

MEMO

FROM: Kayla Lyon, Director, Department of Natural Resources

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

DATE: December 15, 2025

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 515-452-1794 or jennifer.wright@dnr.iowa.gov

**Fiscal Year 2025 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)	\$191,919
Civil Penalties and Fines (collected pursuant to 29C.8A)	\$0
Interest	\$14,339
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TOTAL REVENUE	\$206,258

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)	\$274,584
Contracts & Grants for conducting the Educational Programs required pursuant to 455F.8B and 455F.9	\$2,500
Transfer to Department of Public Health for maintaining database to track poisoning incidents	\$2,000
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TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$279,084

Household Hazardous Materials

ACTIVITIES REPORT | Fiscal Year 2025

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 96 of Iowa’s 99 counties for proper management of HHMs to protect public health and the environment. RCC facilities helped Iowa residents and small businesses properly dispose of over 7.2 million pounds of toxic, flammable, corrosive and reactive materials.

66 % of materials collected by RCC facilities are reused in either onsite exchange areas or recycled via contractors for usable components such as precious metals, plastic, or feedstock for new materials.

This report discusses actions undertaken and results from the DNR’s HHM program and its stakeholder partners in Fiscal Year 2025

What is a Hazardous Household 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 25 Summary and Accomplishments

PROGRAM INVESTMENT FOR RCC FACILITIES

Innovation and Establishment Funding	\$24,494
Support for Current Facility Operations	\$773,424
TOTAL PROGRAM INVESTMENT*	\$797,918

MATERIALS MANAGED BY HAZARD TYPE

TOXIC -Examples: insecticides, pesticides, poison	181,109 lbs.
CORROSIVE -Examples: drain cleaners, mercury	128,888 lbs.
FLAMMABLE -Examples: lighter fluid, aerosols, thinners	311,819 lbs.
REACTIVE -Examples: pool chemicals, toilet bowl cleaners, ammonia	5,525 lbs.

MATERIAL MANAGED BY COMMON PRODUCT TYPE

E-WASTE Examples: computers, televisions, cell phones	1,256,893 lbs.
BULBS -CFL, LED, Halogen	128,336 lbs.
BATTERIES -Lead Acid, Lithium-Ion, Nickel-Cadmium	185,838 lbs.
AUTOMOTIVE - Oil, Antifreeze, Oil Filters, Lead Acid Batteries	1,040,190 lbs.
PAINTS	1,574,261 lbs.
OTHER RECYCLING -Examples: sharps, scrap metals from appliances	2,584,059 lbs.
OIL RELATED - Filters, Oily Debris, Oil	768,547 lbs.

TOTAL OF ALL MATERIALS

HHMs REUSED LOCALLY THROUGH EXCHANGE/SWAP SHOPS	480,200 lbs.
CONTRACTED HHM DISPOSAL	822,895 lbs.
HHMs MANAGED LOCALLY	5,932,987 lbs.
TOTAL AMOUNT OF HHMS MANAGED PROPERLY	7,236,082 lbs
Percentage of materials collected that are recycled	66%

*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 purchasing and management for HHMs. Currently, 28 main facilities and 44 satellite facilities operate across Iowa, serving a total of 96 counties. From July 2024-June 2025, over 7.2 million pounds of HHMs were removed from the solid waste stream, including 480,200 pounds of materials placed in RCC materials exchanges, where residents can shop for free products.

For local RCC contact information and service areas, go to www.iowadnr.gov/hhm

Innovation/Improvement Grants

The Department offers year-round Improvement grants.

3 facilities applied for and received grants totaling \$24,494.

Funds were used improvements at RCC facilities for updating Fire suppression systems and expanding operational work areas.

Examples of Projects For RCC Improvement Grants:

Bremer County RCC—The purpose of this agreement is to create a secure and climate-controlled RCC sorting and receiving building to include electrical, heating, cooling, ventilation, insulation, and easy to clean panels.

Before



After



Benton County RCC—

Updating infrastructure and safety systems to include updating the hazardous storage building fire suppression system.

Before



After



Regional Environmental Improvement Commission of Iowa County (REIC)—Updating infrastructure and safety systems to include updating the hazardous storage building fire suppression system.

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DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

www.iowadnr.gov/hhm

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