

# Bureau of Solid Waste



Q&A with Recycle Rob

Recycle Rob,

How should families store household hazardous products until the program starts up again in the Spring?

#### - Harold Househaz

Dear Harold Househaz,

Always store household hazardous products securely. Keep cleansers and other chemicals in cupboards that are inaccessible to children and keep them in their original labeled containers with lids. Keep products from freezing and never store them in an unheated garage during the winter. The only exceptions are products labeled "flammable" or "combustible." Never store gasoline and other fuels indoors. Keep them out of the sun and away from heat, sparks and other flames. If the product container starts to deteriorate during the fall/winter months, put it in a plastic bucket. Surround the inside of the bucket with a nonflammable absorbent such as kitty litter. Be sure to label the bucket.

Recycle Rob

Submit your own questions by emailing them to: <u>Robert.Murrow@baltimorecity.gov</u>

# From <u>Your</u> Recycling Coordinator...

This month, is the last month to drop off your household hazardous waste. Friday and Saturday, October 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> are the last drop off days for this year. The program will resume in spring 2014.

When it comes to paint (and we see a LOT of paint at our HHW drop off), first, before you buy, try to accurately determine just how much you need so you don't have a lot left over. Second, if you have a lot of paint left over, try to donate it, list it on Craigslist or use Freecycle.

Unlike oil paints, latex paints aren't considered hazardous waste. If you have leftover latex paints that can't be recycled, reused or stored, pour the paints into a box with shredded paper or kitty litter, allow it to solidify away from kids or pets, then discard in the trash. Recycle empty paint cans with other metals. If dried paint fills a can to a depth of about a half inch or less, dry it in the can and recycle the paint can. If you have a more-or-less full can of dried latex paint, unfortunately, the next step is to remove the lid and toss the whole can in with the trash.

Also, please keep in mind, we don't accept acids, fireworks, asbestos, ammunition and any material not in its original packaging. The Household Hazardous Waste Drop off is for residents only – not business or commercial entities.

To see a list of acceptable and not acceptable for materials go to <a href="http://publicworks.baltimorecity.gov/Recycling/HouseholdHazardousWaste.aspx">http://publicworks.baltimorecity.gov/Recycling/HouseholdHazardousWaste.aspx</a>

Keep recycling!

*Robert Murrow* Recycling Coordinator

# Columbus Day

October 14, 2013

Citizens' Convenience Centers are closed;

no Mechanized Street Sweeping.

Not a regular trash & recycling collection day.



## Next Household Hazardous Waste Days are Oct. 4 & 5

Got unused bug spray, oil paint, batteries or fluorescent light bulbs you need to dispose of properly? Then you need to come to our next monthly Household Hazardous Waste event at the Northwest Citizens' Convenience Center at 2840 Sisson Street, Friday & Saturday, October 4<sup>th</sup> and 5th from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The program takes place the first Friday & Saturday of the month from April to October.

Most of what we get is paint. Oil paint <u>is</u> household hazardous waste but latex water-based paint <u>is not</u>. Dry it out and place with your regular mixed refuse.

We also cannot accept *anything* not in the original manufacture's packaging.



# Bureau of **Solid Waste**



October 2013

# Re *minders*

Citizens' Convenience Centers are closed & no Mechanized Street Sweeping on Monday, October 14, 2013, Columbus Day! This is not a regular trash & recycling collection day.

Extended hours at our Citizens' Convenience Centers have ended and are back to their regular operating hours of 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. except for the Northwest Transfer Station which is always from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The Mayor's Fall Clean up is Saturday, October 26! Call 311 to register your community organization.

## Please don't use plastic bags!

You can use anything as a container for your recyclables *except* plastic bags. With single stream recycling, recyclables go through on conveyer and are sorted by a variety of means. Plastic bags tend to get jammed up in the machinery. This causes a shut down of the sorting process and can damage the machinery. Many grocery



stores and supermarkets will take and recycle your used plastic bags.

## Acceptable and Unacceptable Recycling Material

Fengus

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## Acceptable Recycling Material: Aerosol Cans (empty) Aluminum: cans, beverage and food containers, foil (clean), and pie pans Bottles: narrow-neck bottles Cartons (waxed): used for a liquid such as juices, milk or soups Glass containers such as bottles and jars (brown, clear or green) Metal: beverage and food containers Plastic: bottles and jars Prescription bottles, including caps. Steel: beverage containers and food Tin: cans and foil

### **Rigid Plastics**

(to be taken to the citizen drop-off centers) Rigid plastics include milk/soda crates, buckets, laundry baskets, children's toys, etc.

### Unacceptable Recycling Material Examples:

Cookware and plates (plastic) Containers of toxic substances -e.g., cans motor oil, pesticides, etc. Contaminated paper products -e.g., napkins, paper towels, and tissue Dry cleaning bags Glass (window and mirror) Waxed paper

The Office of Recycling Abel Wolman Municipal Building 200 Holliday Street Room 1001 Baltimore, MD 21202 Re-News Editor Robert Murrow Recycling Coordinator E: <u>Robert Murrow@baltimorecity.gov</u> P: 410-573-4511 F: 410-545-6117

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