The City of Springfield's Household Chemical Collection Center is an important component of the Integrated Solid Waste Management System. As with all of the other components of that system, the Household Chemical Collection Center (HCCC) is funded through tipping fees collected at the Springfield Sanitary Landfill and other revenues generated by the services of the City's Division of Solid Waste Management. There is no charge to use the HCCC.

Open year-round at 1226 W. Nichols, the HCCC provides a safe means of disposal for unneeded household chemicals, thereby keeping these materials out of the waste stream while helping to protect the Springfield/Greene County groundwater supply.

The facility is designed and built for the safety and convenience of the community, as well as the efficiency and protection of the technicians. All HCCC personnel receive extensive training, which is updated several times a year, and follows all Environmental Protection Agency, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, Department of Transportation, and Missouri Department of Natural Resources rules, regulations and guidelines.

The goal at the HCCC is to recycle, reuse, or properly dispose of the materials received while ensuring the safety of the public, our environment, and the technicians. Currently, nearly 90% of the materials are reused or recycled.

Follow these simple steps for a successful trip to the HCCC:

1. Call 864-2000 as scheduled appointments are required to help ensure your safety, the technicians, and make your trip quick and efficient. Over the phone, you will discuss with a technician both the type and amount of waste. The technician will then offer an environmentally safe method of disposal, or, if that is not feasible, makes an appointment to bring the materials to the HCCC.

2. Pack your materials for transport according to information received from the technician and as indicated in this brochure.

3. Bring your materials to the HCCC at the appointed time, pull into the all-weather, fully enclosed drive-thru, and turn off the engine. Remain in your car as you will be given a registration form to complete. The technician will review your registration form, the materials, and unload the materials. **Smoking is prohibited during this process.** The technician may offer some tips about alternative products to household chemicals. This whole process takes an average of only 3 to 5 minutes.

**NOTE:** This technician is disposing oil-based paints. Latex paint may be disposed of by other methods. Please call to discuss.

Springfield's voter-approved Integrated Solid Waste Management System is funded by revenues generated from tipping fees at the City's Sanitary Landfill as well as several new revenue sources, including the sale of yardwaste compost and mulch products, grants, honor system fees, and donations.

The Mission of the City of Springfield's Solid Waste Management Division is to provide an Integrated Solid Waste Management System for Springfield and Greene County that is environmentally sound and economically feasible which represents a long-term solution to preserve the natural resources of the region for present and future generations.

For a complete “Guide to Recycling in Springfield” visit www.springfieldmo.gov/recycling or call the Recycling Hotline: (417) 864-1904
Important points about the Household Chemical Collection Center:

• Chemicals accepted by appointment only. Call 864-2000 Monday through Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. to schedule an appointment. Saturday appointments now available.

• Only HOUSEHOLD chemicals are accepted (State regulation). Small businesses should contact the Missouri Department of Natural Resources Technical Assistance Program (TAP) at 800-361-4827.

• A 5-gallon or 50-pound limit of material per appointment.

• Motor oil must be in 1- to 2-gallon containers and hauled in a plastic garbage bag; transporting material this way is extremely dangerous. The Collection Center reserves the right to refuse materials presented in such a manner.

• No more than one chemical container in a plastic garbage bag; transporting material this way is extremely dangerous. The Collection Center reserves the right to refuse materials presented in such a manner.

Acceptance of household chemicals at the HCCC

Look for signal words like: Danger, Poison, Warning, Caution, Reactive, Corrosive, Explosive, Combustible, Toxic, or Flammable.

Automotive products (antifreeze, auto or marine batteries, brake fluid, car wax and cleaners, gasoline, oil filters, transmission fluid, windshield washer fluid)

Pesticides (disinfectant, flea collars, insect repellent, insecticide, mothballs, pet spray and dip, rat and mouse poison, weed killer)

Household cleaners (drain opener, furniture polish and wax, oven cleaner, spot remover, toilet bowl cleaner, tub and tile cleaner)

Other (aerosol cans, art and craft materials, cosmetics, lighter fluid, pool chemicals, shoe polish, fluorescent lamp ballasts (tubes) and compact fluorescent bulbs)

Home improvement products (adhesives, caulk, oil-based paint*, paint thinner, stain, varnish)

* Latex (water-based) paint can be disposed of safely in the trash if the following procedures are in place; we encourage residents to use this alternative:

1. Soak up paint by mixing it with an absorbent material (ex.: cat litter) or a commercially prepared absorbent (ex.: Waste Paint Hardener) available at hardware/home improvement stores.

2. Place the empty and completely dry paint can in your trash to be picked up by your waste hauler. (lids must be removed for the hauler’s inspection.)

Not accepted household chemicals at the HCCC

- Unknown materials (no labels)
- PCBs, Pharmaceuticals
- Explosives/ammunition
- Radioactive wastes
- Infectious wastes
- Compressed gas cylinders
- Laboratory chemicals
- Business wastes - wastes from regulated or permitted generators; commercial wastes or profit/not-for-profit organizations

Planning to move?

It is not uncommon for moving companies to restrict transportation of common household chemicals. Make your appointment well in advance of your moving date to ensure appointment availability.

What can you do to reduce chemical waste?

• Read labels carefully before buying a product.
• Avoid buying hazardous products.
• Look for safer alternative products.
• Buy only what you need to do the job at hand. Newer, safer, more effective chemicals are constantly in development—research and shop around.
• Use products up to avoid a need for waste disposal.

Did you know...

Automotive batteries, button batteries and motor oil can be recycled through various local businesses. Call the Recycling Hotline at 864-1904 for information.

Storing Household Chemicals Safely

• Never mix different or unknown materials together.
• Always leave materials in original labeled containers. If labels are coming off, tape them back on.
• Check all containers and make sure the lids are tight.
• If containers are leaking, pack separately in a larger container and use an absorbent material such as cat litter to soak up leaks.
• Never eat, smoke or drink while handling household chemicals.
• Keep hazardous chemicals away from children, pets, heat, sparks and flames.
• Retain and use labels or other materials which describe the chemical, its uses, precautions, treatments, antidotes, etc.

Transporting Household Chemicals Safely

• Bring products in their original containers, if possible.
• Be sure that products are packed in a sturdy box so they will not spill. Surround them with newspaper or an absorbent.
• If the product container is deteriorating, place the entire container in a plastic bucket with a tight fitting lid. Do not remove the label. Surround the container with an absorbent.
• If you have to repack a corroding container, include original label or clearly label the product.
• Transport the materials in your automobile trunk or truck bed, if possible. If you must transport the products inside your vehicle, open windows for ventilation and do not smoke.

MSDS (Material Safety Data Sheets) are available from chemical manufacturers outlining hazards and precautions for their products.