



Guidance for Municipalities: Temporary Flood Debris Collection Sites for Special Materials Best Practices

Due to the July 2023 flood, municipalities are allowed set up temporary collection sites for flood debris materials such as woody debris, Household Hazardous Waste (HHW), appliances and electronics, batteries, tires, and other flood damaged hazardous or special materials separate from trash. Municipalities must separate these materials from other flood debris trash to protect solid waste workers and human health and the environment. Flood Debris Trash should be transported to area transfer stations or HHW facility as soon as possible to mitigate any health or nuisance issues.

Notify the Solid Waste Program — Dennis Fekert (dennis.fekert@vermont.gov) – of the location of a temporary flood debris collection site and specify what and how materials will be collected and communicate with Dennis again on what date the materials were transferred to a proper management facility.

Record and save the addresses of the people's locations for where the material originated from and records for collection and processing costs in order to be eligible for FEMA reimbursement.

**If you have questions, contact the VT Department of Environmental Conservation,
Solid Waste Program at 802-828-1138 or visit www.VTrecycles.com.**

Household Hazardous Waste:

- ▶ Place the HHW in a secondary containment, like a plastic bin or bucket, and put a lid on it. Do not open or mix materials from separate containers.
- ▶ Set the HHW aside, under cover, in a secure, vented area out of the way so it doesn't get knocked over. Do not put it in a location where it could be close to heat or someone smoking.
- ▶ Take it as soon as possible to a permanent HHW facility or utilize a HW Contractor for pick up.

Electronics and Batteries

- ▶ Store materials in a covered area and on an impervious surface.
- ▶ Tape terminals or bag individually any lithium or lithium-ion batteries.
- ▶ Store any damaged electronics containing batteries or damaged batteries in a closed container such as a pail or drum with Cellblock or with sand or kitty litter.

Propane Tanks: 20-pound Grill Size or 1 pound camping Propane Tanks and Fire Extinguishers

- ▶ Stand all tanks upright and out of the way so they don't get knocked over. Ideally, they should be stored in a cage to prevent injury.
- ▶ Do not store inside a building or container or close to heat or someone smoking.

Note that larger propane or other fuel tanks must be collected by a fuel provider.

Appliances

- ▶ Stand upright so that refrigerants don't leak from the units.
- ▶ Remove refrigerator or freezer doors or lock closed.
- ▶ Separate any units containing Freon or other refrigerant gases such as refrigerators, dehumidifiers, air conditioners, freezers for transfer to a licensed refrigerant removal contractor.

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