

What Can You Do?

Household Hazardous Waste

- Look for safer alternatives like water based paint in lieu of oil based paint, or compost instead of chemical fertilizers.
- Change what you do. Use a plunger instead of chemical drain cleaners or sandpaper instead of chemical paint strippers.
- Buy only in quantities you currently need.
- Improve housekeeping. Store hazardous products properly.

Electronic Waste

- Research your options and buy the best quality you can afford.
- Consider donating old electronic devices. If that's not an option, RECYCLE!
- Education. Share your knowledge and ideas to reduce HHW and e-waste.
- Learn more about alternatives to hazardous products at www.earth911.com

Check with your local government to find hazardous waste collection sites or days in your city or county.



For more information on water quality and stormwater management go to:

www.stormwaterSMART.org

or contact

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REGIONAL COUNCIL

Stormwater SMART Member Governments:
Davidson County, Randolph County, Rockingham County, Archdale, Asheboro, Burlington, Elon, Gibsonville, Graham, Green Level, Haw River, High Point, Lexington, Mebane, Oak Ridge, Summerfield, Randleman, Reidsville, Thomasville & Trinity.

What Do I Do With It Now?



Please Dispose of Hazardous Waste Properly



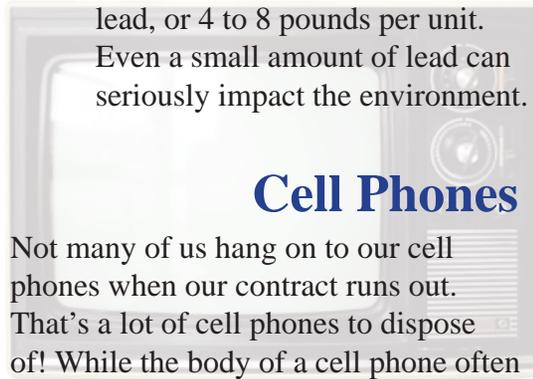
What is E-waste?

It's not uncommon to wake up to a clock radio, turn on the television, check your email and make a phone call before breakfast. Technology is an essential part of our lifestyle. However, these devices are upgraded so often we end up scrapping a load of electronics in the process. This is known as electronic waste (e-waste).

Electronic waste contains "heavy metals". It takes only a small amount of these hazardous materials to contaminate an area's soil or water supply. Materials found in E-waste including glass, copper, aluminum, plastic and other components can often be reused.

Televisions

Those big, boxy televisions that preceded flat screen televisions were approximately 20 percent lead, or 4 to 8 pounds per unit. Even a small amount of lead can seriously impact the environment.



Cell Phones

Not many of us hang on to our cell phones when our contract runs out. That's a lot of cell phones to dispose of! While the body of a cell phone often contains lead, it's the battery that's most dangerous. Cell phone batteries often contain nickel and cadmium. Cadmium is a human carcinogen that causes lung and liver damage.

Computers

Whether you're using a laptop or desktop, your computer likely contains high amounts of lead, cadmium, and mercury.

What is Household Hazardous Waste?

Household Hazardous Waste or HHW are products found around the home that contain volatile chemicals. Examples of HHW are used motor oil, oil-based paint, auto batteries, gasoline and pesticides. These products require special care and can pollute the environment and pose a threat to human health if improperly disposed of.

Unlike regular waste, e-waste and HHW that ends up in a landfill can leach toxic substances into the soil and ground water.

Volatle Chemicals found in HHW are:

- **Ignitable** - capable of turning or causing a fire
- **Corrosive** - capable of leaching away materials and destroying living tissue
- **Explosive and/or Reactive** - capable of causing an explosion or releasing poisonous fumes
- **Toxic** - poisonous
- **Radioactive** - capable of destroying cells and chromosomal material.



E-waste is the fastest growing municipal waste stream in the US.