

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION



EXTENDING KNOWLEDGE
Changing Lives

When you support Extension, an increasing number of residents dispose or recycle hazardous waste properly in order to prevent contamination, reduce volume in landfills and protect water quality.



Over 2,600 northern Kentucky residents properly disposed of household hazardous waste. Forty-eight percent of waste was electronics.

Extension Enables Northern Kentucky Residents to Dispose of Household Hazardous Waste Safely

Extension professionals serve on the Northern Kentucky Solid Waste Management Area's Household Hazardous Waste Coalition. Extension's promotion of the proper disposal resulted in a 31% increase in participation.

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The average household produces 20 pounds of hazardous waste annually. This includes paints, cleaners, oils, batteries, and pesticides, which can catch fire, react or explode if not disposed of correctly.

Environmental Protection Agency

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) considers some 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, batteries, and pesticides can contain hazardous ingredients and require special care when you dispose of them. According to the EPA, the average household generates more than 20 pounds of household hazardous waste per year. The EPA has delegated the oversight of hazardous waste in Kentucky to the Division of Waste Management. The Division provides grants for community household hazardous waste collection events to ensure that certain control and safety measures are enforced.

Extension professionals serve on the Northern Kentucky Solid Waste Management Area's Household Hazardous Waste Coalition with county Solid Waste Departments, District Sanitation, and the City of Florence. The coalition received an \$82,955 grant from the Division in 2016 to conduct a Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event on Nov. 5, 2016 at the University of Cincinnati Health Stadium in Florence, Kentucky. In addition, Toyota donated \$5,000 and the Campbell County Extension District Board contributed \$5,000 to help increase Campbell County participation.

Campbell County residents and the farming community identified the need for oil and hydraulic fluid disposal options at Agriculture Council meetings during 2016. Forty-four thousand residences were notified about the event through *What's Happening in Campbell County*. An Extension news article, promoting the event, was published in the Campbell County Recorder, with a circulation of 17,000.

Members of the Household Hazardous Waste Coalition, Extension staff, and over



Over 1,600 pound of paint was collected, a 300% increase in disposal of paint from the previous year.

100 volunteers from Northern Kentucky schools and businesses worked at the event. Participants received educational information about household hazardous waste as they registered. Over 2,600 residents of Boone, Campbell and Kenton counties participated. Disposal and recycling vendors reported collecting:

- 120,785 pounds of paint
- 6,094 pounds of bulk fuel
- 1,825 gallons of oil (17% increase from previous year)
- 6,394 pounds of pesticides
- 3,659 pounds of household cleaners
- 347 car batteries (11,255 pounds)
- 2,869 pound of dry cell, NiCd, and Lithium batteries
- 56 pounds of mercury
- 1,835 pounds of corrosives

Campbell County participation rose by 31%, from 290 people in 2015 to 380 people in 2016. Forty-eight percent of participants disposed of oil or hydraulic fluid, an increase of 16% from the previous year. Seventy-five percent of people dropped off paint, and 48% disposed of electronics.