State of Vermont, Agency of Natural Resources
Flood Recovery Resources

Flood Debris Cleanup

After a flood event, most debris can be disposed of in one container. Flood-damaged recyclables or food waste can be thrown away in the trash. The cleanup of paint, chemicals, oil, gas, pesticides, and other hazardous materials in flood-damaged basements and properties needs special care. To protect solid waste workers and the environment, it is critical that residents, businesses, contractors, and cleanup crews separate these hazardous items from trash.

Keep these items separate from trash:

- Dangerous wastes such as toxics, pesticides, explosives, gasoline, oil, pool chemicals, acids, drain cleaner, fireworks, flares, ammo, and unprotected “sharps”
- Oil, brake cleaner, other toxic car products
- Paint, stain, varnish, paint thinner/stripper
- Propane cylinders, other gas cylinders
- Hazardous Waste
- Batteries
- Electronics
- Mercury products such as fluorescent bulbs, thermostats, and thermometers
- Tires
- Scrap metal and large appliances such as refrigerators, freezers, stoves, washers, and dryers

Household hazardous waste collection services may be available from Solid Waste Management Entities (SWME). Learn more by contacting your SWME at **802recycles.com**. Services vary, but some of these items may be accepted at your local transfer station.

Other Tips:

- Be safe! Use gloves and eye protection. Handle household chemicals with care.
- Secure materials from children and pets.
- If an item is leaking, place the container in a pail.
- Do not mix chemicals or pour them down the drain or on the ground.

If you have questions, contact the VT Department of Environmental Conservation, Solid Waste Program at 802-828-1138.

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