

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE

Collecting and shipping household hazardous waste (HHW) out of your community is important. Pouring these toxic materials down the drain or putting them in with the regular garbage can cause harm to the land, air and water. For example, fluorescent light bulbs contain mercury which the World Health Organization considers one of the top 10 chemicals of major public health concern, and pressurized containers, such as propane or butane cylinders, can explode and cause serious injury or death.

Setting up a system to manage household hazardous waste in your community is a bit complex, but the **Product Care Association (PCA)** will help you through the steps to recycle and dispose of these items safely.

PCA supports collection and recycling of:

- Fluorescent lights (compact fluorescent lights or CFL's, and fluorescent tubes)
- Paints / paint products
- Flammable liquids (e.g. gasoline or paint thinner)
- Corrosives (e.g. rust remover)
- Pesticides (poisons)
- Toxics (e.g. furniture stripper)
- Physically hazardous materials (fuel cylinders)
- Environmentally hazardous products
- Paint aerosols or other aerosols that are not paint but are toxic, flammable or corrosive

You can find a more comprehensive list on the PCA website here:

[PRODUCTCARE.ORG/PROVINCE/MANITOBA/](https://productcare.org/province/manitoba/)

It is not necessary to start collecting all of the items listed above. PCA can work with you to set up collection of just fluorescent lights and/or single use compressed gas cylinders, leftover paint products, lights and cylinders to start.

Once you are approved, get set up as a collection site, and have collected materials according to the PCA guidelines, an approved processor will remove the waste from your community for free. PCA provides compensation in the agreement for approved materials collected and removed.

Information based on: Landfill/Transfer Station Design Requirements for Stewardship Materials, The Backhaul Project (May 2019). Updated June 2022.

01 REGISTRATION

Once your community decides it wants to collect household hazardous waste (HHW), you should contact Product Care and the environment department at Indigenous Services Canada to get assistance with the registration process. You will also need to register as a generator of hazardous waste with the province.

Before starting to collect any HHW, there are a number of important federal and provincial regulations to be sure you follow to keep yourself and the environment safe.

Collection sites for HHW must meet the Manitoba Regulation 195/2015 Hazardous Waste Regulation (WEB2.GOV.MB.CA/LAWS/REGS/CURRENT/_PDF-REGS.PHP?REG=195/2015), the Dangerous Goods Handling and Transportation Act (DGHTA) Licensing Requirements, and applicable Fire/ Building Code requirements. Note that First Nation communities on treaty land under the Federal government are not required to get a DGHTA license, but do require a hazardous waste registration number.

02 COLLECTION & TRAINING

Household hazardous waste products are not acceptable for “curbside” residential collection as they are dangerous to health and the environment. As a best management practice, they should be delivered by individuals to a collection site.

Offering a drop-off day at a central location in the community can work well for collecting HHW. Holding drop-off days on a regular basis, such as once a month, can help community members become accustomed to it, rather than having to wait for a special day.

Program specific training in the form of guidelines, online demonstration for safe packing, or hands-on for full collection sites is provided by PCA. The training includes instruction on collecting, identifying, sorting, safe management of HHW during storage, and preparation for shipment.

Transportation of Dangerous Goods training is required as the community is the consignor (shipper) of the HHW. This training is required to ensure the HHW is properly packed, identified, and prepared for shipment according to TDG Act requirements.

03 STORAGE & EQUIPMENT

Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) must be stored according to Dangerous Goods Handling and Transportation Act (DGHTA) licensing requirements. Heated storage is not required. Building options include constructed buildings, sea containers and semi-trailer units. A minimum of 400 square feet of indoor storage is needed to collect all of the products accepted by PCA and store some supplies.

HHW is stored in 205 litre steel or plastic drums, 4 x 4 x 3 “tubskids” and fluorescent light boxes. PCA supplies the storage containers to ensure they meet MR195/2015 and Transportation of Dangerous Goods Act requirements.

To accept any HHW, it must always be in its original container, identifiable and never mixed or bulked. The original containers are specially packed in a drum or tubskid by a trained operator. Containers under 10L are packed in a drum of vermiculite to ensure safe storage and transport of the HHW.

Regulation requires signage clearly stating hazardous waste is being stored. Items not in the original containers or with original labels that are not intact and readable cannot be accepted.

Drums can be stored on pallets that are in good shape and able to support heavy loads. Drums can also be stored on the floor if they are light enough to move or the site has a drum dolly.

Supplies provided by PCA for collection sites include:

- 205 litre steel drums (for flammable, toxic and aerosol products)
- 205 litre plastic drums (for corrosive products)
- Plastic tubskids (for paint)
- Cardboard boxes (for fluorescent lights)
- A spill kit containing absorbent
- Vermiculite for lab packing HHW
- Portable single use eye wash system
- TDG labels for storage and transport

NOTE: It is critical to receive training from PCA to properly sort and store the original containers of household hazardous waste in drums or tubskids as combining the wrong materials can be deadly.

Equipment and supplies that the collection site operator needs to provide include:

- Pallet jack, forklift or skid steer to move and load pallets onto truck
- Drum dolly where pallets are not used
- Fire extinguisher
- Personal protective equipment (e.g. safety glasses, safety vest, chemical resistant gloves, steel-toed boots)

TRANSPORT & REMOVAL

When you are ready to transport hazardous waste from your community, it must be shipped according to the Dangerous Goods Handling and Transportation Act and the Transportation of Dangerous Goods Act requirements.

Communities must make arrangements for removal of HHW through the transporter approved by PCA. PCA will help you determine who to contact depending on which type of HHW you are shipping. The transportation costs will be covered by PCA.

PCA will provide you with forms to fill out when you need products picked up or storage supplies delivered.



05 RECORD KEEPING

1. The operator must inspect the storage area every 30 days and keep inspection records for a minimum of 2 years. (MR 195/2015) PCA provides a form you can use.
2. When hazardous waste is shipped from a community a movement document/ manifest must accompany each load. The waste generator is responsible for ensuring the manifest is present during transport. Manifest records must be kept for 2 years. (TDG)
3. The site is responsible to report collected volumes of paint material to Manitoba Environment, Climate and Parks annually. Details on what is required is covered during PCA's training for site operators.

Here is an excellent summary of Transport Canada's requirements for Transportation of Dangerous Goods (TDG) with shipping documents you can print if needed:

[TC.CANADA.CA/SITES/DEFAULT/FILES/2020-07/TDG_BULLETIN_-_SHIPPING_DOCUMENT_-_PDF_EN.PDF](https://tc.canada.ca/sites/default/files/2020-07/TDG_BULLETIN_-_SHIPPING_DOCUMENT_-_PDF_EN.PDF)

Your community is considered the consignor (shipper) so when you fill out and/or sign a shipping manifest you are certifying the dangerous goods have been properly classified, packaged and labelled with safety marks according to the TDG Regulations.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Product Care Association

TOLL FREE: 1-877-592-2972

EMAIL: MANITOBA@PRODUCTCARE.ORG

WEBSITE: [PRODUCTCARE.ORG/PROVINCE/MANITOBA/](https://productcare.org/province/manitoba/)

Collection site guidelines and the PCA forms mentioned above can be found on their website here:

[PRODUCTCARE.ORG/SERVICE-PARTNERS/RESOURCES/?PROVINCE=MB&TYPE=&PRODUCT=](https://productcare.org/service-partners/resources/?provinc=MB&type=&product=)

06 INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS

As per the Product Care agreement (page 10):

- 7.5 Collector shall obtain and maintain throughout the term, at its own expense, adequate insurance for its obligations and the services to be performed at the Collection Sites under this Agreement, including the insurance coverage set out below:
 - d. comprehensive general liability coverage of a minimum of \$1,000,000; and
 - e. any other normal insurances sufficient for its business as a Product Care authorized collection facility and to carry out its obligations under this Agreement, (collectively, the "Insurance").
- 7.6 The Collector shall include Product Care as an additional insured in the Insurance.
- 7.7 Collector shall supply Product Care with a certificate of insurance evidencing Product Care as additional insured on an annual basis.

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COMMUNITY EXAMPLE

BUFFALO POINT FIRST NATION

Even before the FNWM team worked with Buffalo Point First Nation there was community interest in diverting Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) in the form of paint, fluorescent lights and aerosols. Thanks to the commitment of the waste team in Buffalo Point they have begun collecting more products which fall under the HHW umbrella.

In 2022, Product Care picked up 4 tubskids of paint from Buffalo Point First Nation, and in 2023 the waste management team had collected another 2 tubskids of paint, as well as a half drum of single use propane canisters and another half "drum of aerosols.

