The residents of Bastrop and Lee Counties are instrumental in helping to keep our communities clean and beautiful. We all are partners with the local municipalities and county governments in this monumental task.

On average, it costs about $75 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 Guide 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. Using this Guide will help reduce the need for huge clean-up events.

The “Talking Trash” Guide was developed through a grant from CAPCOG/TCEQ in partnership with Bastrop and Lee Counties, the Cities of Smithville and Bastrop, and the nonprofit organization Keep Bastrop County Beautiful. Many Thanks to KBCB for periodically updating this Guide and posting it on the KBCB website.
Why can’t we throw HHW in the trash?

Proper disposal of household hazardous waste (HHW) 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.

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 community pride and is good for business!

Poison Exposure Facts in The United States
Poisons in the home are dangerous. According to statistics from the National Capital Poison Center:
- In the US, someone is exposed to poison every 14 seconds.
- 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

For more information:
Facts about Poison Exposures in the United States
Source: https://www.poison.org/

How to manage HHW and recycling
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 must eventually be disposed of responsibly.

REUSE items that still have value 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.

RECYCLE products to give them new life. Manufacturers that use recycled material in their products conserve natural resources and reduce waste in landfills. Recycling 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:
Source: 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?
Bastrop County Household Hazardous Waste (BCHHW) Facility and Reuse Center

The BCHHW Facility schedules several cleanup events and opens the Reuse Center throughout the year. Residents of Bastrop County and Lee County may bring HHW using a voucher system. Community partners sustain the Facility, which has been constructed through CAPCOG/TCEQ grant program. For more information see https://tinyurl.com/FB-BCHHWF and https://tinyurl.com/BastropCoHHWF.

City of Austin: Resource Recovery, Reuse Store, and Re-blend Paint

Residents of Bastrop and Lee Counties who do not want to wait for the next BCHHW Facility Event may take their HHW, latex paint, recyclables, and other household chemical and waste to the City of Austin Resource Recovery Center, but may be required to pay a fee. This Center also offers free chemicals and re-blended latex paint, although quantities provided for free are limited. For more information and a complete list of what they take and what they give away, see: Austintexas.gov/hhw or Austintexas.gov/department/Austin-reblend or (512) 974-4343.

Latex Paint

If a can of latex paint 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 the trash. Remember, this is only possible with latex paint. Oil-based paint is a household chemical and must be handled as HHW.

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.

Under the new rules from the DEA (Drug Enforcement Administration), you can now take controlled medication 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 and search for “drug disposal”.

National Prescription Drug Take Back Day occurs in October. For more information about the annual “Drug Take Back Day” see takebackday.dea.gov.

Collection Day Sites: Bastrop County Sheriff’s Office, Tractor Supply Co., and Smithville City Hall

Disposing of Syringes from Households

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 container “syringes” or “sharps” or “needles.”
- Keep container out of the reach of children and pets.
- When container is full, seal it and reinforce the lid with heavy-duty tape.
- Dispose of sealed container in the household trash.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A = ALL</th>
<th>B = Bastrop</th>
<th>E = Elgin</th>
<th>L = Lee County</th>
<th>S = Smithville</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>LOCATION</strong></td>
<td><strong>ANTIFREEZE</strong></td>
<td><strong>APPLIANCES</strong></td>
<td><strong>BATTERIES</strong></td>
<td><strong>BULKY PICKUP</strong></td>
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<td><strong>CARDBOARD</strong></td>
<td><strong>CFL or FLUORESCENT TUBES</strong></td>
<td><strong>CHEMICALS</strong></td>
<td><strong>ELECTRONIC WASTE</strong></td>
<td><strong>FREEON / Disposal</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>GLASS</strong></td>
<td><strong>METALS</strong></td>
<td><strong>OIL and/or Automotive Fluids</strong></td>
<td><strong>OIL FILTERS</strong></td>
<td><strong>PAPER/ NEWSPRINT</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>PLASTICS</strong></td>
<td><strong>SUBSTIES</strong></td>
<td><strong>PLASTIC SHOPPING BAGS</strong></td>
<td><strong>STYROFOAM</strong></td>
<td><strong>TIRES</strong></td>
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**AUSTIN RESOURCE RECOVERY CENTER**
- Accepts HHW from non-residents for a fee. Contact for more information: (512) 974-4373

**AUTOZONE**
- Accepts oil, oil filters, hydraulic fluids up to 5 gallons per day. No antifreeze, gasoline or contaminated fluids.

**BASTROP CO. HHW CENTER**
- Quarterly Collection Events.

**BARNARD TIRE COMPANY**
- All auto fluids as long as there is no water in container. Car tires: $2.50, truck tires: $9.00, antifreeze: $1.00 per gallon.

**BASTROP CO. TRANSFER STATION**
- Metal is free. No limbs or trees, refrigerators, freezers or air conditioners. Call for fees on tires and other waste. (512) 5495166

**BASTROP METAL RECYCLING**
- Also accepts wire and copper.

**BEST BUY**
- Call for limitations.

**BROOKSHIRE BROTHERS**
- Plastic bags must be clean and dry.

**ELGIN PRECINCT 4 RECYCLING**
- Recycle only, no trash. Accepts #1 and #2 plastic only.

**LAST UPDATE**
05/10/2019
<table>
<thead>
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<th>Accepts HHW from non-residents for a fee.</th>
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<th>Accepts #1 and #2 plastic only.</th>
<th>Recycle only, no trash or glass. Accepts #1 and #2 plastic only.</th>
<th>Styrofoam packing only. No food containers.</th>
<th>Residual single stream, garbage recycle collections. Accepts #1-7 plastic. No styrofoam, plastic bags or film.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ELGIN RECYCLING CENTER</td>
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The Household Hazardous Waste

Austin Resource Recovery Center
http://www.austintexas.gov/dropoff
(512) 974-4373
2514 Business Center Drive
Austin, TX 78744
Mon - Fri: 9am – 5pm; Sat: 7am – 12pm
Accepts HHW from non-residents for a fee:

Autozone - Bastrop
www.autozone.com
(512) 321-4585
549 Highway 71 West
Bastrop, TX 78602

Autozone - Elgin
www.autozone.com
(512) 285-4601
411 US Highway 290 East
Elgin, TX 78621

Barnard Tire Company
(512) 321-4506
1501 Chestnut Street
Bastrop, TX 78602

Bastrop County Household Hazardous Waste Facility
https://tinyurl.com/co-bastrop-HHW
Kevin Berry - Facility Manager
(512) 581-7176
109 Taylor Street
Smithville, TX 78957

Bastrop County Transfer Station
(512) 549-5166
601 Cool Water Drive
Bastrop, TX 78602
Tues - Sat: 8am - 4pm

Bastrop Metal Recycling
(512) 321-1695
264 FM 1209
Cedar Creek, TX 78612
Mon - Fri: 8am - 4:30pm; Sat: 8am -12pm

Best Buy
www.bestbuy.com/recycle
(512) 308-5849
761 Highway 71 West
Bastrop, TX 78602

Brookshire Brothers
(512) 237-4401
501 Northwest Loop 230
Smithville, TX 78957

Elgin-Precinct 4 Recycling Center
708 Bull Run Road
Elgin, TX 78621
Mon - Fri: 7:30am - 6pm

Elgin Recycling Center
(512) 988-0177
115 2nd Street
Elgin, TX 78621
Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri: 9am - 4pm
Sat. 9:00am - 12pm; Closed Wed
Closed for lunch 12pm - 1:00pm every day

Fayette County Recycle Center
http://www.co.fayette.tx.us/page/fayette.Recycling
(979) 968-8446
210 Svoboda Lane
La Grange, TX 78945
Tues - Fri: 7am - 3:30pm; Sat: 7am -1pm

Goodwill Industries
http://www.goodwill.org/
(512) 681-3340
107 Childers
Bastrop, TX 78602

HEB - Bastrop
www.heb.com
(512) 321-1011
104 North Hasler
Bastrop, TX 78602
The Household Hazardous Waste and Recycling Collection Sites

HEB - Elgin
www.heb.com
(512) 285-4168
1080 East Highway 290
Elgin, TX 78621

Home Depot
www.homedepot.com
(512) 308-1022
525 Highway 71
Bastrop, TX 78602

Jay’s Automotive
(512) 281-4818
301 South Main Street
Elgin, TX 78602

Lee County Recycling
(979) 542-7210
1038 County Road 234
Giddings, TX 78942
Mon - Fri: 8am - 5pm; Every other Sat: 8am - 12pm

Lone Star Transfer and Recycling Center
www.lonestar-transfer-recycle.business.site/
(512) 686-7896
413 FM 20
Bastrop, TX 78602
Mon - Thurs: 8am - 5pm; Fri: 8am - 2pm
Transfer Station stops accepting waste/debris one hour before the Recycling Center closes

Lowe’s
www.lowes.com
(512) 321-0460
719 Highway 71 West
Bastrop, TX 78602

O’Reilly Auto Parts - Bastrop
www.oreillyauto.com
(512) 321-0703
505 W. Highway 71
Bastrop, TX 78602

O’Reilly Auto Parts - Elgin
www.oreillyauto.com
(512) 285-3491
254 Highway 290
Elgin, TX 78621

Smithville Recycling Center
https://tinyurl.com/RecycleSmithville
(512) 237-3282
404 Gazley
Smithville, TX 78957
7 days/week: 6am - 10pm

Smithville Transfer Station
https://tinyurl.com/RecycleSmithville
(512) 237-3282
1000 Southeast MLK
Smithville, TX 78957
Mon - Thurs: 7:30am - 3:30pm

Texas Foam
Web: www.texasfoam.com
Phone: (512) 581-7500
1278 Highway 71 West
Bastrop, TX 78602

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

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

Waste Connections
www.wasteconnections.com/austin/schedules
(512) 282-3508
please call to verify service availability
413 Highway 20
Bastrop, TX 78602
FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT COLLECTION SERVICES

Bastrop County

**Bastrop**
City of Bastrop Utility Office (512) 332-8830
www.cityofbastrop.org/page/us.solid_waste

**Elgin**
City of Elgin (512) 281-5724
www.elgintx.com

**Smithville**
City of Smithville Utilities Department
(512) 237-3282
tinyurl.com/RecycleSmithville

Lee County

**Call for more information:**

Precinct 1: (979) 542-6065
Precinct 2: (979) 542-2522
Precinct 3: (512) 253-6786
Precinct 4: (979) 542-1388

If you do not know your precinct, call: (979) 542-3178

Free Community Cleanups are scheduled in April and October every year.

“HELP KEEP THE WORLD BEAUTIFUL”

An interactive recycling guide is available at https://tinyurl.com/KBCB-RecycleResources.

The PDF version of this guide is available at http://keepbastropcountybeautiful.org

This Guide is provided to the public through a grant from CAPCOG/TCEQ.

Primary Grant Applicant: Bastrop County
In Partnership With: Keep Bastrop County Beautiful
City of Smithville, City of Bastrop, and Lee County