

Don't Trash That!

In the North Country of New Hampshire



Some things should not go in your trash because they are a **safety hazard** to workers and others at the transfer station.

Please do not put these in the trash:

CHEMICALS, PESTICIDES, USED OIL, PAINT, AND OTHER HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTES (HHW)

Why Not?

- These materials can create a safety hazard for workers at the transfer station
- Leaks and spills can contaminate soil and water

Instead:

- Store carefully at home and bring to a HHW event; visit: www.des.nh.gov, click on "A-Z List", choose "H" and click on "Household Hazardous Waste"
- Many transfer stations collect used oil separately – ask the attendant



AMMUNITION, FLARES, FIREWORKS

Why Not?

- These materials can create a safety hazard for workers at the transfer station

Instead:

- Contact your local police or fire department and follow their instructions



METAL OBJECTS

All type/sizes – including propane tanks

Why Not?

- Propane tanks of all sizes, even when empty present a safety hazard
- The transfer station generates income from selling scrap metal in bulk for recycling

Instead:

- Ask the transfer station attendant where to put propane tanks
- Put metal objects in the designated scrap metal collection area
- Put metal food & drink cans in their regular recycling bins



LIQUIDS

All types

Why Not?

- Liquids make a mess at the transfer station; attract bees, rats, and other pests; and cause odors

Instead:

- If the liquid is from food/beverage, simply empty containers before disposal
- If the liquid is from chemicals, pesticides, used oil, paint, or other HHW – don't empty! Follow the HHW instructions above



More information about used oil at:

www.des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/pip/factsheets/oil/documents/oil-2.pdf

More information about waste paint at:

www.des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/p2au/pps/hhwp/paint/documents/paint_tips.pdf

Some things should not go in the trash because there are better things to do with them. **Please do not put these in the trash:**

RECYCLABLES

Including: paper, some plastics, and containers made of aluminum, steel, and glass

Why Not?

- Towns pay for disposal by weight – any needless disposal costs your town money
- Some towns have ordinances that require recycling (see below)

Instead:

- Bring to the recycling center



FOOD WASTE

Why Not?

- Food waste is nutrient rich and can be composted to make a natural fertilizer for farms and gardens
- Food waste is heavy so it is expensive to dispose of

Instead:

- Consider backyard composting at home
- Investigate if there is a farm or other organization that collects food waste in your area
- Some transfer stations collect food waste - ask the attendant



RECYCLING REQUIREMENTS

Although New Hampshire does not have any state-wide recycling laws, many municipalities have adopted recycling ordinances, including the following communities that are part of the North Country Council (NCC): Berlin, Colebrook, Conway, Franconia, Gorham, Jefferson, Lancaster, Littleton, Northumberland, Pittsburg, and Plymouth.

Before discarding something – consider whether someone else you know can use it. For example, your local school may be able to use your leftover paint to make sets for their next play.

*This handout is focused on **Don't Trash That**, or what not to put in your trash. It is one in a series developed for rural transfer stations to improve safety and promote waste reduction. For additional documents visit: www.newmoa.org/solidwaste/projects/transferstations/publications.cfm.*

DISPOSAL BANS

New Hampshire bans the following materials from solid waste disposal. These items should be managed as universal waste (UW), recycled (R), or composted (C).

- Wet-cell batteries (UW)
- Electronics (R)
- Leaf and yard waste (C)
- Mercury-added products (e.g., thermostats, fluorescent lamps, and mercury thermometers) (UW)

In addition, construction and demolition (C&D) wastes are banned from disposal in incinerators, but can go to landfills.



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