

FISCAL YEAR 2013

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

DNR HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS MATERIALS PROGRAM



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The Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Household Hazardous Materials (HHM) program provides a wide array of opportunities for Iowans to learn about proper purchasing, use, storage, disposal and dangers related to common household products. HHM programs also provide Iowans with proper disposal opportunities. The DNR's HHM programs are funded through a portion of the solid waste tonnage fee and HHM retailer permits.

This report discusses actions undertaken and results from the DNR's HHM program and its stakeholder partners in Fiscal Year 2013.

WHAT EXACTLY IS A HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS MATERIAL OR HHM?

HHM is a term defining common household products that have one or more of the following characteristics:

TOXIC: poisonous, causing cancer or other health problems

CORROSIVE: destroys human tissue or corrodes metal

FLAMMABLE: easily ignitable

REACTIVE: explosive through exposure to heat, sudden shock, pressure or comes into contact with incompatible chemicals

Household hazardous waste (HHW) is commonly defined as waste from residential sources composed of old or unwanted products that exhibit any of the characteristics of HHMs. In Iowa, businesses generating small amounts of hazardous waste are included in the definition of HHW and eligible to participate in DNR programs.

THE IMPACT OF HHMs

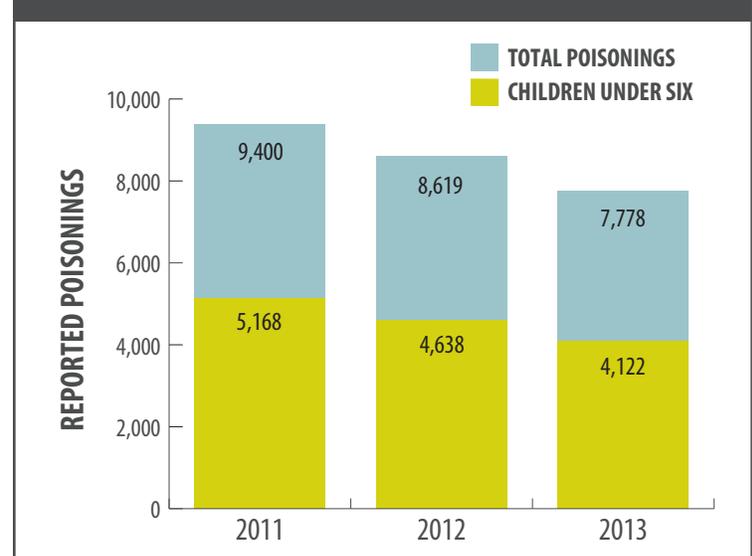
Household Hazardous Materials are found in nearly every home, under every sink, in closets, basements and garages. Consequently, nearly every household (and business) in the state generates household hazardous waste. Care should be taken to manage this waste independently from other household (and business) wastes. Improper disposal of HHMs has a negative impact on the environment and aquatic life; potentially contaminating groundwater, surface water and land, impacting air quality through fires, explosions and toxic fumes and compromising the effectiveness of septic systems and wastewater treatment plant operations.

HHMs are also associated with adverse health and environmental concerns. Health effects caused by hazardous waste can be acute (sudden or immediate onset of severe symptoms) or chronic (gradual onset of symptoms occurring through repeated exposure over an extended period of time). HHMs are the leading cause of poisonings in children. For the months of January-November in 2013, the Iowa Poison Control Center reported 7,778 exposures to HHMs. Of reported poisonings, 53 percent occurred in children under the age of six.



RCC and Iowa DNR education efforts have helped reduce the number of children poisoned by HHMs 56 percent over the past 6 years.

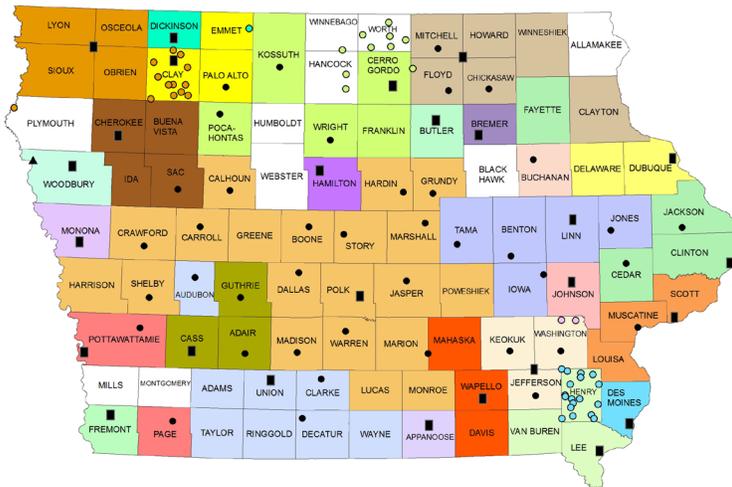
IOWA POISON CONTROL CENTER REPORTED HHM POISONINGS



REGIONAL COLLECTION CENTERS



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Regional Collection Center Service Areas

■ RCC Main Facilities ● Satellite Facilities ○ Serviced Towns ▲ Sioux City Only RCC

REGIONAL COLLECTION CENTERS IN IOWA

Regional Collection Centers (RCCs) are local permanent collection facilities designed to assist the public and conditionally exempt small quantity generator (CESQG) businesses with proper management and disposal of HHMs. RCCs accept specific types of hazardous waste for disposal either through local outlets or through contracted service and also provide a materials exchange (Swap Shop) and educate citizens about proper purchasing and management techniques for HHMs.

Currently 27 main facilities and 39 satellite facilities are operating across the state serving a total of 93 counties. Nearly 6.5 million pounds of HHMs were removed from the solid waste stream including 361,735 pounds of materials which were placed in the RCC materials exchange area as a no cost alternative to buying new HHM's for Iowa citizens.

For local RCC contact information and service areas, go to www.safesmartolutions.org.



Above: A worker at the Bondurant RCC uses a new electric pallet jack purchased with the DNR's RCC innovation grant to move boxes of HHMs.

REGIONAL COLLECTION CENTER FY 2013 SUMMARY & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

PROGRAM INVESTMENT FOR RCC FACILITIES

Establishment Facility Funding	\$23,552
Support for Current Facility Operations	\$464,245
TOTAL PROGRAM INVESTMENT FOR FY 2013*	\$487,797

MATERIALS MANAGED BY HAZARD TYPE

TOXIC Ex: insecticides, pesticides, poison	136,758 lbs.
CORROSIVE Ex: drain cleaners, mercury	77,818 lbs.
FLAMMABLE Ex: lighter fluid, aerosols, thinners, oil-based paint	293,885 lbs.
REACTIVE Ex: pool chemicals, toilet bowl cleaners, ammonia	8,153 lbs.

MATERIALS MANAGED BY COMMON PRODUCT TYPE

E-WASTE Ex: computers, televisions, cell phones	2,079,101 lbs.
FLUORESCENTS	111,559 lbs.
LEAD-ACID BATTERIES	113,658 lbs.
MOTOR OIL	589,854 lbs.
OTHER MATERIALS Ex: sharps, scrap metals, used oil filters, antifreeze, rechargeable batteries	1,483,616 lbs.
PAINTS	1,526,200 lbs.

HHMs REUSED LOCALLY THROUGH EXCHANGE/SWAP SHOP	361,735 lbs.
CONTRACTED HHM DISPOSAL	2,303,037 lbs.
HHMs MANAGED LOCALLY	3,775,955 lbs.
TOTAL AMOUNT OF HHMs MANAGED	6,440,726 lbs.

* The DNR's RCC Facilities are funded through solid waste tonnage fees remitted to the solid waste account of the Groundwater Protection Fund.



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www.iowadnr.gov | www.safesmartolutions.org

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