

### STATE OF IOWA

TERRY E. BRANSTAD, GOVERNOR KIM REYNOLDS, LT. GOVERNOR DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
CHUCK GIPP, DIRECTOR

### **MEMO**

**TO:** Carmine Boal, Chief Clerk of the House

Michael Marshall, Secretary of the Senate

Ronald Parker, Senate Democratic Caucus Staff Director

John Hodges, Senate Republican Caucus Staff Director

Joseph Romano, House Democratic Caucus Staff Director

Jeffrey Mitchell, House Republican Caucus Staff Director

Julie Vande Hoef, Governor's Office

FROM: Chuck Gipp, Director, Dept. of Natural Resources

Cc: Bruce Trautman, Deputy Director, Dept. of Natural Resources

Bill Ehm, Administrator, Environmental Services Division

Sharon Tahtinen, Legislative Liaison, Dept. of Natural Resources

Brian Tormey, Chief, Land Quality Bureau

DATE: December 17, 2012

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 515-281-8912 or <a href="mailto:jennifer.wright@dnr.iowa.gov">jennifer.wright@dnr.iowa.gov</a>

## Fiscal Year 2012 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)	\$279,810
Civil Penalties and Fines (collected pursuant to 29C.8A)	\$371,350
Interest	\$2,630
TOTAL REVENUE	\$653,790

### **EXPENDITURES**

<u> </u>	
Administration (includes but is not limited to issuing and managing of	contracts and grants,
producing and disseminating educational materials, issuance of reta	ailer permits, and
providing technical assistance to RCCs and local governments	\$536,213
Contracts & Grants for conducting the Educational Programs require	ed pursuant to
455F.8B and 455F.9	\$110,766
Transfer to Department of Public Health for maintaining database	
to track poisoning incidents	\$2,000
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$648,979

### **FISCAL YEAR 2012**

# LEGISLATIVE REPORT





The Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Household Hazardous Materials (HHM) programs provide a wide array of opportunities for Iowans to learn about proper purchasing, use, storage, disposal and dangers related to common household products. HHM programs also provide Iowans with proper disposal opportunities. The DNR's HHM programs are funded through a portion of the solid waste tonnage fee and HHM retailer permits.

This Household Hazardous Materials Program report discusses results of these actions undertaken by the DNR's Land Quality Bureau and its stakeholder partners in Fiscal Year 2012.



**Above:** The Northern Plains Regional Collection Center in Spencer opened October 2012 and serves the city of Spencer, rural residents of Clay County and Emmet and Palo Alto Counties.

### WHAT IS A HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS MATERIAL?

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

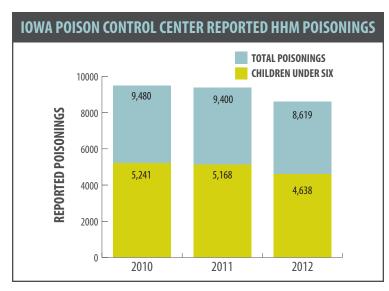
**Above and graph:** Poisonings in children under the age of six have steadily decreased over the past five years. Proper management of HHMs can reduce risks in the home.

### THE IMPACT OF HHMs

HHMs are found in nearly every home; under every sink, in closets, basements and garages. Consequently, nearly every household (and business) in the state generates household hazardous waste. Care should be taken to manage this waste independently from other household (and business) wastes. Improper disposal of HHMs has a negative impact on the environment and aquatic life; potentially contaminating groundwater, surface water and land, impacting air quality and compromising the effectiveness of septic systems and wastewater treatment plant operations.

HHMs are also associated with adverse health and environmental concerns. Health effects caused by hazardous waste can be acute (sudden or immediate onset of severe symptoms) or chronic (gradual onset of symptoms occurring through repeated exposure over an extended period of time). Environmental effects can include fires, explosions and toxic fumes, negative impacts on wastewater treatment and septic system effectiveness and contamination of land and water resources.

HHMs are the leading cause of poisonings in children. For the months of January-November in 2012, the lowa Poison Control Center reported more than 8,600 exposures to HHMs. Of reported poisonings, 54 percent occurred in children under the age of six.



### **REGIONAL COLLECTION CENTERS**



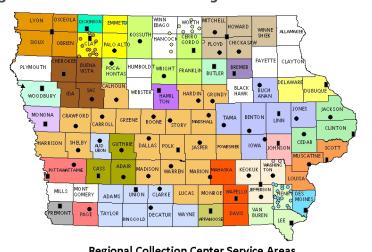
Regional Collection Centers (RCCs) are permanent collection facilities designed to assist the public and conditionally exempt small quantity generator (CESQG) businesses with proper management and disposal of HHMs. RCCs accept hazardous waste for disposal either through local outlets or through contracted service and also provide a materials exchange (Swap Shop) for usable materials and educate citizens about proper purchasing, storage and management techniques for HHMs.

### THE BENEFITS OF RCCs

- Permanent availability, often year-round
- Increased surface and groundwater protection
- Increase in worker safety for both solid waste collectors and landfill operators
- Decrease in hazardous exposures to humans and pets
- Improved safety and indoor air quality in homes
- Reduced potential for damage to sewer and septic systems from improper disposal
- Ongoing education for lowa residents

### **RCCs IN IOWA**

Currently 26 main facilities and 39 satellite facilities are operating across the state serving a total of 89 counties. RCCs experienced an increase in the amount of materials collected in FY 2012. Six million pounds of HHMs were removed from the solid waste stream for proper management: a 22 percent increase from FY 2011. For local RCC contact information go to www.safesmartsolutions.org.



regional conection center service Areas						
cilities	•	Satellite Facilities	0	Serviced Towns	$\blacktriangle$	Sioux City Only RCC

	Appanoose Co. RCC	Dubuque
	Bremer Co. RCC	FMCRCC
	Butler Co. RCC	Fremont F
	Cass Co. RCC	Great Rive
	Cedar Rapids Linn Co. RCC	Hamilton (

■ RCC Main Fac

Cherokee Co. RCC

Clinton Co. Area RCC

Council Bluffs RCC

Dickinson Co. RCC

LNI RCC



Iowa City RCC

Metro Waste RCC



SEMCO RCC Scott Area Regional RCC Woodbury Co. RCC

Unserviced Counties



1.5 million pounds of paint were collected at Iowa RCCs in Fiscal Year 2012.

### REGIONAL COLLECTION CENTER PROGRAM FY 2012 SUMMARY & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

PROGRAM INVESTMENT	
Facility Establishment Funding	\$129,815
Support for Current Facility Operations	\$462,626
TOTAL PROGRAM INVESTMENT FOR FY 2012*	\$592,441

### MATERIALS MANAGED BY HAZARD TYPE

<b>TOXIC</b> Ex: pesticides, poison	138,781 lbs.
CORROSIVE Ex: drain cleaners, mercury	91,447 lbs.
<b>FLAMMABLE</b> Ex: lighter fluid, aerosols, thinners, oil-based paint	341,062 lbs.
<b>REACTIVE</b> Ex: pool chemicals, toilet bowl cleaners, ammonia	7,833 lbs.

### MATERIALS MANAGED BY COMMON PRODUCT TYPE

<b>E-WASTE</b> Ex: computers, televisions, cell phones	2,812,976 lbs.
FLUORESCENTS	232,240 lbs.
LEAD-ACID BATTERIES	191,201 lbs.
MOTOR OIL	719,095 lbs.
<b>OTHER MATERIALS</b> Ex: used oil filters, anti-freeze, rechargable batteries	1,759,697 lbs.
PAINTS	1,587,137 lbs.
HHMs REUSED LOCALLY THROUGH EXCHANGE/SWAP SHOP	406,515 lbs.
CONTRACTED HHM DISPOSAL	2,577,446 lbs.
HHMs MANAGED LOCALLY	3,471,313 lbs.

\* The DNR's HHM programs are funded through a portion of the solid waste tonnage fee and HHM retailer permits.

TOTAL AMOUNT OF HHMs MANAGED 6,455,274 lbs.

## **2012 HHM PROGRAM DETAILS**



#### **IOWA HHM EDUCATION INITIATIVE**

During the months of March and April 2012, an HHM education initiative was undertaken to increase the public's awareness of potential risks of HHMs to the environment and individual health.

Partnership between the DNR and local governments allowed the messages to focus on encouraging residents to look to their local Regional Collection Centers for proper HHM disposal. Launching the campaign in the last week in March coincided with annual spring cleaning and continuing the campaign through the month of April allowed the RCCs to tie-in advertising with local Earth Day activities.

A short survey was conducted at each main RCC facility to help measure the effectiveness of the public awareness campaign. One survey question asked whether the campaign influenced their decision to visit the RCC. More than 78 percent of survey respondents indicated the public awareness advertisement did influence their decision to collect and deliver their unwanted HHMs to the RCC.

The survey also asked RCC visitors if they were a new or repeat customer. 56 percent of respondents said that they were repeat visitors, and 44 percent indicated that they were a first-time visitor to the RCC.

**Below:** HHM education takes many forms. Here, college students receive a tour of an RCC facility.



#### **TOXICS IN PACKAGING**

lowa's Toxics in Packaging law prohibits the sale or distribution of packaging containing heavy metals such as cadmium, lead, mercury, and hexavalent chromium if intentionally introduced and sets limits on incidental presence of these heavy metals in packaging materials. The purpose of this law is to prevent these toxic heavy metals from entering the environment, recycling stream, landfills, and waste incinerators. The Toxics in Packaging Clearing House (TPCH), a joint organization of ten states including lowa, had many noteworthy activities in Fiscal Year 2012 including the following:

### Released two reports:

- \* Laboratory Round Robin Test Project: Assessing Performance in Measuring Toxics in Packaging, assessing the performance of seven national and regional laboratories in measuring the concentration of the four restricted metals lead, cadmium, mercury, and hexavalent chromium in packaging samples.
- \* An Assessment of Heavy Metals in Packaging: A Focus on Flexible PVC from Discount Retail Chain Stores.
- **Conducted two XRF screening projects** which resulted in coordinated state enforcement of state toxics in packaging laws:
  - \* Non compliant PVC packaging, from seventeen manufacturers, distributors and retailers, was brought into compliance with state laws through voluntary actions, which included stopping the distribution and sale of the non compliant packaging in member states.
  - \* Inks and colorants used in packaging, which was identified in previous screening projects as a packaging component with an increased likelihood of containing metals restricted by state toxics in packaging laws. The results will be published in Spring 2013.
- Released a press report on Toxic Heavy Metals in Packaging based on the results from the PVC screening project which was run by at least 5 statewide newspapers, and broadcast media including WQWT Channel 6 and WHO Radio.

