

## KOOTENAI COUNTY SOLID WASTE DEPARTMENT

### *Household Hazardous Waste Policy*

*This Department Policy governing the disposal of solid waste is promulgated under the authority of Title 4, Chapter 3, Kootenai County Code as it exists or may subsequently be amended and is effective on January 1, 2020.*

EPA regulates household, industrial, and manufacturing solid and hazardous wastes under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA). RCRA's main goals are to protect from the hazards of waste disposal; conserve energy and natural resources by recycling and recovery; reduce or eliminate waste; and clean up waste that which may have spilled, leaked or been improperly disposed. The Hazardous Waste Program (HHW), under RCRA Subtitle C, establishes a system for controlling hazardous waste from the time it is generated until its ultimate disposal.

Wastes covered by the household hazardous waste exclusion must satisfy two criteria:

1. The waste must be generated by individuals on the premise of a temporary or permanent residence, and
2. The waste stream must be composed primarily of materials found in wastes generated by consumers in their homes.

EPA considers small quantities of leftover household products that can catch fire, react, or explode under certain circumstances, or that are corrosive or toxic as household hazardous waste. Products, such as paints, cleaners, oils, antifreeze, and pesticides can contain hazardous ingredients and require special care when being disposed.

The Department does not accept explosive materials. The only exceptions are small arms ammunition and reloading components, flares, and fireworks.

The Department, in conjunction with Idaho Department of Environmental Quality and Panhandle Health District, operates a HHW facility at both Transfer Stations for responsible waste disposal for residents of Kootenai County. Household hazardous wastes must be properly managed within the waste stream to alleviate exposure to employees and the public.

Commercial hazardous waste, in accordance with RCRA Subtitle C, is not permitted or accepted in the Kootenai County waste system. Commercial entities hold a responsibility to dispose of their hazardous waste in compliance with federal standards.

The HHW collection program allows residential customers of Kootenai County to drop off up to 10 gallons of household hazardous waste per collection day. Predetermined collection days vary based on transfer station location. Collection frequency and allotment of residential hazardous materials are subject to change based on departmental needs.

If a customer needs assistance in disposal of explosive materials (e.g. blasting caps, dynamite, igniters), they will be instructed to contact local law enforcement, who will contact the bomb squad and help the individual dispose of the material properly. If explosive material is found at a Department site, 911 will be notified immediately and emergency procedures will be followed to secure the area and await further instruction from proper personnel.

**Enforcement**

Failure to comply with proper disposal procedures, making of a false declaration regarding waste generation or the deliberate disposal of improper waste, and/or the disposal of waste in a manner which may result in a hazard to ground water or the environment, may result in refusal of service and may be defined as unlawful disposal, which is subject to the penalties and remedies outlined in Title 4, Chapter 3, Section 16, Kootenai County Code.