

Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Mobile Collections

Household hazardous waste or “HHW” are unwanted products that contain corrosive, toxic, ignitable or reactive ingredients that require special care upon disposal. The District sponsors HHW collections around the county each year to help residents safely discard products containing hazardous substances.

Accepted Items:

- Aerosols
- Alcohol-based lotions
- Ammunition
- Antifreeze
- Auto body filler
- Bathrom cleaners
- Corrosives
- Diesel
- Disinfectants
- Drain cleaners
- Dry cleaning solvents
- Flammable liquids
- Floor care products
- Gasoline
- Herbicides
- Insecticides
- Mercury containing products (fluorescent tube lights, CFLs, thermometers, thermostats, etc.)
- Paint (latex and oil-based)
- Thinners and solvents
- Batteries (household and automotive)
- Kerosene
- Lighter fluid
- Medications
- Metal polish
- Moth balls
- Nail polish and remover
- Oil
- Oven cleaners
- Photographic chemicals
- Poisons
- Pesticides
- Primer
- Swimming pool chemicals
- Toilet bowl cleaners
- Sharps (needles)

Items NOT accepted:

- Asbestos
- Controlled substances
- Grill propane cylinders
- Commercial hazardous waste
- Containers larger than five gallons
- Radioactive materials (smoke detectors!)

Unwanted Prescription Medications

Don't wait for a mobile collection; unwanted prescription medications can be taken to any of these law enforcement agencies any time for proper disposal. No sharps (needles), nasal sprays or liquids.

- Valparaiso Police Dept., 355 S. Washington St.
- Portage Police Dept., 2693 Irving St.
- Hebron Police Dept., 106 East Sigler St.
- Porter Police Dept., 50 Francis St.
- Chesterton Police Dept., 790 Broadway
- Porter County Sheriff's Dept., 2755 S. Ind. 49



The Recycling & Waste Reduction District of Porter County is an agency dedicated to improving the environment and quality of life by providing services and educational programs which help residents reduce, reuse, and recycle.

Public Education

Education is an essential part of our mission of waste reduction in the county. The District strives to educate ALL residents of Porter County.

Adults and Civic Groups

- The Master Recycler Program offers adults a comprehensive, multi-week waste reduction education and certification.
- Presentations can be made for any interested organizations and civic groups, based on speaker availability.
- The District also offers an e-mailed newsletter that gives residents great information on the environment and helps residents keep up to date on waste reduction events

Porter County Schools, grades K-12

FREE interactive presentations that meet Indiana state science and social studies standards are available to all teachers and classrooms in Porter County. Topics include: “The Three R’s,” “Wonderful Worms,” “Garbology,” and more!



219-465-3694

info@PorterCountyRecycling.org
www.PorterCountyRecycling.org



- Drop-Off Recycling Locations
- Organic Waste Compost Sites
- Electronics Drop-Off Locations
- Battery Drop-Off Locations
- Public Education
- Household Hazardous Waste Collection Events



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Administrative Office
155 Indiana Ave., Ste. 314, Valparaiso

Drop-Off Recycling Sites

District drop-off recycling sites provide you with containers for glass, plastic, metal cans, paper products and cardboard. These boxes are for residents' use only. Find the location nearest you:

- **Boone Grove, 319 W. 550 South**
- **Burns Harbor, 1240 Boo Rd.**
- **Chesterton, 1600 Pioneer Trail (Strack & VanTil)**
- **Hebron, 125 N. Main St.**
- **Kouts, 406 S. Kouts St.**
- **Portage, 5962 Central Ave. (near Boys and Girls Club)**
- **Valparaiso, 2196 W. U.S. 30 (Strack & VanTil)**

Materials

The District drop-off recycling and most curbside recycling programs in Porter County share some basic, easy to follow guidelines:

Paper and other fibers

- **Accepted:** Newspapers, magazines, junk mail, greeting cards, file folders, envelopes, white/colored copy/computer paper, wrapping paper, glossy paper, file folders, telephone books, paper bags, cereal boxes, cake mix boxes, paperback books and cardboard. Please break down boxes. Staples are acceptable.
- **Not accepted:** Self-stick labels, gum/candy wrappers, tissue paper, waxed paper, paper cups, paper towels, shredded paper, used paper plates or pizza boxes or fiber soiled by food waste.

Glass bottles and jars

- **Accepted:** Clear and colored glass containers. Containers should be empty and labels can be left on.
- **Not accepted:** Flat glass, window panes, mirrors, light bulbs, flatware, ceramics or Pyrex.

Aluminum and metal cans

- **Accepted:** Pop cans, soup cans, coffee cans, etc. Cans should be empty. Leave labels on.
- **Not accepted:** Aerosol cans and aluminum foil.



Plastic containers marked #1-7 (excluding #6)

- **Accepted:** Pop/beverage bottles, cooking oil bottles, peanut butter jars (lids included), milk/juice jugs, margarine/butter tubs, yogurt cups, ketchup bottles, household cleaners and coffee creamers. Lids should be secure on the containers and labels can be left on. Rinsing containers is NOT necessary.
- **Not accepted:** Styrofoam, packing peanuts, carry-out containers, CD/DVD cases, plastic silverware, film plastics (plastic bags, saran wrap, shrink wrap, bubble wrap) and Solo cups.

Cartons

- **Accepted:** Milk, juice, soup, broth and other beverage cartons.

Public Access Compost Sites

- **Valparaiso: 2150 W. Lincolnway**
- **Boone Grove: 546 S. 400 West**

At these locations, Porter County residents can:

- Deposit organic yard waste (leaves, garden clippings, houseplants, brush, limbs, logs, etc.)
- Take as much compost, wood chips and firewood as they can haul themselves.



General site information

- Open April through the first weekend in December. Visit our website for hours.
- Grass accepted at the Boone Grove site only.
- No treated wood or lumber of any kind accepted.

Items also accepted for recycling:

- Electronics
- Household batteries
- Compact or tube fluorescent light bulbs
- Old media (DVDs, video games, CDs)
- Electronics, anything run by batteries or electric
- Printer/toner cartridges

Electronics, Old Media, Toner Drop-Off Sites

Compost sites: Valparaiso and Boone Grove sites, addresses listed above.

- Portage Street Department: 2302 Hamstrom Rd. Call for hours, 762-4564.
- Porter Street Department: 550 Beam St. Call for hours, 926-4212.

This is a DROP OFF program. Anyone dropping off electronics for recycling is responsible for taking their items from the vehicle and placing the items in designated bins. No media with film accepted, e.g., video/cassette tapes.

Household Batteries

Though batteries generally make up only a tiny portion of our waste, they account for a disproportionate amount of the toxic heavy materials in our waste. When batteries are incinerated or disposed of in landfills, these toxins can potentially be released into the environment.

The District sponsors more than 40 locations throughout Porter County where residents can drop off household batteries for recycling.

Visit

www.PorterCountyRecycling.org
to locate a convenient site near you.



Additional Services

- Latex Paint Recycling
- Adopt-A-County-Road Program
- Special Event Recycling Container Loan Program



*The types of accepted materials can change at any time depending on the markets.
Questions on the types of accepted materials can be directed to the District.*