

MONETT'S HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE FACILITY

Since April 4, 2007, the citizens of Lawrence and Barry Counties and surrounding areas have had a permanent facility to dispose of household chemical waste. The site to collect the material is located at the Monett Compost Center on East Broadway. In the past, Monett area residents have had only one day out of the year for collection.

Through a grant from the District N Solid Waste Board, a cargo container serves as a satellite site allowing year-round collection of materials. Joplin and Branson are the only other cities in Missouri with a similar satellite set-up. The cost of properly disposing of the chemicals will come from a grant initially and then will be borne by the county and municipalities.

The average homeowner has about 115 pounds of household chemicals at his or her residence. The following is a list of items that can be classified as household chemical waste and will be accepted at the collection site: household products such as cleaners, furniture polish, drain opener, disinfectant and floor wax; automotive products such as antifreeze, brake fluid, batteries, degreaser, diesel fuel, kerosene, transmission fluid, old fuels; lawn and garden products such as pesticides and fertilizers; home improvement products such as oil-based paint, paint thinner, paint stripper, stain, varnish, wood preservative; miscellaneous products such as photography chemicals, swimming pool chemicals, smoke detectors, thermometers, Ni-cad batteries, boat and car batteries. This list is not all-inclusive of items that can be found in and around the home that could be classified as household hazardous waste. Latex paint will not be accepted because it can safely be disposed of in a landfill by allowing it to dry out and solidify or speeding up the process with cat litter, sand, or sawdust.

There will be no charge for this service, but only residential material will be accepted. State law prevents the facility from accepting commercially generated waste.

City employees, who have received the required training to accept the materials, must be present at the site to receive any chemical waste when it is delivered. If one of the employees is not present, the citizen will be asked to take it back home and call for an appointment.

Anyone bringing material to the facility will be asked to fill out a simple form so personnel can track where materials are coming from. Monett area residents are asked to call 235-3495 to set up an appointment to bring their material during operating hours from 7:30 am – 3:15 pm on Wednesdays and Fridays.