602

Hours: Monday - Thursday 8 AM - 5 PM

Friday 8 AM - 2 PM

## Smithville Transfer Station

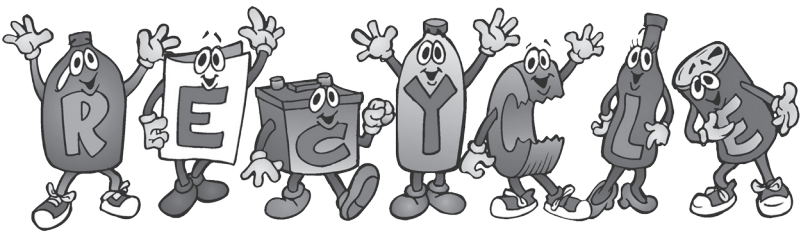
[www.ci.smithville.tx.us/city-departments/public-works/](http://www.ci.smithville.tx.us/city-departments/public-works/)

(512) 237 3282

1000 MLK Blvd

Smithville, TX 78957

Hours: Monday-Thursday, 7:30AM-3:30PM



**Info: 512 537 0068**

**Web: [www.keepbastropcountybeautiful.org](http://www.keepbastropcountybeautiful.org)**

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