



**MEMO**

**FROM:** Kayla Lyon, Director, Dept. of Natural Resources

**Cc:** Ed Tormey, Division Administrator, Environmental Services Division  
Alex Moon, Deputy Director, Dept. of Natural Resources  
Tammie Krausman, Legislative Liaison, Dept. of Natural Resources  
Amie Davidson, Bureau Chief, Land Quality Bureau

**DATE:** December 17, 2020

**RE:** Household Hazardous Materials Program and Household Hazardous Waste Account Annual Reports

---

The Department of Natural Resources submits the attached reports to the General Assembly as required in 455F.8 and 455E.11(2)"c". As directed, the reports provide information on the costs and results of the Household Hazardous Materials collection and disposal program as well as an itemization of the moneys collected and expended from the Household Hazardous Waste Account, respectively. Because of the interrelationship between these two reports the Department is providing them as a single submittal.

Inquiries related to these reports should be directed to Jennifer Wright, Supervisor of Financial and Business Assistance, Land Quality Bureau, at 515-725-8302 or [jennifer.wright@dnr.iowa.gov](mailto:jennifer.wright@dnr.iowa.gov)

**Fiscal Year 2020 Report on Revenues and Expenditures for  
Household Hazardous Waste Account**

The Household Hazardous Waste Account and its report requirements are established in 455E.11(2)"c". As stipulated the account is funded by moneys collected pursuant to section 455F.7 and from 29C.8A designated for deposit. The account is to be used by the department to deliver the programs and conduct the activities set forth in chapter 455F. The primary responsibility is to establish and support a statewide collection system for household hazardous materials or what is known as the Regional Collection Center (RCC) Network. This includes public education programs, training for collection center staff, and consultation of local governments in the establishment, operation and management of permanent collection sites. The department is authorized to use moneys from the account for administration of the programs funded by the account.

**REVENUE**

Household Hazardous Materials' Retailer Permit Fees (455F.7)	\$255,650
Civil Penalties and Fines (collected pursuant to 29C.8A)	\$0
Interest	\$21,236
<hr/>	
TOTAL REVENUE	\$276,888

**EXPENDITURES**

Administration (includes but is not limited to issuing and managing contracts and grants, producing and disseminating educational materials, issuance of retailer permits, and providing technical assistance to RCCs and local governments)	\$285,054
Contracts & Grants for conducting the Educational Programs required pursuant to 455F.8B and 455F.9	\$145,713
Transfer to Department of Public Health for maintaining database to track poisoning incidents	\$2,000
<hr/>	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$432,767

# HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

## DNR ACTIVITIES REPORT | FISCAL YEAR 2020

Household Hazardous Materials (HHMs) are found in nearly every home – under sinks and in closets, basements and garages. Through local partnerships with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources' HHM program, Iowa citizens are able to access Regional Collection Centers (RCCs) in 95 of Iowa's 99 counties for proper management of HHMs to protect public health and the environment. Although the COVID-19 pandemic closed RCC facilities for a number of months, they were still able to help Iowa residents and small businesses properly dispose 6.5 million pounds of toxic, flammable, corrosive and reactive materials.

This report discusses actions undertaken and results from the DNR's HHM program and its stakeholder partners in Fiscal Year 2020.

### WHAT IS A HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS MATERIAL?

HHM is a term defining common household products that have one or more of the following characteristics:

**TOXIC:** poisonous, causing cancer or other health problems

**CORROSIVE:** destroys human tissue or corrodes metal

**FLAMMABLE:** easily ignitable

**REACTIVE:** explosive through exposure to heat, sudden shock, pressure or comes into contact with incompatible chemicals

Household hazardous waste (HHW) is commonly defined as waste from residential sources composed of old or unwanted products that exhibit any of the above characteristics.

In Iowa, businesses generating small amounts of hazardous waste are included in the definition of HHW and are eligible to participate in DNR HHM programs.

### REGIONAL COLLECTION CENTER FY 2020 SUMMARY & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

#### PROGRAM INVESTMENT FOR RCC FACILITIES

<b>INNOVATION AND ESTABLISHMENT FUNDING</b>	\$266,867
<b>SUPPORT FOR CURRENT FACILITY OPERATIONS</b>	\$611,740
<b>TOTAL PROGRAM INVESTMENT FOR FY 2020*</b>	<b>\$878,607</b>

#### MATERIALS MANAGED BY HAZARD TYPE

<b>TOXIC</b> insecticides, pesticides, poison	150,220 lbs.
<b>CORROSIVE</b> drain cleaners, mercury	104,734 lbs.
<b>FLAMMABLE</b> lighter fluid, aerosols, thinners	268,590 lbs.
<b>REACTIVE</b> pool chemicals, toilet bowl cleaners, ammonia	6,529 lbs.

#### MATERIALS MANAGED BY COMMON PRODUCT TYPE

<b>E-WASTE</b> computers, televisions, cell phones	1,726,270 lbs.
<b>BULBS</b> CFL, LED, halogen	158,959 lbs.
<b>BATTERIES</b> lead acid, lithium-ion, nickel-cadmium	148,181 lbs.
<b>AUTOMOTIVE</b> oil, antifreeze, oil filters, lead acid batteries	800,210 lbs.
<b>PAINTS</b>	1,448,914 lbs.
<b>OTHER MATERIALS</b> sharps, scrap metals from appliances	6,787,142 lbs.
<b>OIL-RELATED</b> filters, oily debris, oil	609,020 lbs.

#### TOTAL OF ALL MATERIALS

<b>HHMs REUSED LOCALLY THROUGH EXCHANGE/SWAP SHOPS</b>	<b>391,431 lbs.</b>
<b>CONTRACTED HHM DISPOSAL</b>	<b>785,270 lbs.</b>
<b>HHMs MANAGED LOCALLY</b>	<b>5,610,441 lbs.</b>
<b>PERCENTAGE OF MATERIALS COLLECTED THAT ARE RECYCLED</b>	<b>75%</b>

**TOTAL AMOUNT OF HHMs MANAGED PROPERLY 6,787,142 lbs.**

\* The DNR's RCC Facilities are funded through solid waste tonnage fees remitted to the solid waste account of the Groundwater Protection Act.

Regional Collection Centers (RCCs) are local, permanent collection facilities designed to assist the public and very small quantity generator (VSQG) businesses with proper management and disposal of HHMs. RCCs accept specific types of hazardous waste for disposal. Either through local outlets or through contracted service, RCCs provide a materials exchange (Swap Shop) and educate citizens about proper HHM purchasing and management. Currently, 28 main facilities and 44 satellite facilities operate across Iowa, serving a total of 95 counties. From July 2019-June 2020, almost 7 million pounds of HHMs were removed from the solid waste stream, including 391,431 pounds of materials placed in RCC materials exchanges, where residents can shop for free products. RCC contact information and service areas: [www.iowadnr.gov/hhm](http://www.iowadnr.gov/hhm)

### INNOVATION/IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

In fall 2019, 19 facilities received a special round of Improvement grants, totaling \$266,955, offered by the DNR.

Funds were used for improvements at RCC facilities, such as upgrading fire suppression, insulating buildings, updating equipment, roofing, re-epoxying floor or pouring new concrete slabs for unloading.

Ottumwa Wapello RCC used grant funds to pour a new slab of concrete in front of their building and install a new overhead door.

The area was prone to pooling water and at times limited access for both residents and larger trucks used to collect hazardous materials. The new concrete and door raised the area and allowed access to the facility in all weather conditions.

Woodbury County RCC received a grant to re-epoxy their flooring, which showed wear from high traffic at the facility. The improvement grant allowed the RCC to seal worn areas and bring the building back into compliance with Iowa Code.

**“OUR HAZARDOUS WASTE HAULER EXPRESSED SINCERE APPRECIATION FOR THE NEW DOOR AND CONCRETE. THIS HAS MADE IT SO MUCH EASIER FOR THEM TO LOAD WHEN THEY COME TO COLLECT OUR MATERIAL.”**

**Janice Bain,  
Ottumwa Wapello RCC manager**



Woodbury County RCC epoxy in progress



Ottumwa Wapello before new concrete



Woodbury County RCC after epoxy completed



With new concrete and overhead door



[www.iowadnr.gov/hhm](http://www.iowadnr.gov/hhm)

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
502 E. Ninth St. Des Moines, IA 50319 | (515) 725-8200