ROCKINGHAM PLANNING COMMISSION
Empowering Communities
theRPC.org

December 2025

Household Hazardous **Waste Collection**

A Feasibility Study of HHW collection options for the Rockingham Planning Commission Region

Prepared By : Rockingham Planning Commission

Household Hazardous Waste Collection

A Feasibility Study of HHW Collection Options for the Rockingham Planning Commission Region

Prepared By: Jill Longval, Special Projects Planner, Rockingham Planning Commission

December 2025

SECTION 1. Introduction

Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Primer

What is HHW?

By definition, household hazardous wastes (HHW) are products that contain corrosive, flammable, toxic, or reactive ingredients.

Corrosive substances will destroy or irreversibly damage other substances they come in contact with. They can damage eyes, skin, and tissue, with exposure resulting in chemical burns. Inhalation or ingestion can damage the respiratory and gastrointestinal tracts. Words such as "causes severe burns on contact" or "can burn eyes, skin, throat" indicate a product is corrosive.

Flammable substances can burn or ignite, causing fire. Solids, liquids, and gases can all be flammable. Flammable materials should never be used or stored near sources of heat, flame, sparks, static discharge, or in unventilated areas. Words such as "don't use near heat or flame," "combustible," and "do not smoke near this product" indicate a product is flammable.

Toxic substances are capable of causing injury or death through ingestion, inhalation, or absorption. Many household cleaning products are toxic. In fact, in 2020 with the rise of Covid-19, Poison Control Centers received a spike in calls involving exposure to cleaners and disinfectants (Chang, 2020). Words such as "harmful or fatal if swallowed" or "use only in well ventilated areas" indicate a product is toxic.

Reactive substances can spontaneously ignite or create poison vapors when mixed with other products. They can also explode when exposed to heat, light, sudden shock, or pressure. Fortunately, with the exception of fireworks, most current consumer products are not reactive. The word reactive will likely appear on the label.

Why Worry about HHW?

When household hazardous waste is improperly disposed of—put in the trash, on the ground, down the sink, or into a storm drain—it can pollute water, threaten human health, and harm wildlife. Certain products, such as used oil, are frequently poured down storm drains that can flow directly into streams and ponds. Many other products are disposed of in the sink, which drains to septic systems or sewers and ultimately reaches groundwater and surface waters. Dumping solvents into septic systems or landfills can contaminate ground and surface waters, polluting drinking water, and killing fish and wildlife. Pesticides can damage a wastewater treatment plant's ability to properly clean septage.

Rockingham Planning Commission's 2025 Regional Master Plan Survey[1] asked participants to select the top 3 issues they thought should be priorities for investment in the region and in their community. Respondents put "environmental protection and natural resource conservation" and "enhancing and protecting water resources" as two of their top three priorities in both cases. Survey participants were

[1] Survey results can be found in the Appendix of this report.

then asked to select the top 3 environmental protection priorities in the region. Respondents overwhelmingly selected "protecting the quality of drinking water supplies" as their #1 priority (72%).

About This Study

Why Write this Study?

The limited and infrequent ability for households in the Rockingham Planning Commission (RPC) region to properly dispose of their HHW at a collection event increases the likelihood of improper disposal, putting critical drinking water resources at risk. One municipality in the region does not offer annual HHW collections, which leaves its residents without any way to properly dispose of HHW for a long period of time. Even when municipalities do provide annual HHW collections, they often only hold one event per year. Furthermore, all HHW collections in the region are seasonal, providing no opportunities to dispose of HHW from late fall through spring. This infrequent and seasonal schedule means that residents often do not have a way to properly dispose of their HHW in a timely manner. It is particularly problematic when moving or cleaning out a home after a loved one has passed away.

In addition, there is no formal coordination across municipal HHW collection programs. This makes it difficult for municipal staff to recommend other HHW disposal options to their residents if they cannot attend their own municipality's event.

The goal of this project is to determine which methods of HHW collection are feasible in the RPC region to provide residents with more frequent and convenient opportunities to properly dispose of their HHW. While the geographic focus of this project is narrowly defined, the results are applicable to other regions of the state.

Overview of Rockingham Planning Commission Region

This project focuses on the Rockingham Planning Commission (RPC) region, which includes the municipalities of Atkinson, Brentwood, Danville, East Kingston, Epping, Exeter, Fremont, Greenland, Hampstead, Hampton, Hampton Falls, Kensington, Kingston, New Castle, Newfields, Newington, Newton, North Hampton, Plaistow, Portsmouth, Raymond, Rye, Salem, Sandown, Seabrook, South Hampton, and Stratham. The total population of the region is 204,511 (NH OPD, 7/29/2024). There are currently 330 active public water systems in the RPC region, 127 of which are community water systems.

Acknowledgements

Advisory Committee

This project was guided by an Advisory Committee comprised of HHW project managers, municipal staff, and elected officials from each of Rockingham Planning Commission's member communities as well as the municipalities of Auburn, Chester, and Raymond, who participate in HHW collections held within the RPC region. The Advisory Committee also had representatives from the Seacoast Drinking Water Commission and NH Dept. of Environmental Services (DES) staff.

RPC would like to extend a special thank you to Tim Prospert, NH DES Hazardous Waste Technical Assistance Administrator, who answered countless questions about the HHW grant program and hazardous waste regulation before he retired.

Funding Source

Federal Funds paid under this agreement are from a grant to the State of NH from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Set-Asides under CFDA #66.468.

Methodology

This feasibility study examines three methods for improving access and helping residents to properly dispose of their HHW:

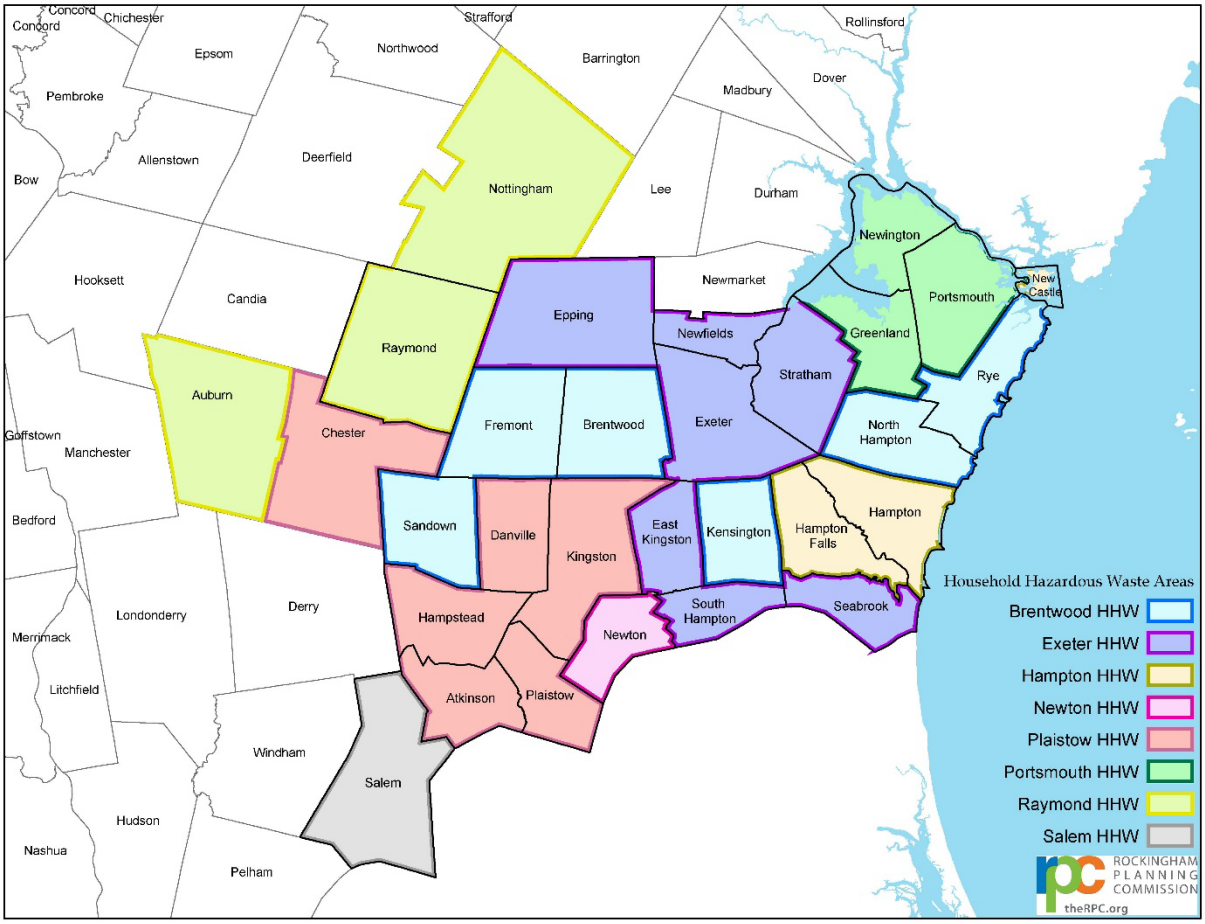
- Method 1—Add Single day Collection Events
- Method 2—Establish a Permanent HHW Collection Facility
- Method 3—Implement Curbside HHW Collection

Section 2 of this report highlights the current status of HHW collections in the RPC region. Section 3 provides details about each method for expanding HHW collection opportunities in the region. Section 4 evaluates each method based on its Technical, Financial, Market, and Governance feasibility, makes recommendations, and outlines next steps. Section 5 provides an Appendix of supporting documentation.

SECTION 2.
Current Status of HHW Collection in the RPC Region

Current Status of HHW Collection in RPC Region

Current HHW Collection Events



Map Credit: Rockingham Planning Commission

Every municipality in the RPC region has access to a HHW collection event. Newton and Salem are the only municipalities in the region that do not collaborate with other communities to run their HHW collections. The remaining communities are organized as follows:

- Brentwood Area HHW Program—participating communities include Brentwood, Fremont, Kensington, North Hampton, Rye, and Sandown
- Exeter Area HHW Program—participating communities include East Kingston, Epping, Exeter, Newfields, Seabrook, South Hampton, and Stratham
- Hampton Area HHW Program—participating communities include Hampton, Hampton Falls, and New Castle
- Plaistow Area HHW Program— participating communities include Atkinson, Danville, Hampstead, Kingston, Plaistow, and Chester

- Portsmouth Area HHW Program—participating communities include Portsmouth, Greenland, and Newington
- Raymond Area HHW Program—participating communities include Auburn, Nottingham, and Raymond

Key Findings

1. All HHW collection in the RPC region is conducted as single-day events. None of these single day events utilizes a permanent storage building. In addition, there are no permanent HHW collection facilities in the region.
2. Every municipality in the region can attend at least 1 collection event annually, with the exception of Newton. Newton residents have access to 1 collection event every other year.
3. 57% of the RPC region's population has access to 1 collection event per year. 41% of the region's population has access to 2 collection events per year. 2% of the region's population has access to 1 collection event every other year.
4. There are no collection events in the region during the months of January, February, March, June, July, August, November, or December.
5. There are 6 vendors serving communities in the region: Veolia, North Ward Environmental, Tradebe, ACV Environmental, Environmental Projects Inc., and MXI.
6. Cost per participating household varies widely across the region, from a low of $38/participating household in Brentwood to a high of $217.39/participating household in Newton. The average cost per participating household in 2024 was $106.93.
7. The average cost per event in 2024 was $33,322.18, with a low of $11,742 for the Brentwood event and a high of $50,000 for the spring 2024 Portsmouth event.
8. The Exeter HHW program charges all participants $15 per vehicle, which covers up to 10 gallons or 20 pounds of waste. This includes the towns of East Kingston, Epping, Exeter, Newfields, Seabrook, South Hampton, and Stratham. Residents of Hampton Falls buy tickets prior to the Hampton HHW event (ticket price = $31.50 in 2023, $33 in 2025). No other HHW programs in the RPC region currently charge a user fee.
9. The only collection event that has a formal governance structure is the Southeast Regional Refuse Disposal District (https://srrd53.com/), which operates under RSA 53-B. This includes the towns of Brentwood, Fremont, Kensington, North Hampton, Rye, and Sandown.
10. There are no opportunities for Very Small Quantity Generators (VSQGs) to participate in HHW collections in the region.

Total Number of HHW Collections in the RPC Region

Host Community	Number of Events per Year
Plaistow (spring), rotating (fall)	2
Brentwood	1
Exeter	1
Portsmouth	2
Hampton	2
Raymond	1
Salem	1
TOTAL	**10**

Summary of HHW Collection Access by Municipality

Municipality	# of Events per Year	Dates	Host Community
Atkinson	2	April & October	Plaistow (spring), rotating (fall)
Brentwood	1	September	Brentwood
Danville	2	April & October	Plaistow (spring), rotating (fall)
East Kingston	1	October	Exeter
Epping	1	October	Exeter
Exeter	1	October	Exeter
Fremont	1	September	Brentwood
Greenland	2	April & September	Portsmouth
Hampstead	2	April & October	Plaistow (spring), rotating (fall)
Hampton	2	May & September	Hampton
Hampton Falls	2	May & September	Hampton
Kensington	1	September	Brentwood
Kingston	2	April & October	Plaistow (spring), rotating (fall)
New Castle	2	May & September	Hampton
Newfields	1	October	Exeter
Newington	2	April & September	Portsmouth
Newton	1 every other year	October	Newton
North Hampton	1	September	Brentwood
Plaistow	2	April & October	Plaistow (spring), rotating (fall)
Portsmouth	2	April & September	Portsmouth
Raymond	1	September	Raymond
Rye	1	September	Brentwood
Salem	1	September or October	Salem
Sandown	1	September	Brentwood
Seabrook	1	October	Exeter
South Hampton	1	October	Exeter
Stratham	1	October	Exeter

Summary of HHW Collections by Month

Month	Collection Available to Residents in these Municipalities
January	None
February	None
March	None
April	Atkinson, Danville, Greenland, Hampstead, Kingston, Newington, Plaistow, Portsmouth
May	Hampton, Hampton Falls, New Castle
June	None
July	None
August	None
September	Brentwood, Fremont, Greenland, Hampton, Hampton Falls, Kensington, New Castle, Newington, North Hampton, Portsmouth, Raymond, Rye, Salem (if not held in October), Sandown
October	Atkinson, Danville, East Kingston, Epping, Exeter, Hampstead, Kingston, Newfields, Newton, Plaistow, Salem (if not held in September), Seabrook, South Hampton, Stratham
November	None
December	None

2024 Participation, Cost, and Vendor Summary

Event	# of Participating Households	Total Cost for Disposal	Cost per Participating Household	Vendor
Plaistow (spring)	363	$44,032.43	$121.30	Veolia
Danville (fall)	327	$40,995.35	$125.37	Veolia
Brentwood	309	$11,742.00	$38.00	North Ward Environmental
Exeter	313	$41,731.68	$133.33	Tradebe
Portsmouth (spring)	286	$50,000.00	$174.83	ACV/Republic
Portsmouth (fall)	249	$37,000.00	$148.59	ACV/Republic
Hampton (spring)	371	$22,390.00	$60.35	Environmental Projects, Inc.
Hampton (fall)	356	$21,602.50	$60.68	Environmental Projects, Inc.
Raymond	193	$13,050.00	$67.62	Tradebe
Salem	500	$49,000.00	$98.00	MXI
Newton (2023)	161	$35,000.00	$217.39	North Ward Environmental
TOTAL	**3428**	**$366,543.96**		

Current Participation Rates

Communities with single day HHW collections can expect to serve between 1% and 5% of their households per year (Nightingale, 11/2/20). If the current collections serve less than 5% of households, it indicates there is a larger market share to be had through existing single day events.

2024 Participation Rates by Program

Program	Total Participating Households	# of Eligible Households[1]	Participation Rate
Plaistow	690	16,160	4.3%
Brentwood	309	10,589	2.9%
Exeter	313	16,045	2.0%
Portsmouth	535	12,354	4.3%
Hampton	727	8,716	8.3%
Raymond	193	5,724	3.4%
Salem	500	12,258	4.1%
Newton[2]	161	1,789	9.0%
TOTAL[3]	3,428	83,635	**4.1%**

2024 Participation Rates by Event

Event	# of Participating Households	# of Eligible Households[1]	Participation Rate
Plaistow (spring)	363	16,160	2.2%
Danville (fall)	327		2.0%
Brentwood	309	10,589	2.9%
Exeter	313	16,045	2.0%
Portsmouth (spring)	286	12,354	2.3%
Portsmouth (fall)	249		2.0%
Hampton (spring)	371	8,716	4.3%
Hampton (fall)	356		4.1%
Raymond	193	5,724	3.4%
Salem	500	12,258	4.1%
Newton[2]	161	1,789	9.0%
TOTAL[3]	3,428	83,635	**4.1%**

1. Calculated using 2023 ACS 5 year estimates of Total Households

2. Newton only holds 1 collection event every other year

3. Total # of eligible households is higher than the total # of households in the RPC region because these events include the non-RPC towns of Auburn, Chester, and Nottingham

SECTION 3.
Methods for Expanding HHW Collection Opportunities

Method 1. Add Single Day Collection Events

As their name implies, single day collection events occur over the course of one day. Single day events are typically held on publicly owned sites, such as parking lots, transfer stations, schools, fire stations, public works buildings, or wastewater treatment plants. They are often scheduled on a Saturday in the spring or fall and appointments may or may not be required.

Municipal staff usually provide traffic control and signage and are responsible for participant registration and surveys. Municipalities hire a qualified hazardous waste vendor to handle the HHW collection, transportation, and disposal of the materials collected. These firms should be licensed to store, transport, and dispose of HHW in accordance with state and federal laws. The vendor is typically responsible for:

- Providing necessary materials and equipment to run the collection event.
- Providing necessary collection day services, such as unloading vehicles; screening, packaging, testing, and labeling waste; supervising volunteers; and hauling and disposing of the waste collected.
- Properly training its collection staff.
- Obtaining necessary insurance.
- Consulting and coordinating with municipal program planners.
- Identifying appropriate hazardous waste Treatment, Storage, and Disposal facilities (TSDFs).
- Complying with all applicable federal, state, and local requirements.
- Submitting post-collection reports and manifests.

Currently, all HHW collections held in the RPC region are examples of single day events.

Single day events utilizing a permanent storage building

Some single day collection events utilize an on-site permanent storage building. These buildings are typically pre-fabricated and have multiple rooms separated by partition walls, allowing for the safe storage of incompatible materials in different compartments. Storage buildings have built-in secondary containment measures, fire suppression systems, and other customizable features. They can be added to most locations with minimal site work.

Municipalities may choose to use these buildings in conjunction with single day collection events, because they allow programs to store partially filled drums and containers in between collection events, which can reduce costs. These buildings are subject to a number of rules, including waste cannot be stored for more than 90 days and inspections are required every 7 days or less.

This study will not analyze the feasibility of using a permanent storage building in conjunction with a single day event, for several reasons. First and foremost, adding a permanent storage building to a single-day event does not help to expand access to or provide more frequent and convenient HHW collections for residents, which is the purpose of this study. Second, there is currently no grant funding for municipalities to purchase a permanent storage building. Without grant funding, the savings

associated with not having to ship partially filled containers are quickly overshadowed by the cost of the building, not to mention maintenance and weekly inspection costs. Third, waste can only be stored in these buildings for a maximum of 90 days. Therefore, they are only practical at a site that has multiple single day collection events within 90 days of one another, which does not exist in the RPC region.

Advantages of Single-Day Collection Events

- Set dates can provide motivation—some people respond well to an imposed deadline, making them more likely to participate in a collection event rather than utilize an ongoing facility.
- Manageable Cost—there is no need for large capital expenses. Municipalities have control over their budget by limiting the number of participants and events held.
- Sustainable—HHW vendors are likely to continue offering this service.
- Limited Liability—most of the liability falls on the vendor, who assumes generator status for the waste.
- Politically Acceptable—elected officials and the general public already support these events.
- Easy to Implement—these events are limited in duration, can be run as a turnkey operation by the vendor, follow the same procedures each event, and can be set up in a wide variety of locations.
- Easy to Promote—residents already have a good understanding about how single day events work.

Disadvantages of Single-Day Collection Events

- High Cost—single-day events have a high cost to volume collected ratio, as well as significant setup charges.
- Limited Participation—even the best single-day events only serve 5% of their households per year (Nightingale, 11/2/20). A significant amount of advertising is required for reasonable participation rates and weather can impact participation.
- Event Limitations—the need for quick operations sometimes comes at the expense of efficient packing, which can add to costs. In addition, the short duration of the event means there is not time to set up a donation/reuse center. Single-day events also provide limited opportunities for VSQG participation.
- Weather Dependent—single day events are not typically held in winter months. In addition, inclement weather can decrease participation rates.
- Safety/Liability at the Event—managing hundreds of households in a single day can be chaotic. The fast pace and large volume of waste make accidents more likely. Traffic congestion is also a concern.
- Safety at Households—if residents have to wait upwards of a year to dispose of their HHW it can create unsafe storage conditions for homeowners.

- Inconvenient—single-day collections provide limited opportunities for participation. Some people do not have flexibility in terms of when they need an event. They may be moving or they may have come from out-of-town to clean up a relative's estate. The timing of a single-day collection may not coincide with their needs and they would be more likely to participate in an ongoing, permanent facility. In addition, single-day collections can have long lines and wait times, making them less convenient for residents.
- No Ongoing Educational Opportunities—single-day events require a concentrated outreach effort on a tight schedule. Outreach and education then typically stops until the next event, which can be up to a year later.

Where to Potentially Add Collection Events

It would likely be easier to increase participation in the Brentwood (2.9% participating households), Exeter (2.0%), and Raymond (3.4%) programs, as they have the most room for improvement. These programs also only have one collection per year, making them a natural choice for an additional event. The Plaistow (4.3%), Portsmouth (4.3%), and Salem (4.1%) collections are all close to the upper end of the expected participation rate for single day events, leaving less room for growth. The Plaistow and Portsmouth programs also already have two events per year. The Hampton (8.3%) and Newton programs are already exceeding the expected participation rate for single day events and Hampton currently holds two collections per year. Newton only holds an event every other year, so while it has a high participation rate for its biannual event (9.0%), it may be helpful to offer an event annually. This can be accomplished more cost effectively by partnering with other municipalities.

When to Potentially Add Collection Events

Residents in the RPC region have no access to collection events during the months of June, July, or August. This creates a gap over the summer where there are no opportunities for HHW disposal. In addition, all of the existing events in the region occur on Saturdays. This makes it difficult for residents who work on weekends to attend a collection. Consider focusing on the currently unserved months of June, July, and August or adding a mid-week, evening event to accommodate residents who work on weekends. For example, the Nashua Region Solid Waste Management District offers a Thursday evening collection in June.

Furthermore, there are currently no collection events in the region during the months of November, December, January, February, or March. This creates a problem for residents who need to move or sell a house over the winter, as there is a 5-month period when they cannot properly dispose of their HHW. A possible solution would be to offer at least one HHW collection from November through March to provide residents with an opportunity to dispose of HHW during the winter season. This event could be open to residents of the entire RPC region. However, it is unclear how many households would be

served by additional single-day winter events. Most people would likely wait until warmer weather to attend a single-day HHW collection if they were not under any sort of time constraint. Residents who chose to attend a winter single-day HHW event would likely be those who are moving or selling a house unexpectedly. Exactly how many households would fall into this category is unknown. Anecdotally, municipalities and HHW coordinators receive several calls each year from residents who need HHW disposal over the winter months. Likewise, the NH DES Hazardous Waste Management Bureau receives year-round calls to its Helpline from residents who need HHW collection opportunities.

Keene offers the only single-day, winter HHW collection in the state. In 2024-2025, Keene experimented with a "mover's HHW collection," offering one event per month on a Saturday in November, December, January, and February. The events were only open to homeowners who were selling their home during this timeframe. Verification of the home sale was required for participation, in the form of an email from the Realtor or a lawyer if no Realtor was involved. As of February 13, 2025 Keene only had 4 homeowners who sold their houses in the off-season and utilized the program.

In addition to lack of demand for winter single-day collection events, another challenge would be finding a site for this option. While single day collections held during the summer months can use open-air sites, winter collections require a covered building. Specifically, a winter collection site needs a heated garage with at least 2 pull-through bays that could be used for the event. One bay would be used for the vendor to set up their operations and the other bay would be used to unload cars. If a third bay was available there could be two lanes of traffic being offloaded simultaneously. The indoor space would keep staff out of the elements and the heat would keep temperatures above freezing, allowing for liquids to be poured off. The site would also need to be plowed in the event of snow and an inclement weather plan would need to be in place should winter storms cause the collection to be canceled or postponed.

Method 2. Establish a Permanent HHW Collection Facility

Even if additional single-day HHW events were offered in the region, there would still be times throughout the year when disposal was not possible. A potential solution would be to establish a permanent HHW Collection facility. Unlike single day collection events, a permanent HHW facility is operated at the same location on a regular schedule and can receive HHW from residents on a continuous basis. Depending on the climate and the building design, permanent HHW facilities may operate year-round or on a seasonal basis.

Participation Rates

Participation rates at permanent HHW collection facilities are much higher than single-day collection events. While a well-established single-day collection program may serve 5% of eligible households annually, permanent collection facilities should plan to serve a minimum of 10% of households per year, with an optimal service level of at least 13% (Nightingale, 4/30/21). The best permanent facilities serve 14% to 17% of their households per year (Nightingale, 11/2/20).

When sizing a permanent facility, experts recommend to plan for a dramatic increase in the number of customers in the first few years. According to Nightingale, facilities can expect to see participation rates increase as follows over the first 8 years:

- Years 1-2—greatest variability in participation rates, generally participation doubles
- Years 3-5—on average expect 40-50% increases in participation each year
- Year 6—average participation increases 20-30%
- Years 7-8—participation rates level out with a less than 10% increase annually (Nightingale, 9/1/00).

Design and Operations

The exact design and operations of permanent HHW collection facilities vary, but they generally function as follows. Residents enter the site and drive their cars under a covered unloading area. Staff come out to the car, take the participant's contact information and pre-registration documents (if required), and unload the HHW materials onto a cart. Residents then exit the site or park in designated spaces to visit the swap shop, if one is established.

Next, staff log the materials and move them to a designated holding/sorting area. This is also the area where lab testing would occur if needed. Once the materials are identified and sorted, they are either lab packed or bulked in the processing area. Materials are then moved to a main storage room and stored by hazard type. Floors and walls may be constructed to provide secondary containment in case of a spill. The storage area should be accessible via a ramp to facilitate loading of trailers. The loading area should also be covered. Flammables and other high hazard materials are moved from the main building to a prefabricated hazmat storage building. This building has additional safety features, such as an

integrated dry chemical fire suppression system, explosion proof electrical fixtures, active ventilation system, and fire rated doors. Finally, the materials are transported from the permanent HHW collection facility by a licensed hauler when storage capacity or storage time limits have been reached.

Recommended Design Components

- Covered loading and unloading areas.
- Double vehicle lane for peak traffic.
- Area for bulking certain materials.
- Fire suppression system in adherence to fire codes.
- Spill control and containment measures such as spill pallets, berms, drainage sumps, and drain covers.
- On site stormwater management techniques.
- Pre-fab hazmat chemical storage building or insulated commercial steel or block/concrete building with fire rated interior walls for material storage. Storage space should be adequate for one peak months' worth of collection, with no outside storage of drummed materials. Storage buildings should be set on a sealed concrete slab over a liner.
- Swap Shop—a designated section of the permanent facility where staff can place usable products on shelves for residents to take for free. Common swap shop items include antifreeze, automotive polishes/waxes, pesticides, fertilizers, adhesives, household cleaners, paint, and pool chemicals.
- Office area
- Bathrooms
- Parking for all staff and at least 4 visitors.
- 7 foot chain link fence around perimeter.
- Outdoor lighting

Building Styles

Building styles vary greatly among permanent HHW collection facilities, depending on location, climate, budget, and number of participants. The most basic facilities consist of simple structures or roof coverings with prefabricated modular buildings and storage units. This is the most cost-effective method of constructing a permanent facility, unless there is an existing building that does not need extensive modifications. These simple, open-sided buildings include a covered roof and an open core, which vehicles can drive through to be unloaded. Construction materials are usually pre-engineered steel buildings with minimal block walls. In this design, modular hazmat chemical units are used for separating and storing different types of HHW. Modular units can be joined to form a collection of structures. They can be ordered with a variety of options, such as solar panels, explosion venting, various fire ratings, secondary containment, windows, doors, and emergency equipment. Companies that manufacture modular storage units include Chem-Stor, U.S. Chemical, and Benko Products. An

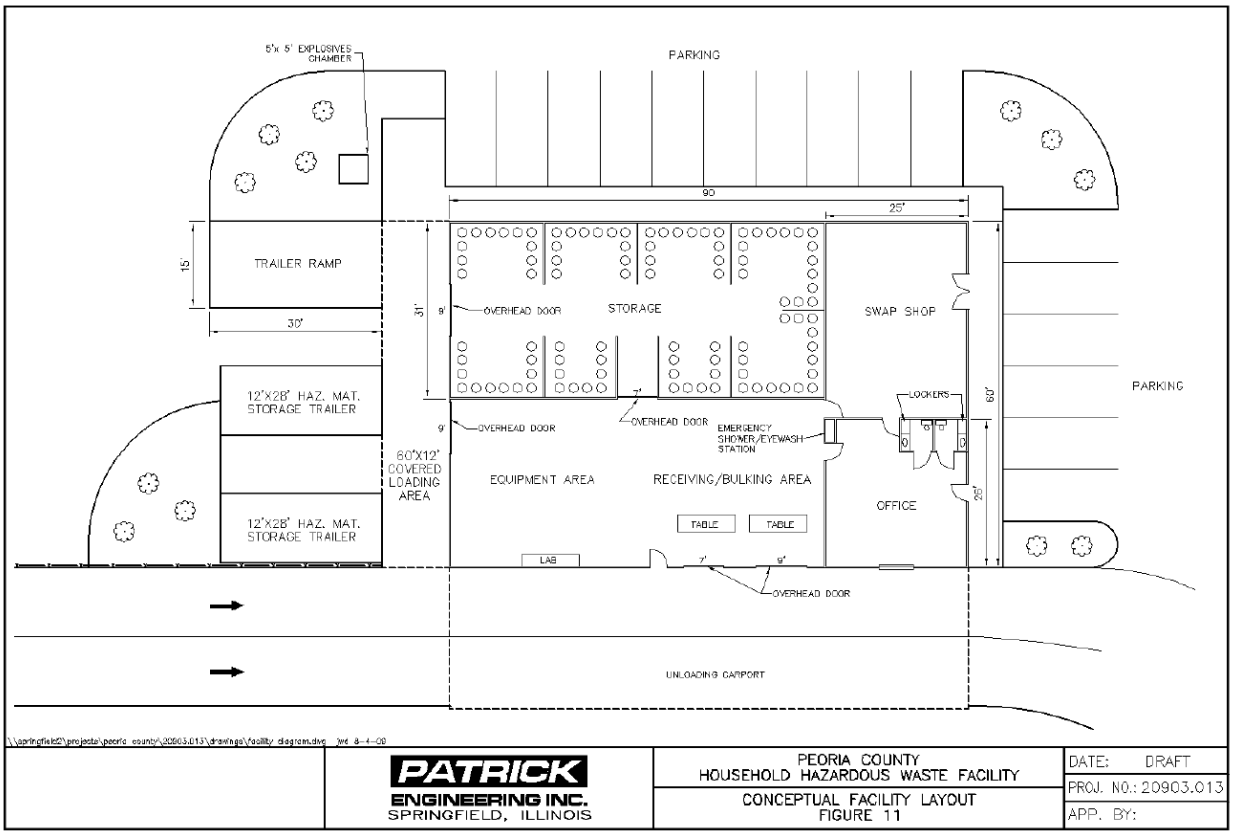
administrative building can be integrated into the shell or be a standalone modular unit. Other costs include a sealed concrete foundation pad and slab as well as any required site work. Costs for this type of facility are well defined and can be projected into the future relatively easily.

While simple structures are a cost effective way to construct a permanent HHW collection facility, a community may choose to build a more specialized facility. Typical construction methods include block wall, concrete tilt-up, or steel-framed structures. Instead of using modular units, separate storage areas are constructed as part of the building structure. This type of facility is often used by large scale, regional HHW programs with high volumes of waste and participation rates. Customized facilities are also useful to programs that accept a larger variety of HHW materials, which require more types of compatible storage. Programs that conduct more onsite processing, such as bulking paints or used oil to save on treatment and transportation costs, benefit from specialized facilities.

Before new construction is considered, efforts should be made to repurpose existing municipal buildings. The benefits of reusing an existing building include potential cost savings and a faster timeline; resource conservation by decreasing the demand for new materials such as wood, steel, and concrete; reduced carbon emissions; and the preservation of undeveloped sites. Factors to consider when determining whether it is possible to repurpose an existing building include:

- Is the existing building too restrictive to accommodate the specific layout or design required for a permanent HHW collection facility?
- Will the building codes and upgrades required for a permanent HHW collection facility make renovation of an existing building more expensive than new construction?
- Does the permanent HHW collection facility require amenities that are not compatible with the existing structure?

Examples of Permanent HHW Facilities



Source: Patrick Engineering

Fresno County, CA HHW Facility—this photo illustrates where cars enter the covered unloading area at a permanent facility. Also visible are the blue carts used to unload vehicles and the tan prefabricated hazmat storage buildings.

Photo Credit: Fresno County Division of Public Works and Planning

City of Los Angeles, CA—this photo shows prefabricated hazmat storage buildings, used for flammables and other high hazard materials, under a roof.

Photo Credit: California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery

San Bernardino County, CA HHW Facility—this photo also shows prefabricated hazmat storage buildings under a roof structure.

Photo Credit: Brandon Barsugli

HazWaste Center, Middlebury, VT—an additional example of prefabricated hazmat storage buildings, used at a permanent HHW facility.

Photo Credit: Addison County Solid Waste Management District (https://www.addisoncountyrecycles.org/hazwaste/household/identifying)

Redondo Beach, CA—this photo shows an example of a concrete floor design that incorporates secondary containment.

Photo Credit: California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery

North Seattle Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facility—this photo shows staff in the sorting area after materials have been offloaded from vehicles. Prefabricated hazmat storage buildings are also visible in the background.

Photo Credit: By Joe Mabel, CC BY-SA 3.0, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=30569982

Santa Cruz County, CA—this is an example of a pre-engineered steel building used for a permanent HHW facility.

Photo Credit: California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery

Winona County, MN HHW Facility—this photo shows another example of a larger permanent facility building.

Photo Credit: Winona County

Building Size

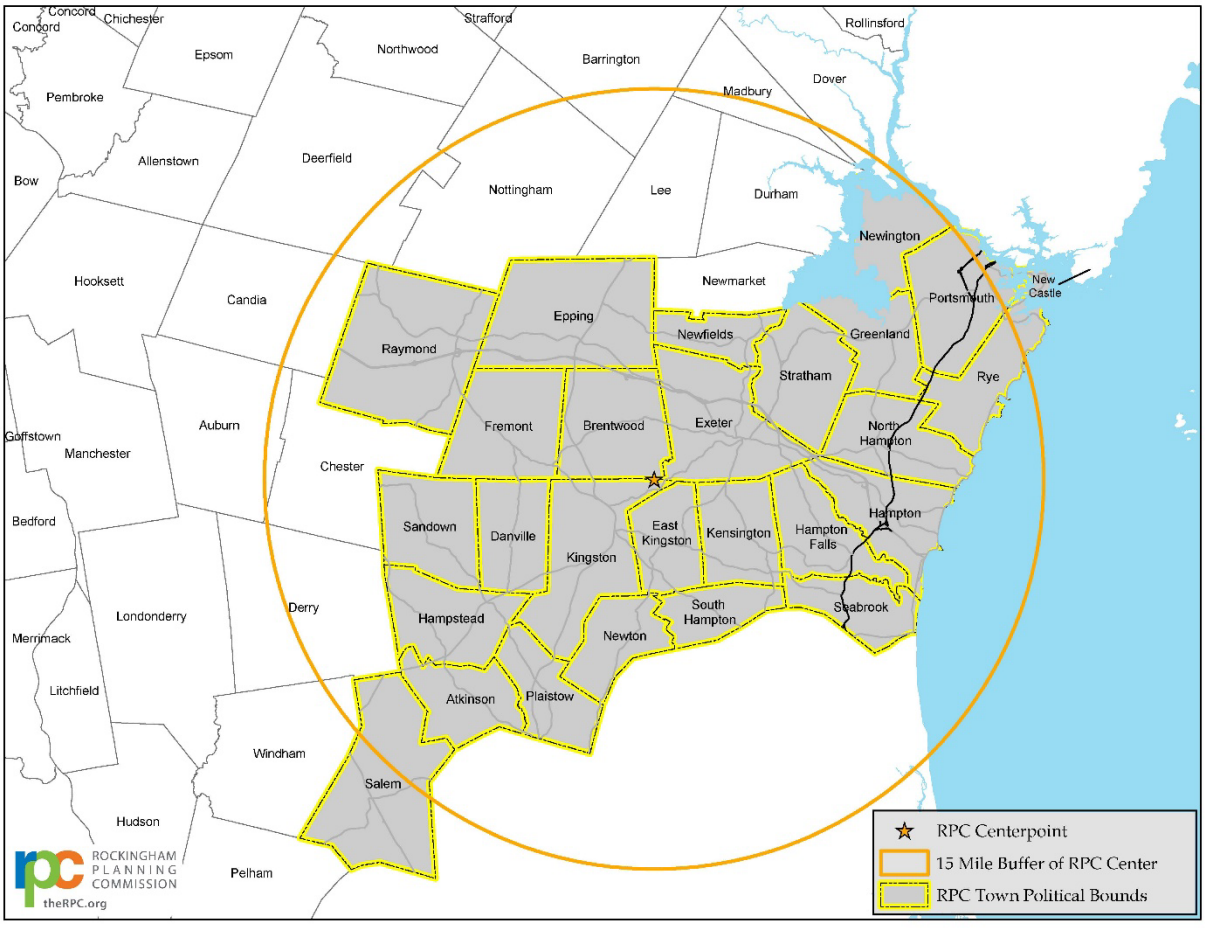
The exact square footage requirements of a permanent HHW facility will vary depending on participation rates, the number of different HHW items accepted, and the frequency with which materials are picked up by the contractor. Bulking and more frequent pickups for disposal by the contractor can reduce storage space requirements for the facility. Swap shops can also reduce storage space requirements, but the shop itself requires space to set up.

In general, experts recommend 1 square foot of operational area for every 200 pounds of anticipated annual throughput (Nightingale & Lewry, 2008). There are 77,789 households in the RPC region. Participants at the Exeter Area HHW collection have brought an average of 59.7 pounds of waste per household each year from 2018-2024. Assuming a permanent HHW facility would serve 10% of the population, the following calculations can provide a rough estimate of the necessary facility size.

- 77,789 households * 10% participation rate = 7,779 households served
- 7,779 households * 59.7 pounds of waste/household = 464,406.3 pounds of waste annually brought to a permanent facility
- 464,406.3/200 = 2,322 ft^2 estimated facility size

Location Considerations

Studies have shown that the larger the service area, the lower the participation rate. As travel time increases, participation decreases. According to Nightingale, the most effective service area is approximately a 15 mile radius *(Nightingale, 1997)*. The following map shows the RPC region. The orange star represents the centroid of the region and the orange ring shows a 15 mile radius around the centroid. As such, if a permanent HHW collection facility was placed near the center of the region, it would be located within an optimal service distance for most member municipalities. In addition, the ideal site should be accessible to major roadways and provide good customer access via a paved road. It should also be located in close proximity to fire and emergency services.



Map Credit: Rockingham Planning Commission

Technical Considerations

A suitable site should be sized appropriately to meet the facility's current operational needs and to allow for potential future expansion. It should also provide enough space to accommodate building code and fire code setback distances for buildings storing combustible materials. Site configuration is also important. The shape of the parcel should allow for adequate traffic flow, queuing space, and turning radii for supply and shipping trucks. Ideally, utilities would already be on site to minimize construction costs, including water, fire hydrants, and electric hookups.

Environmental Considerations

Permanent HHW collection facilities should be located outside of the flood zone, wellhead protection areas, and high-value aquifers, and in an area with minimal potential risk to surface and groundwater. If the parcel is currently undeveloped, it should be done with minimal ecological impacts to endangered or threatened species, unique habitats, or ecological features.

If the parcel was previously developed, consideration should be given to whether there is existing environmental contamination and subsequent environmental mitigation that needs to occur before the site can be used. By definition, a brownfield is a property in which expansion, redevelopment, or reuse may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. Cleanup and reinvestment in brownfields sites can increase the local tax base, facilitate job growth, reduce development pressure on open space, and improve the environment.

The NH DES Brownfields Dashboard indicates that there are 27 Brownfields sites in the Rockingham Planning Commission Region, including two Revolving Load Fund sites. One site of interest is 18 Industrial Way in Atkinson. The Town took ownership of the undeveloped 4.33 acre parcel in 2019 by Tax Deed foreclosure. In August 2025, Nobis completed a Site Background Review for NH DES to establish baseline environmental conditions at the site and design a Phase II ESA. While the review did not find any evidence of RECs, HRECS, CRECs, VECs, or DMCs in connection with the property, further investigation was recommended due to evidence of staging and storage of various materials and a potential UST located on the property.

Social Considerations

Permanent HHW collection facilities should be located in areas where they have the greatest community acceptance. An ideal site should have minimal traffic, visual, and noise impacts and would be compatible with the character of the surrounding area. It should also be compatible with any planned future land use in the surrounding area; anticipated changes in local land use plans, zoning ordinances, and development projects should be taken into consideration. The current ownership or land acquisition potential is another factor when considering a site. Properties currently owned by state or local governments are preferred, particularly if there is a possibility of reusing an existing building. Permanent

HHW collection facilities are often co-located with a solid waste facility, fire department, or wastewater treatment plant. The site should be convenient to a large number of residents and in proximity to other customer destinations and similar businesses.

Accepted Materials

At a minimum, permanent HHW facilities accept common sources of HHW from residents, including oil-based paints, solvents and thinners, household cleaners, pesticides, herbicides, fertilizers, automotive products, used motor oil, old gas, and sealants. Most permanent facilities also collect universal waste from residents. Universal wastes meet the definition of hazardous waste, however, they are subject to less stringent collection and transportation requirements because they pose less risk than other hazardous waste. Nonetheless, universal waste should not be disposed of in the trash. Examples of universal waste that could be collect alongside HHW include aerosols; antifreeze; rechargeable, wet-cell, and some button batteries; cathode ray tubes; fluorescent bulbs; and mercury containing devices. In addition to HHW and universal waste, permanent HHW facilities may be designed to accommodate the collection of electronics, such as computers, cell phones, televisions, monitors, printers, keyboards, radios, stereos, modems, VCRs, fax machines, and pagers.

While the focus of this study is on residential HHW collection, permanent facilities also offer the opportunity for participation by Very Small Quantity Generators (VSQGs). In NH, a VSQG is defined as a generator that produces less than 220 pounds of non-acutely hazardous waste or less than 2.2 pounds of acutely hazardous waste in any calendar month (NH Code of Administrative Rules Env-Hw 503.02). Providing a convenient, lower cost option for the region's VSQGs to safely dispose of their hazardous waste is incredibly important. According to NH Dept. of Environmental Services (NH DES), there are approximately 2,000 VSQGs in the state, many of which are located in drinking water protection areas. NH DES estimates that historically about 1/3 of all hazardous waste contamination sites in NH were the result of mismanaged waste from VSQGs. HHW collection facilities and events are not required to accept waste from non-household waste generators. Currently, no single-day collection events in the RPC region allow participation from VSQGs.

Regulatory Requirements

Under Env-Hw 401.03 Exemptions (b)(1-2), HHW is exempt from hazardous waste regulation in NH "until such time as they are collected, whether as part of a household hazardous waste collection project or otherwise." When a household gives possession of their HHW to the municipality or a hazardous waste vendor, it becomes regulated hazardous waste and the municipality or the vendor becomes the generator (Env-HW 501.01(k)).

Generators are categorized as Very Small Quantity Generators (VSQGs), Small Quantity Generators (SQGs), or Large Quantity Generators (LQGs) as defined in Env-HW 503. A SQG is defined as a generator

that generates (i.e. collects) greater than 220 pounds and less than 2,200 pounds of non-acutely hazardous waste or less than 2.2 pounds of acutely[2] hazardous waste in any calendar month. A LQG is defined as a generator that collects greater than 2,200 pounds of non-acutely hazardous waste or greater than 2.2 pounds of acutely hazardous waste in any calendar month. A permanent HHW collection facility would potentially collect more than 220 pounds of waste per month, and therefore the public owner or the contractor would meet the definition of a SQG or LQG.

In NH, regulatory requirements for SQGs and LQGs are defined in Env-HW 500 and include, but are not limited to:

- Having a certified hazardous waste coordinator associated with the facility.
- Shipping waste offsite using a manifest and registered hazardous waste transporter.
- Storing waste for no longer than 90 days.
- Performing storage area inspections every seven days or less.
- Having emergency response equipment at the storage area.
- Training of any personnel involved in hazardous waste management.
- Having a written contingency plan.

There are no unique siting requirements for hazardous waste generators. Prior to conducting any activities regulated by hazardous waste rules, the generator must notify NH DES in accordance with Env-HW 504. This includes submitting a 3-page RCRA C Site Identification Form to NH DES, which provides information about the facility, what it does related to hazardous waste, and what waste will be on-site. NH DES then issues the facility an EPA Identification number and it can begin operations. However, if a privately owned HHW facility was accompanied by a different type of facility or operation, such as a treatment, storage and disposal facility (TSDF), then DES would have siting requirements that would need to be met.

Ownership Models

Publicly Owned and Operated Permanent HHW Facilities

Permanent HHW collection facilities may be owned and operated by a governmental entity, such as a municipality or county. In this scenario, a licensed vendor would only be used to transport and dispose of materials after they have been segregated, packaged, and documented by municipal staff. Some publicly owned permanent HHW collection facilities also utilize a licensed vendor to help package higher hazard waste, leaving municipal staff to process the less hazardous waste, such as bulking paint into 55 gallon drums.

[2] The most likely source of acutely hazardous waste received at HHW events is residual nicotine from vape devices.

Publicly owned and operated permanent HHW facilities have their advantages over a public/private ownership model. They are often easier to site than a facility resulting from a public/private partnership. They also provide somewhat more control over the implementation timeline because they are not tied to the business plan and timeframe of a private company. Furthermore, money spent on the program goes towards building an asset for the community, rather than making a profit for a private company.

On the other hand, publicly owned and operated permanent HHW facilities come with large capital and operating costs. They also require collaboration and strong governance agreements among participating municipalities. In addition, they subject the municipality to more liability than a public/private partnership would. With a publicly owned and operated permanent HHW collection facility, the municipality assumes generator status and therefore liability. This is different from a single day event where the vendor assumes generator status and liability.

The first publicly owned and operated permanent HHW facility in the US was opened in 1984 in Whatcom County, WA. Chittenden County, VT and Rutland County, VT were also among the first publicly owned and operated permanent HHW facilities in the country. Both have operated continuously since the 1990s (Nightingale, 4/30/21). Goffstown has the only publicly owned and operated permanent HHW facility in NH.

Public/Private Partnerships

Public/private partnerships are an option for municipalities to consider when expanding their HHW programs. Public/private partnerships are collaborative agreements between public sector entities and private sector businesses to finance, build, and operate projects that serve the public. In general, they take advantage of the private sector's financing and operational expertise, lower the cost of capital, require less out-of-pocket costs, and can have tax benefits. They also help the public to maintain more local control over the project.

With regard to HHW collection, public/private partnerships offer several advantages over publicly owned and operated permanent HHW collection facilities. First, there are no large capital costs to raise, as the facility's construction is typically paid for by the private partner. Furthermore, operating costs are paid for by participants who actually use the facility, rather than by the municipal budget that is funded by all residents. In addition, liability falls on the private partner, who assumes generator status for the facility, rather than on the municipality.

On the other hand, public/private partnerships have their disadvantages. They can be harder to site than a publicly owned and operated facility because they are often built along side of an additional industrial operation that generates revenue for the private partner. It can also be hard to find a private partner who is willing to enter into an arrangement that is mutually beneficial to the company and the municipality. In addition, depending on how the public/private partnership is structured, the program may not be eligible for NH DES HHW grant funding.

Waste Management's EcoPark in Monroe County, NY is an example of a successful public/private partnership (https://www.monroecounty.gov/ecopark). A new facility would have cost the County an estimated $1.7 million. Instead, they were able to repurpose an existing building owned by the county for a total of $105,700 which was split between the County and Waste Management. In addition to collecting HHW, the Ecopark also accepts a wide range of non-hazardous materials, including appliances, foam, clothing, electronics, universal waste, paper, plastic, glass, metal, and pharmaceuticals.

Another example of a successful public/private partnership is between Dakota County, MN and Gopher Resource (https://www.gopherresource.com/our-facilities/facility-the-recycling-zone.html). In 1996, Dakota County partnered with Gopher Resource, which owned and operated a plastic recycling and lead smelting facility in the community. The County contracted with Gopher to construct, operate, and staff a permanent HHW facility. The HHW facility is housed in Gopher's plastic recycling building, which is adjacent to its lead smelting facility, making it easy to staff. The facility accepts HHW as well as electronics and recyclables such as aluminum, cardboard, glass, plastic, scrap metal, and paper. It also offers a reuse center for items like lawn and garden products, paint, and cleaning supplies.

Financial Overview

It is beyond the scope of this report to determine the exact capital and operating costs for a permanent HHW collection facility in the RPC region. If municipalities in the region choose to pursue this option, an experienced design team should be hired to develop a realistic, detailed budget.

.

Facility and Operating Costs

In 2000, Special Waste Associates conducted a survey of 24 permanent HHW facilities in the US that had been operating for 6 years or more. It found that capital costs for a HHW facility range from $17,454 to remodel a building to $1.3 million to design and construct a metropolitan facility. Most HHW facility development budgets start at $500,000 or more, excluding land purchase (Nightingale, 9/1/2000). Capital costs can be reduced by repurposing an existing building or using existing infrastructure.

Capital and operating cost estimates are located in the Appendix of this report to provide examples of how communities budgeted for their permanent HHW collection facilities.

Permanent Facility vs Single Day Collection Cost Comparison

Operating costs at permanent HHW collection facilities are almost always less than at single day events. A state-wide study in Washington compared cost data from permanent facilities with cost data from single day events. The data was examined in terms of cost per pound, cost per participant, and cost per capita. The largest difference was seen in cost per participant. In 1998, the cost per participant was 95% higher at single day collection events than it was at permanent facilities; in 1999 it was 56% higher at

single day events. Likewise, cost per pound at single day events was 28% higher than at permanent facilities in 1998 and 21% higher in 1999 (Nightingale and Ellis, 2000).

There are a number of factors that contribute to lower operating costs at permanent HHW facilities compared to single-day events:

- More efficient packaging and consolidation of waste, which reduces packing supplies, shipping, and disposal costs.
- Waiting to ship until there are full containers and a full truckload, rather than having to ship partially filled containers at the end of an event.
- Ability to divert good products to local community reuse by establishing a Swap Shop.
- Leveraging existing administrative and operational resources, such as cross training employees to reduce reliance on contractor staff, if the facility is publicly owned and operated.
- Avoidance of higher weekend contractor labor costs.
- Avoidance of set up and tear down costs for each collection event. For example, in 2024 and 2025 the Exeter HHW collection paid $5,500 per event in set-up fees.

Advantages of a Permanent HHW Collection Facility

- Convenient—residents can dispose of HHW when they want or need to, rather than having to wait 6-months to a year for a single day collection event. In addition, because permanent facilities are open on an ongoing basis, there are not long wait times to drop off materials once residents arrive at the site.
- Higher participation rates—it is not uncommon for permanent HHW collection facilities to serve 10% of households per year, with some well-established facilities serving as high as 14-17% of households. By comparison, even the best single-day events only serve 5% of households per year (Nightingale, 11/2/20).
- Very Small Quantity Generators (VSQGs)—it is easier to accommodate VSQGs at a permanent HHW collection facility.
- More opportunities for reuse—it is easier to set up a swap shop at a permanent HHW collection facility.
- Opportunities for year-round education—unlike single-day collection events where there is a limited timeframe for outreach and education, permanent facilities allow for year-round educational opportunities.
- Lower Cost—once permanent HHW facilities are established they tend to have a lower cost per pound of HHW collected and a lower cost per household than single-day events (Nightingale, 4/30/21) and (Nightingale & Ellis, 2000).
- Sustainable—of the 20 pioneering permanent HHW collection facilities that were established in 1990 or earlier, all are still in existence. “Once a community established a permanent HHW collection facility, they keep it operating” (Nightingale, 5/30/21).

- Not Weather Dependent—permanent HHW collection facilities can be designed so they are operational year-round, unlike single day events that are not typically held in winter months.
- Safety at Households—residents can dispose of HHW whenever they want to, which decreases the need for potentially unsafe storage conditions in homes.
- Safety/Liability at the Facility—permanent HHW collection facilities can spread out participant arrivals, allowing for a slower pace that makes accidents less likely. The smaller volume of participants at any one time also decreases traffic congestion concerns.

Disadvantages of a Permanent HHW Collection Facility

- Capital Costs—unless a community enters into a public/private partnership, capital costs must be raised to construct a permanent HHW collection facility.
- Operating Budget—permanent HHW collection facilities require larger annual operating budgets than single-day events due to higher participation rates.
- Driving Distance—depending on where the facility is located, it may be a further drive for some residents than their current single-day event.
- Siting—finding a suitable location for a permanent HHW collection facility could be challenging. NIMBY sentiment could run high, especially if a public/private partnership combines a permanent HHW collection facility with a larger-scale commercial waste facility.

Method 3. Implement Curbside HHW Collection

A curbside HHW collection program would allow residents to properly dispose of their HHW directly from their home, rather than attending an event or transporting their materials to a permanent HHW facility. Municipalities contract with a vendor to provide all aspects of curbside HHW service. Residents contact the vendor to schedule a home pick-up of their HHW items. The vendor sends a collection kit to the resident and the resident prepares their materials for collection. The municipality is not required to purchase special bins. On the set collection date, the vendor picks up the packaged materials directly from the resident's home. Curbside HHW pickup is offered year-round.

While there are currently no examples of curbside HHW collection in New Hampshire, it is a widely used collection method across the country. Curbside HHW collection has been successfully implemented in communities of all sizes, from larger cities like Denver, CO (population 716,577) and Austin, TX (population 979,882) to small towns like North Fayette, PA (population 16,167) and Aleppo Township, PA (population 1,758). Service can be contracted by individual municipalities or at the regional/county level, as is done in Kane County, IL (population 520,997).

Vendors

While there is no national database of HHW vendors offering curbside collection service, research conducted to identify examples of curbside collection across the country found that three vendors were frequently used—Waste Management, Clean Harbors, and MXI. There are currently no vendors who provide curbside HHW collection services in NH.

Waste Management's curbside HHW collection program is called At Your Door (https://wmatyourdoor.com/municipal-services/). Although it is not currently available in NH, according to the company "we are moving forward with a potential At Your Door facility that could service the Rockingham County area. Final decisions on the location and the permitting process will take a while but we are getting closer in the process of siting a location in the area" (8/22/25 email correspondence with Paul Schlich, Sales Manager, At Your Door). Clean Harbors and MXI are both licensed hazardous waste transporters in NH, but neither offers curbside collection here. RPC staff reached out to both companies to inquire about their curbside HHW collection programs, but neither responded.

Curbside HHW Collection—this photo shows HHW materials packaged in a special collection kit provided by Waste Management and placed outside a home for pickup.

Photo Credit: Waste Management

Accepted Materials

Waste Management's At Your Door program accepts the following materials from residents:

- Household Cleaners—ammonia, cleaning compounds, bleach, floor stripper, drain cleaner, rust remover, carpet/upholstery cleaner, tile/shower cleaner

- Automotive Products—antifreeze, motor oil, oil filters, fluids, polish, waxes, vehicle batteries, upholstery cleaners
- Consumer Electronics—computers, laptops, keyboards, monitors, microwaves, DVD players, CD players, CD ROM, fax machines, cell phones, VCRs, desktop printers, scanners, gaming systems, related cords
- Paint Products—oil-based paint, latex paint, spray paint, artist paint, wood preservatives, stain, caulk, sealer
- Batteries—AA, AAA, C, D
- Garden Chemicals—herbicides, insecticide, fertilizer, pesticide
- Fluorescent Bulbs—compact fluorescent and straight fluorescent tubes
- Thermostats and thermometers—plus other mercury containing items
- Flammable items—kerosene, gasoline, solvents
- Syringes and lancets—sharps, syringes, needles, lancets
- Swimming Pool Chemicals—pool acid, stabilizer, chlorine

Cost Structure

The most common pricing structure for Waste Management's At Your Door program is a cost per home per month (CPHPM). Typically, a fee is added to a municipality's existing waste/recycling invoice so every resident is paying for the program. The CPHPM ranges from $1.25 to $2.50. Program costs vary based on a variety of factors, such as local labor rates, local fuel costs, and the cost of processing/recycling the collected materials.

The CPHPM pricing makes the program affordable to each resident. If the program charged on a per use basis, it would cost $200-$250 per collection, making the program unaffordable in most cases.

The At Your Door program is available to all residents on a year-round, unlimited basis. Municipalities of any size can participate. If a municipality chooses to participate, all of its households are required to pay into the program.

Waste Management also offers an alternative pricing structure that allows a municipality to purchase a predetermined number of annual routes with a per route cost. A typical route includes 15-18 collections and the cost per route ranges from $2,800 to $4,000. This pricing structure would be used by municipalities that had an alternate source of HHW collection for the majority of their residents (single-day events or a permanent facility) and wanted to provide curbside collection to a very limited number of residents, such as those who could not drive.

Participation Rates

There is very little literature or data on curbside HHW collection programs, including on participation rates. In 2024, Waste Management's At Your Door program had a national participation rate of 6.6%.

Waste Management also provided participation data from their Rockdale, IL facility, as a good representation of the At Your Door program. The facility services 16 communities with a total of 133,000 households. Communities range in size from 238 to 45,992 households. Participation rates range from 2.19% to 13.93% with an average of 6.76%.

Advantages of Curbside HHW Collection

- Most Convenient Option—residents can schedule unlimited pickups, year-round, on a day and time of their choosing. They do not even need to be home when the pickup occurs.
- No Transportation Required—this is the only option that allows participation from residents who cannot leave their homes or who do not have transportation. It also eliminates the chance for accidents associated with self-transporting HHW materials to collection sites.
- Immediate Implementation—municipalities can begin participating in the program immediately, assuming there is a vendor who is operating in their area. There are no capital costs to raise or facilities to site and construct.
- Turnkey Service—it is very easy for municipalities to administer the program. Waste Management takes care of scheduling pickups and answering questions from the public. Municipal staff are only responsible for educating residents about the program.
- Individual Contracts—each municipality contracts directly with the vendor, so there is no critical mass of municipalities needed to participate.
- Education—curbside collection offers opportunities to provide education directly to all residents.
- Curbside collection has a higher participation rate on average than single day events.
- Relatively low cost per household—households would pay $15 to $30 per year for unlimited usage. By comparison, participants currently pay $15 to attend one single-day collection in Exeter.

Disadvantages of Curbside HHW Collection

- Curbside collection has a lower participation rate on average than permanent facilities.
- Residential Participation Only—curbside HHW collection programs are typically designed for residential customers and do not allow Very Small Quantity Generators to participate.
- No Public Investment—the money residents pay for curbside collection service is primarily being invested into a private company rather than into a public asset, as would be the case with a publicly owned and operated permanent facility. At a 6% annual participation rate, most of the money collected by Waste Management is profit. The $15-$30 per year paid by each household could easily cover operating costs for a publicly owned and operated permanent facility.
- Curbside HHW collection conducted by a private company would not be eligible for NH DES HHW grant funding.
- All residents in a participating municipality must pay into the program. There is no option to "opt out."

SECTION 4. Feasibility Analysis

Evaluation

This section evaluates the Technical, Financial, Market, and Governance Feasibility of the three methods for expanding HHW opportunities in the region.

- Method 1—Add Single day Collection Events
- Method 2—Establish a Permanent HHW Collection Facility
- Method 3—Implement Curbside HHW Collection

Each metric—technical, financial, market, and governance—is evaluated based on a set of questions and the rating scale defined below. A table, which summarizes the questions and their associated score, appears at the beginning of each metric, followed by a more detailed discussion of how each question was answered.

Feasibility Analysis Rating Scale

1 = Very Difficult, Extremely Unlikely, Much Worse Financially, Very Undesirable, 0-20% of respondents

2 = Difficult, Unlikely, Somewhat Worse Financially, Undesirable, 21-40% of respondents

3 = Neutral, Possible, Stays the same Financially, 41-60% of respondents

4 = Easy, Likely, Somewhat Better Financially, Desirable, 61-80% of respondents

5 = Very Easy, Extremely Likely, Much Better Financially, Very Desirable, 81-100% of respondents

Technical Feasibility

Technical Feasibility considers whether it is technically possible to implement the option and how difficult it would be to do so. This includes technical complexity, required skills, and sustainability.

Technical Feasibility Measure	Score for Method 1. Add Single Day Collection Events	Score for Method 2. Establish a Permanent HHW Collection Facility	Score for Method 3. Implement Curbside HHW Collection
1. How difficult would it be to quickly implement this option?	4	2	2.5
2. How difficult would it be to find a site for this option?	5	3	5
3. How difficult would it be to find a vendor with the technical expertise to operate this option?	5	4.5	2
4. How difficult would it be to find a vendor who has the capacity/availability to implement this option?	3	4	2
5. How difficult would it be to hire and train municipal staff needed for this option?	4	3	5
AVERAGE SCORE	**4.2**	**3.3**	**3.3**

1. How difficult would it be to quickly implement this option?

Method 1—Add Single day Collection Events (Score = 4)

- Additional single day collection events during the spring, summer, and fall could be held at existing HHW collection sites, using a vendor that is familiar with the site, making it technically easy to quickly implement this option.

Method 2—Establish a Permanent HHW Collection Facility (Score = 2)

- It would be very difficult to quickly implement a publicly owned and operated permanent HHW facility. It is a multi-year process, with many tasks that need to be completed such as finding an appropriate site, hiring a firm to calculate cost estimates and develop design plans, hiring a contractor to construct the facility, establishing a budget, obtaining funding, hiring and training staff, issuing a RFP and hiring a vendor, and establishing a governance agreement.
- It would also be difficult to quickly implement a permanent facility established through a public/private partnership. The two most time consuming components would likely be identifying a interested private partner and finding an appropriate site. Additional tasks include planning and zoning reviews and negotiating the terms of the partnership.

Method 3—Implement Curbside HHW Collection (Score = 2.5)

- It would be difficult to quickly implement this option as of the writing of this report, since there are currently no vendors in NH who offer curbside pickup services for HHW. However, once a vendor starts offering curbside services in NH, the program could be implemented quickly.

2. How difficult would it be to find a site for this option?

Method 1—Add Single day Collection Events (Score = 5)

- It would be very easy to find a site for this option. Additional single day collection events could use any of the sites that current single day collection events use.

Method 2—Establish a Permanent HHW Collection Facility (Score = 3)

- It would be possible to find a site for this option. Publicly owned permanent HHW facilities are not large, industrial buildings like some imagine. They look like an average public works garage, which most residents are comfortable with. Furthermore, they can only store waste for a maximum of 90 days.
- Depending on the geographic scope of the service area, it might be difficult to find a site that could accommodate the anticipated number of participants. There are 77,789 households in the region. If a region-wide facility was built with a 10% participation rate, the site would need to accommodate roughly 7,779 households per year.
- It would likely be difficult to find a site for a permanent facility established through a public/private partnership. Most public/private partnerships come with a larger industrial facility, which is how the private company affords to offer the HHW component. These are harder to site than a simple, publicly owned permanent HHW facility.

Method 3—Implement Curbside HHW Collection (Score = 5)

- A site is not required for this option.

3. How difficult would it be to find a vendor with the technical expertise to operate this option?

Method 1—Add Single day Collection Events (Score = 5)

- It would be very easy to find a vendor with the technical expertise to operate this option. There is no formal list of HHW vendors in NH. NH DES publishes a list of all registered hazardous waste transporters in the state, which can be found at: https://www4.des.state.nh.us/WasteReports/Menu.aspx. However, not all of these companies operate HHW collections. All HHW vendors must either be registered hazardous waste transporters or subcontract a registered transporter to ship the collected waste offsite. Not all registered hazardous waste transporters offer HHW collection services. There is no unique

permit or other registration needed to run a HHW collection, so there is no way of knowing which companies perform this function.

- Municipalities in the RPC region use the following companies to operate their HHW collections:
    - ACV Environmental—registered transporter
    - Environmental Projects Inc—registered transporter
    - MXI—registered transporter under Maumee Express
    - North Ward Environmental—not registered in NH
    - Tradebe—registered transporter
    - Veolia—registered transporter
- In addition to the companies utilized in the RPC region, NH DES grantees across the state have utilized the following HHW vendors:
    - Clean Harbors—registered transporter
    - EQ Northeast—registered transporter
    - Maine LabPack—registered transporter
    - Safety Kleen—registered transporter
    - Stericycle—registered transporter
    - Triumvirate—registered transporter
- Municipalities should do their due diligence when selecting a HHW vendor. NH DES has seen a range of compliance and enforcement issues with various vendors. A vendor that is not in compliance with the Hazardous Waste rules could leave a municipality vulnerable to enforcement, depending on the structure of their agreement with the vendor. A company's inclusion in this report is not an endorsement on the part of Rockingham Planning Commission.

Method 2—Establish a Permanent HHW Collection Facility (Score = 4.5)

- The same list of single-day vendors would be candidates to provide packaging, transportation, and disposal services for a publicly owned and operated permanent HHW collection facility.
- Not all vendors who have experience running a single day event or providing disposal services to a publicly owned and operated facility have experience owning and operating their own collection facility. As such, it might be harder to find a company with the technical expertise to operate a collection facility as a private business or a public/private partnership.

Method 3—Implement Curbside HHW Collection (Score = 2)

- It would be difficult to find a vendor with the technical expertise to provide curbside collection in the RPC region. There are currently no vendors who provide curbside HHW collection services in NH.
- Three vendors are frequently used for curbside HHW collection across the country—Waste Management, Clean Harbors, and MXI.
- Waste Management is in the early phases of siting a curbside collection facility that would provide service to the RPC region.

4. How difficult would it be to find a vendor who has the capacity/availability to implement this option?

Method 1—Add Single day Collection Events (Score = 3)

- It is possible to find a vendor with the capacity/availability to operate additional single-day collection events.
- Single-day events typically occur on weekends, which can be difficult for vendors to staff. A mid-week event might be easier for vendors to schedule.
- Vendors typically honor the collection schedule that municipalities have used in the past, so adding a new event would be subject to the vendor's availability on the desired date. Saturdays in the spring and fall tend to be busy for HHW vendors, so adding a collection during that time could be difficult to schedule.
- In addition, based on informal discussions with vendors in the region, vendors may not be interested in adding new collections to their schedules due to difficulties staffing these events.

Method 2—Establish a Permanent HHW Collection Facility (Score = 4)

- Unlike single-day events that typically occur on weekends, vendors can provide services to publicly owned permanent HHW facilities during weekdays, making it easier to staff.
- The frequency with which a vendor needs to go to a publicly owned permanent HHW facility depends on the scope of the services being provided, participation rates at the facility, and the size of the facility's storage area. At a minimum, the vendor would need to transport waste from the site every 90 days, as required by law.
- Finding a vendor with the capacity to establish a public/private partnership might be difficult. Permanent HHW collection facilities established through public/private partnerships are typically co-located with another business run by the private company. There are a limited number of vendors who would fit this description and have the capacity to operate a HHW facility.

Method 3—Implement Curbside HHW Collection (Score = 2)

- There are currently no companies that offer this service in NH, so finding a company with the capacity to do so would be impossible now. However, Waste Management is in the early stages of siting a facility to provide this type of service in the region.

5. How difficult would it be to hire and train municipal staff needed for this option?

Method 1—Add Single day Collection Events (Score = 4)

- It would not be necessary to hire and train municipal staff for this option. The HHW vendor is responsible for furnishing all of the labor, packing, transportation, and disposal needs for a single-day event.

- Additional collection events would require more municipal staff time at the event itself, along with added time to promote the event and take care of administrative tasks.
- Municipal staff responsibilities would be the same for this option as the present, so no additional training would be needed. Municipal staff responsibilities should be outlined in the vendor contract, but often include advertising for the event; administering participant surveys; traffic control; screening participants; standby fire, medical, and hazmat emergency crews; and security for the site.

Method 2—Establish a Permanent HHW Collection Facility (Score = 3)

- It is possible to hire and train municipal staff needed for this option.
- Staffing levels at publicly owned and operated permanent HHW collection facilities will depend on hours of operation, type of waste collected, participation levels, and the division of labor between the municipal staff and the HHW vendor.
- Weekend hours provide convenient access for most residents but may be harder to staff.
- Fewer operating hours can result in higher traffic flow, which requires more staff.
- It is recommended to have at least 2 municipal staff on-site during operating hours.
- There is very little data on staffing levels at permanent HHW collection facilities. To help fill this gap, Special Waste Associates created and distributed a survey in 2019. They received responses from 47 local jurisdictions across 12 states.
    - The survey found that on days when facilities accepted waste, they were open an average of 6.7 hours (Nightingale, et al. 6/30/2020).
    - The survey also found that the variety of HHW materials accepted at the facility influenced staffing levels. Non-traditional HHW, such as fluorescent bulbs, batteries, and electronics required a significantly greater portion of staff time than more traditional HHW items, such as cleaners, fuels, paint, pesticides, etc. (Nightingale, et al. 6/30/2020).
    - Survey respondents had a wide distribution of staffing levels, from 2.2 to 66.7 households served per staff-day. The average was 21.0 households served per staff-day and the median was 19.6 (Nightingale, et al. 6/30/2020).

Method 3—Implement Curbside HHW Collection (Score = 5)

- No municipal staff would be needed for this option.

Financial Feasibility

Financial feasibility considers the capital and operating expenses, revenue sources, and cost structure associated with each option. As noted previously, it is beyond the scope of this report to determine the exact capital and operating costs for a permanent HHW collection facility in the RPC region.

Financial Feasibility Measure	Score for Method 1. Add Single Day Collection Events	Score for Method 2. Establish a Permanent HHW Collection Facility	Score for Method 3. Implement Curbside HHW Collection
1. How does the annual cost for this option compare to what municipalities are currently spending on HHW?	3	3	1
2. How likely is it that grant funding is available to support this option?	3	3.5	1
3. How easily can costs be predicted and managed with this option?	5	3	4
AVERAGE SCORE	**3.7**	**3.2**	**2**

1. How does the annual cost for this option compare to what municipalities are currently spending on HHW?

Current Annual Costs

2024 Events	Total Cost for Event	Cost/Participating Household	Cost/Eligible Household
Plaistow (spring)	$44,032.43	$121.30	$2.72
Danville (fall)	$40,995.35	$125.37	$2.54
Brentwood	$11,742.00	$38.00	$1.11
Exeter	$41,731.68	$133.33	$2.60
Portsmouth (spring)	$50,000.00	$174.83	$4.05
Portsmouth (fall)	$37,000.00	$148.59	$2.99
Hampton (spring)	$22,390.00	$60.35	$2.57
Hampton (fall)	$21,602.50	$60.68	$2.48
Raymond	$13,050.00	$67.62	$2.28
Salem	$49,000.00	$98.00	$4.00
Newton (2023)	$35,000.00	$217.39	$19.56
TOTAL	**$366,543.96**		
AVERAGE	**$33,322.18**	**$106.93**	**$4.38**

Region-wide Comparison of Collection Method Costs

Collection Type	Total Annual Cost	Cost/Participating Household	Cost/Eligible Household
Current Single Day	$366,543.96	$106.93	$4.38
Publicly Owned Permanent Facility	Beyond the scope of this project	Beyond the scope of this project	Beyond the scope of this project
Waste Management Curbside (assuming 6.6% participation rate)	$1,254,525 to $2,509,050	$250 to $500	$15 to $30

Method 1—Add Single day Collection Events (Score = 3)

- A single-day collection in the RPC region in 2024 cost an average of $33,322.18. It is anticipated that any additional events would have a similar price.

Method 2—Establish a Permanent HHW Collection Facility (Score = 3)

- It is beyond the scope of this report to determine the exact annual operating cost of a permanent facility.
- Research shows that operating costs at permanent HHW collection facilities are almost always less than at single day events. A state-wide study in Washington compared cost data from permanent facilities with cost data from single day events. The data was examined in terms of cost per pound, cost per participant, and cost per capita. The largest difference was seen in cost per participant. In 1998, the cost per participant was 95% higher at single day collection events than it was at permanent facilities; in 1999 it was 56% higher at single day events. Likewise, cost per pound at single day events was 28% higher than at permanent facilities in 1998 and 21% higher in 1999 (Nightingale and Ellis, 2000).

Method 3—Implement Curbside HHW Collection (Score = 1)

- Assumptions include:
    - Participation by all municipalities in the RPC region, plus Auburn, Chester, and Nottingham
    - 6.6% participation rate among households
- Waste Management's cost per home per month ranges from $1.25 to $2.50. This was used to calculate a low and high estimate of annual costs.
- Based on these calculations, the annual cost per *Participating* household would be MORE than the current single-day collections.
    - Waste Management Cost per Participating Household = $250 to $500
    - Current Cost per Participating Household = $106.93
- Based on these calculations, the annual cost per *Eligible* household would be MORE than the current single-day collections.
    - Waste Management Cost per Eligible Household = $15 to $30
    - Current Cost per Eligible Household = $4.38

Waste Management "At Your Door" Curbside Collection

Total Households in RPC Region, plus Chester, Nottingham, and Auburn	83,635
Participating Households (assuming 6.6% rate)	5,018
Low Estimate	
Monthly Cost per Eligible household	$1.25
Annual Cost per Eligible household	$15.00
Total Annual Cost	$1,254,525.00
Annual Cost per Participating household	$250.00
High Estimate	
Monthly Cost per Eligible household	$2.50
Annual Cost per Eligible household	$30.00
Total Annual Cost	$2,509,050.00
Annual Cost per Participating household	$500.01

Annual Costs per Municipality

The following table shows what each municipality would pay annually to participate in Waste Management's At Your Door service.

Municipality	Households	Annual Cost—Low	Annual Cost—High
Atkinson	2,908	$43,620.00	$87,240.00
Auburn	1,998	$29,970.00	$59,940.00
Brentwood	1,548	$23,220.00	$46,440.00
Chester	1,827	$27,405.00	$54,810.00
Danville	1,721	$25,815.00	$51,630.00
East Kingston	821	$12,315.00	$24,630.00
Epping	2,841	$42,615.00	$85,230.00
Exeter	4,552	$68,280.00	$136,560.00
Fremont	1,689	$25,335.00	$50,670.00
Greenland	1,540	$23,100.00	$46,200.00
Hampstead	3,746	$56,190.00	$112,380.00
Hampton	7,412	$111,180.00	$222,360.00
Hampton Falls	874	$13,110.00	$26,220.00
Kensington	710	$10,650.00	$21,300.00
Kingston	2,751	$41,265.00	$82,530.00
New Castle	430	$6,450.00	$12,900.00
Newfields	637	$9,555.00	$19,110.00
Newington	379	$5,685.00	$11,370.00
Newton	1,789	$26,835.00	$53,670.00
North Hampton	1,990	$29,850.00	$59,700.00
Nottingham	2,021	$30,315.00	$60,630.00
Plaistow	3,207	$48,105.00	$96,210.00
Portsmouth	10,435	$156,525.00	$313,050.00
Raymond	1,705	$25,575.00	$51,150.00

Rye	2,446	$36,690.00	$73,380.00
Salem	12,258	$183,870.00	$367,740.00
Sandown	2,206	$33,090.00	$66,180.00
Seabrook	3,803	$57,045.00	$114,090.00
South Hampton	344	$5,160.00	$10,320.00
Stratham	3,047	$45,705.00	$91,410.00
TOTAL	**83,635**	**$1,254,525.00**	**$2,509,050.00**

2. How likely is it that grant funding is available to support this option?

Method 1—Add Single day Collection Events (Score = 3)

- It is very likely that grant funding will be available to support this option, particularly in the short term. NH Dept. of Environmental Services offers grants to support single-day HHW collection events. This program has been in existence for roughly 20 years. While the continuation of these funds is never guaranteed, there have been no attempts to decrease or eliminate them.
- However, it is also important to note that there is a finite amount of grant funds to be allocated among HHW events across the state. The HHW grant program is currently limited to $200,000 per year, which has been consistent since its inception. Applying for grant funds to support added collection events would mean less money for each applicant.
- Furthermore, programs that currently receive grant funding and serve more than one community would not be eligible for additional grant funding if they added a collection event. As of FY26, the NH DES HHW grant offers $0.17 per-capita for single-day collection programs with "more than one HHW collection per year or serving more than one community" and $0.12 per-capita for HHW collection programs that "serve one community on one day annually." As such, Salem and Newton would be the only communities that would receive more grant funding than they are currently eligible for if they added a second event.

Method 2—Establish a Permanent HHW Collection Facility (Score = 3.5)

- The NH DES HHW grant can support publicly owned and operated HHW collection facilities. The same caveats apply as those for single day events.
- As of FY26, the NH DES HHW grant offered $0.26 per-capita for programs with "an active permanent HHW facility used to actively collect waste in absence of a hazardous waste transporter." For the purposes of the grant application, a program with an "active" permanent HHW facility is defined as "a program which performs at least 1/3 (one third) of its collection events at the HHW facility without incurring costs from a third-party vendor such as hazardous waste transporter."
- Grant funding may not be available for a permanent HHW facility established through a public/private partnership. The grant rules state that "*A municipality or approved local or regional entity...shall submit a completed application*…" The term "approved local or regional entity" is defined as "*a legal entity, such as a town conservation commission, solid waste*

management district, regional planning council or commission, or non-profit organization, that has been authorized by a municipality to coordinate the municipality's participation in one or more HHW collection projects" (NH Code of Administrative Rules, Env-Hw 1000). As such, the private partner could not be the grant applicant. Likewise, individual residents who use the facility could not apply for the grant.

- If the municipality in the public/private partnership does not incur costs for the HHW services because residents are paying for the services directly, then the municipality would not be eligible to apply for grant funding.

Method 3—Implement Curbside HHW Collection (Score = 1)

- The NH DES HHW grant does not currently offer funding to curbside HHW programs, as there are no options for this form of collection in the state. If a vendor were to begin offering this service, the grant program would need to be updated in order to allow for municipal applications under this category.

3. How easily can costs be predicted and managed with this option?

Method 1—Add Single day Collection Events (Score = 5)

- It is likely that municipalities could predict and manage the vendor costs associated with this option, particularly if per household or per vehicle pricing could be negotiated with the vendor. If this was combined with a cap on the number of participants, then the maximum cost for the event would be known upfront and could be budgeted for. For example, the Exeter HHW collection has negotiated a rate of $80 per vehicle with its vendor. The event is capped at 400 vehicles, so participating municipalities know that the total vendor cost will not exceed $32,000.

Method 2—Establish a Permanent HHW Collection Facility (Score = 3)

- A qualified design firm could help to develop a realistic budget for a publicly owned and operate facility. However, construction costs can still fluctuate based on outside economic forces.
- Planning for future growth would help to anticipate future annual operating costs.
- The costs incurred by the municipality in a public/private partnership depend on how the partnership is structured. The costs may be entirely borne by individuals who use the facility rather than by the municipality.

Method 3—Implement Curbside HHW Collection (Score = 4)

- The vendor contract could be negotiated annually. However, if there are no other vendors to provide the service and therefore no competition, it may not be possible to get better pricing.

Market Feasibility and Social Benefits

Market Feasibility considers whether the option meets a real need or want among consumers. No one solution will meet the needs of every resident in the region, but options with high market feasibility will reduce barriers for a significant number of residents.

Market Feasibility Measure	Score for Method 1. Add Single Day Collection Events	Score for Method 2. Establish a Permanent HHW Collection Facility	Score for Method 3. Implement Curbside HHW Collection
1. How much support is there for this option among residents and municipalities?	2.5	4	2
2. Does this option typically have better participation rates than what is currently available?	4	5	3
3. Is this option more convenient and safer for residents than what is currently available?	3.5	4.5	4
4. Does this option allow for the program to expand?	2	5	3
AVERAGE SCORE	**3**	**4.6**	**3**

1. How much support is there for this option among residents and municipalities?

The Rockingham Planning Commission conducted three surveys to gauge support for each method among members of the public and municipal staff and officials. The first was a survey of residents from across the region as part of RPC's Regional Master Plan update. The survey was available online from March 15 to May 15, 2025. A total of 902 residents took the survey, which included several questions about opportunities for expanding HHW collections in the region. It should be noted that survey participants likely overrepresent individuals who already attend HHW collections in the region. 68% of survey respondents reported having attended a HHW collection, while only 4% of households in the region participated in a collection in 2024. Although annual participation rates are not directly comparable to lifetime participation rates, it may be an indication that the survey results are biased towards residents who already find it convenient enough to attend an event.

The second survey was sent to 62 town administrators, elected officials, and DWP staff from each of RPC's 26 member municipalities in personalized emails. The content of the survey was designed not only to solicit feedback, but also to educate participants about the findings of this study. The survey was open from September 4-19, 2025 and received 20 responses.

The third survey was administered to residents who attended the 2025 Exeter Area HHW Collection. The survey was open from July 1 to October 4, 2025 and received 400 responses. Respondents represented the towns of Exeter, Stratham, Epping, Newfields, East Kingston, Seabrook, and South Hampton.

The following table summarizes responses to key questions across all three surveys. Complete survey results can be found in the Appendix of this report.

Question	2025 Regional Plan Survey	2025 Municipal Officials Survey	2025 Exeter HHW Survey
Would you like additional opportunities to dispose of HHW?	Yes = 63% No = 22% Unsure = 15%	N/A	Yes = 74% No = 26%
Would more single-day collection events from April-October be beneficial?	Yes = 33%	Yes = 63% No = 6% Unsure = 32%	Yes = 55%
Would a year-round, permanent HHW facility be beneficial?	Yes = 68%	Yes = 65% No = 24% Unsure = 12%	Yes = 58%
If a few sites could be identified, would you like to see a detailed cost estimate for constructing and operating a permanent facility?	N/A	Yes = 100% No = 0%	N/A
Would curbside HHW collection be beneficial?	Yes = 22%	Yes = 25% No = 50% Unsure = 25%	Yes = 17%

Method 1—Add Single day Collection Events (Score = 2.5)

- Input was mixed on the benefits of adding single-day collection events. Only 33% of Regional Master Plan survey respondents stated it would be beneficial to have more collections from April through October. Yet 63% of municipal respondents and 55% of Exeter HHW participants said it would be beneficial.

Method 2—Establish a Permanent HHW Collection Facility (Score = 4)

- There was strong support among all three surveys for establishing a permanent facility. 68% of Regional Master Plan survey respondents, 65% of municipal survey respondents, and 58% of Exeter HHW participants stated it would be beneficial to have a permanent facility that would allow them to dispose of HHW on an ongoing, year-round basis.

Method 3—Implement Curbside HHW Collection (Score = 2)

- Support was low across all three surveys for curbside HHW collection. Only 22% of Regional Master Plan survey respondents, 25% of municipal survey respondents, and 17% of Exeter HHW participants stated it would be beneficial to have curbside collection of HHW at their home.

2. Does this option typically have better participation rates than what is currently available?

Method 1—Add Single day Collection Events (Score = 4)

- It is likely that adding collection events during the spring, summer, and fall would increase participation. Single-day collections can expect participation rates between 1% and 5% of households per year (Nightingale, 11/2/20). The region-wide participation rate is currently 4.1%, indicating that there is room for improvement.
- Based on 2024 attendance, it would require an additional 754 households to participate region-wide to achieve a 5% participation rate.
- It would likely be easier to increase participation at the Brentwood (2.9% participating households), Exeter (2.0%), and Raymond (3.4%) collections, as they have the most room for improvement. These programs also only have one collection per year, making them a natural choice for an additional event.
- The Plaistow (4.3%), Portsmouth (4.3%), and Salem (4.1%) collections are all close to the upper end of the expected participation rate for single day events, leaving less room for growth. The Plaistow and Portsmouth programs also already have two events per year.
- The Hampton (8.3%) and Newton (9.0%) programs are already exceeding the expected participation rate for single day events. Hampton currently holds two collections per year. Newton only holds 1 collection every other year, so its biannual participation rates cannot be directly compared to other communities' annual participation rates.
- It is unlikely that participation rates at winter events would be higher than at current collections.

Method 2—Establish a Permanent HHW Collection Facility (Score = 5)

- It is extremely likely that participation rates at a permanent HHW collection facility would be better than rates at the current single-day events.
- General guidance is to plan for a minimum of 10% of households per year, with an optimal service level of at least 13% (Nightingale, 4/30/21). The best permanent facilities serve 14% to 17% of their households per year (Nightingale, 11/2/20).
- Even the minimum participation rate of 10% is higher than any current program in the region.

Method 3—Implement Curbside HHW Collection (Score = 3)

- Statistically, it is likely that participation rates using a curbside collection method would be higher than current single-day events. Waste Management's At Your Door program has a

national average of 6.6% participation. That is higher than the current region-wide average, but lower than Hampton and Newton.

- However, survey results in the RPC region show limited interest in curbside HHW collection.

3. Is this option more convenient and safer for residents than what is currently available?

Method 1—Add Single day Collection Events (Score = 3.5)

- It is likely that additional single-day collection events would increase convenience and safety for residents, especially if events were added to programs that currently only have one event per year. Convenience would also be improved by adding a mid-week, evening event to accommodate residents who are unable to attend on Saturdays or by adding an event during a month that currently does not have any events (June, July, or August).
- Overall, convenience and safety improvements might be limited because even with additional events residents would still have few opportunities per year to participate. In addition, it would still require a vehicle to participate.
- It is unlikely that adding single-day events in the winter would increase convenience for a large number of residents. Keene's 2024-2025 single-day Winter Movers HHW collection program only had 4 households participate, and the City discontinued the program for winter 2025-2026.

Method 2—Establish a Permanent HHW Collection Facility (Score = 4.5)

- It is very likely that a permanent HHW Collection facility would be more convenient and safer for residents. The year-round nature of these facilities means that residents can decide when they want to participate, rather than having to wait for a specific date.
- The overall convenience of a permanent facility depends on its hours of operation and where it is located.
- Permanent facilities still require a vehicle to participate, which limits access to some residents.

Method 3—Implement Curbside HHW Collection (Score = 4)

- It is extremely likely that this option would be more convenient and safer for residents.
- Residents can schedule unlimited pickups, year-round, on a day and time of their choosing. They do not need to be home when the collection occurs.
- Participants can schedule a curbside pickup via phone or website.
- This is the only option that allows participation from residents who cannot leave their homes or who do not have transportation. It also eliminates the chance for accidents associated with self-transporting HHW materials to collection sites.
- Municipal staff and officials expressed concern about safety risks associated with collection trucks navigating narrow residential roads. There was also concern about whether residents could be trusted to safely prepare their materials for curbside pickup.

4. Does this option allow for the program to expand, such as accepting Very Small Quantity Generators (VSQGs), incorporating a Swap Shop, or collecting additional materials like electronics and universal waste?

Method 1—Add Single day Collection Events (Score = 2)

- There is limited opportunity for program expansion at single-day events. Due to traffic flow patterns and the short duration of single-day events, it would be very difficult to incorporate a Swap Shop. Collecting additional materials like electronics or universal waste would be up to the discretion of the vendor. Experience shows that at least some vendors are unwilling to accept these materials due the fast paced nature of single-day collections and the time it takes to handle these materials safely.
- It might be possible to accept Very Small Quantity Generators (VSQGs) at single day events. This would also be at the discretion of the vendor. The Nashua Region Solid Waste Management District has a long history of accepting VSQGs at their single-day events.

Method 2—Establish a Permanent HHW Collection Facility (Score = 5)

- It is very likely that program offerings could be expanded in a publicly owned and operated facility, especially if the facility was initially designed with future grown opportunities in mind.
- It is likely that program offerings could also be expanded in a public/private partnership. The initial scope of offerings would be negotiated as part of the partnership agreement and could be updated in subsequent years.

Method 3—Implement Curbside HHW Collection (Score = 3)

- There would be limited opportunity for municipalities to negotiate expansions to curbside collection programs. The variety of materials accepted from residents would be set by the vendor. However, Waste Management's At Your Door Program accepts a wide range of materials, including electronics and universal waste, so there would be little need to expand this.
- Given that there is no physical site, it would be impossible to establish a Swap Shop.
- VSQGs are not eligible to participate in curbside HHW collection programs.

Governance Feasibility

Governance Feasibility considers the operational aspects of an option, such as geographic scope, regulatory constraints, liability, scalability, and governance structure.

Governance Feasibility Measure	Score for Method 1. Add Single Day Collection Events	Score for Method 2. Establish a Permanent HHW Collection Facility	Score for Method 3. Implement Curbside HHW Collection
1. Does this option require a critical mass of municipalities to participate?	5	3	5
2. Does this option require a governance agreement among participating municipalities?	5	3	5
3. Would appropriations for this option be part of the town's annual operating budget or would it require an independent warrant article at town meeting?	3.5	2.5	3
AVERAGE SCORE	**4.5**	**2.8**	**4.3**

1. Does this option require a critical mass of municipalities to participate?

Method 1—Add Single day Collection Events (Score = 5)

- Single-day events can be held with a small group of municipalities or even a single municipality, so there is no critical mass required for this option to be feasible.
- In addition, given that this option involves single-day, one-time collection events, there would be no requirement for municipalities to commit to participating for more than 1 year.

Method 2—Establish a Permanent HHW Collection Facility (Score = 3)

- The population of the RPC region, including Auburn, Chester, and Nottingham, is 221,349. The population without these municipalities is 204,511 (NH OPD).
- David Nightingale of Special Waste Associates offers the following advice for minimum population requirements needed to support a permanent HHW collection facility (Nightingale, 5/30/2021):
    - "A lower threshold for having the resources to build and operate a permanent HHW collection facility may be in the range of 20,000 to 50,000 people depending on the availability of local or state grants or other long-term financial partners."
    - "For jurisdictions where there is a lack of state or other partners' financial support, a realistic threshold might be higher, perhaps a population between 50,000 and 100,000 people."

    - "For service areas with significantly under 100,000 population, some creative combination of local savings accounts, grant programs, local resources, and a phased-in approach are often used to build and sustainably operate permanent HHW collection facilities."
- Given that NH lacks significant financial resources for HHW facilities, a conservative critical mass would be 100,000 or roughly half of the region's population.
- If a public/private partnership were pursued, municipalities would likely contract with the private partner directly, so it is possible that no critical mass of municipalities is required for this option. However, the partnership would likely be more attractive to the private entity if more municipalities agreed to participate.

Method 3—Implement Curbside HHW Collection (Score = 5)

- Municipalities contract directly with the curbside collection vendor, so no critical mass of municipalities is required.

2. Does this option require a governance agreement among participating municipalities?

Method 1—Add Single day Collection Events (Score = 5)

- Bylaws would not be needed to govern the operations of this option. Most single-day collections in the region operate without bylaws. This would especially be the case if the same groupings of municipalities continued to work together.
- Brentwood is the only group that currently has a formal governance structure. This collection event is part of the Southeast Regional Refuse Disposal District, which operates under RSA 53-B.

Method 2—Establish a Permanent HHW Collection Facility (Score = 3)

- A governance agreement would definitely be required for a publicly owned and operated facility. The following are examples of questions that would need to be addressed in the agreement.

1. How will governance be structured?
    - RSA 53B Solid Waste Management District
    - RSA 149-M:19 Regional Cooperation
    - Other form?
2. Parties to the Agreement
    - How would a geographic scope be identified for the purposes of municipal membership and residential participation in this option?
    - Will all municipalities in the region be required to participate in this option? If not, what happens to residents of a non-participating municipality who have HHW that they want to dispose of at the facility?
    - How does a municipality stop participating in this option if it chooses?
    - What happens if there is not a critical mass of municipalities who want to continue to participate after the option has been established?

- What if a municipality wants to participate after the facility is built?

3. Program Funds and Operations
    - Who maintains program funds?
    - What are appropriate uses of funds?
    - Can funds be carried over year after year?
    - How would participating municipalities establish and manage a capital reserve fund?
    - What happens when the facility needs to be repaired or replaced?
    - How is routine maintenance addressed and paid for?
    - Can program funds be refunded to participating municipalities?
    - What happens to a municipality's contribution to the capital reserve fund if it no longer participates in this option?
    - When is the budget set? What percentage of members need to pass it?
    - What happens if a municipality does not pay its annual assessment?
    - What method would be used to calculate each municipality's fair share of the cost? Would it be based on population, number of residents who use the facility, or some other measure?
        - The Nashua Region Solid Waste Management District (NRSWMD) calculates each member's share of the costs according to the following formula: Twenty-five (25) percent of the total member fees shall be distributed equally among all Members. The remaining seventy-five (75) percent shall be distributed at a percentage consistent with each Member's portion of the District's total population.
        - In the RPC region, fair share is currently calculated based on the number of participants per municipality at the collection (Plaistow, Portsmouth, Hampton) or based on percentage of overall population (Exeter, Raymond). The exception to this is Brentwood, where the costs are calculated as part of the Solid Waste District and are based on each town's percentage of the total trash produced annually.
4. Roles and Responsibilities
    - How many representatives does each municipality have?
    - Does the municipality that hosts the facility have additional responsibilities?
    - How would the host municipality/site owner be adequately compensated for assuming the added liability and costs incurred through this option?
    - What responsibilities do member municipalities have in general?
    - Who is responsible for regulating the use of the facility?
    - Does the group have authority to own property?
5. Organization
    - Does the organization have officers? If so, how are they elected? How long is their term?
    - How often do members meet?
    - What are the voting rules?
    - How is a vender selected? How frequently is a RFP issued?
    - How are amendments made to the governing agreement?

Method 3—Implement Curbside HHW Collection (Score = 5)

- No governance agreement is required for this option. Each municipality enters into its own contract with the vendor.

3. Would appropriations for this option be part of the town's annual operating budget or would it require a warrant article at Town meeting?

Method 1—Add Single day Collection Events (Score = 3.5)

- Single-day event costs would be part of the town's annual operating budget, typically under the municipal Public Works budget. An increase to the Public Works budget to fund an additional single-day event would likely be approved at Town Meeting, particularly in municipalities that currently only have one event per year.
- Voter outreach and education would likely be helpful.
- It would be difficult to get voter approval to increase the town's annual operating budget to support a single-day event in the winter. Participation at the event would likely be low, which would make it harder to justify the expense.

Method 2—Establish a Permanent HHW Collection Facility (Score = 2.5)

- Establishing a publicly owned and operated permanent facility would require a special warrant article at Town meeting.
- Initial capital costs for a publicly owned and operated permanent HHW facility would likely be paid for through a capital reserve fund or bond. It would be possible to get this approved at Town meeting, particularly given the high level of support for this option as indicated through RPC's Regional Master Plan Survey. Education and outreach to voters would be essential.
- Annual operating costs could be paid for as part of the Town's annual operating budget, however, a capital reserve fund would likely still be maintained to cover ongoing maintenance costs and equipment needs. It is likely that annual operating costs would be approved by voters. Existing facilities provide ample evidence that once a community establishes a permanent facility it continues to support it (Nightingale, 5/30/21).
- Depending on how the public/private partnership was structured, this option may not require appropriations.
- Details regarding the provision of a privately owned and operated HHW collection facility would be included as part of the private partner's site plan proposal. It would be up to the town's Planning Board to approve the facility.

Method 3—Implement Curbside HHW Collection (Score = 3)

- Each municipality could decide whether to put the appropriations for this option into the annual operating budget or separate it as a warrant article. For the benefit of transparency, municipalities would likely do the latter.
- Regardless of how it was framed, education and outreach to voters would be essential.

Overall Scorecard

After the feasibility scores for each method where calculated, each criteria—market, technical, financial, and governance—was given a weight to reflect its importance. Market feasibility is the factor that contributes most to the success of a HHW collection method, so it was assigned the highest weight at 50%. Even if a method is financially and technically feasible, if there is not public support for the method it will not be used. Governance feasibility is the least concern, so it was only assigned a 10% weight. While governance agreements may take some time to work through, they are unlikely to be insurmountable. Financial and Technical feasibility are more of a limiting factor than governance concerns, but less than lack of support, so they were calculated at a 20% weight.

Method	Market Feasibility Score (50%)	Technical Feasibility Score (20%)	Financial Feasibility Score (20%)	Governance Feasibility Score (10%)	Total
Add Single Day Collection Events	1.50	0.84	0.74	0.45	**3.53**
Establish a Permanent HHW Collection Facility	2.30	0.66	0.64	0.28	**3.88**
Implement Curbside HHW Collection	1.50	0.66	0.40	0.43	**2.99**

Recommendations and Next Steps

Based on the results of the Feasibility Analysis, RPC recommends moving forward with the establishment of a permanent HHW collection facility in the region. The following steps should be taken to implement this recommendation:

Short Term Steps (6-12 months)

1. Secure funding for Rockingham Planning Commission to develop a Permanent Facility Program report. The report will identify program goals, materials to be collected, desired facility features (ex. swap shop), whether VSQGs will be eligible to participate, and ideal operating schedule. The report will also gather data on the types and quantities of waste that have historically been collected among interested municipalities to better understand storage requirements for a permanent facility.
2. Conduct additional outreach to municipal staff and elected officials across the region about permanent HHW collections facilities and answer questions they have.
3. Reassess which municipalities are interested in participating in a permanent HHW facility.
4. Identify up to 3 potential sites for a permanent HHW facility. The geographic scope of the search area will depend on which municipalities express interest in participating.

Medium Term Steps (1-3 years)

1. Research and write the Permanent Facility Program report.
2. Secure funding for and hire a design firm to develop a conceptual design based on the needs and desires outlined in the Permanent Facility Program report. If there are still several sites being considered, the firm can also conduct site assessments to identify the optimal site.
3. Conduct public outreach regarding the findings of the Permanent Facility Program report and Conceptual Design study. Public outreach should be ongoing throughout the process.

Long Term Steps (3-7 years)

1. Issue a RFP for permanent facility design-build proposals and evaluate proposals.
2. Establish required governance agreements among participating municipalities.
3. Secure funding for the permanent facility.
4. Hire building contractor and construct the permanent facility.
5. Issue a RFP for a HHW vendor, evaluate proposals, and hire vendor.
6. Hire and train municipal staff for the facility.
7. Open and operate the permanent facility.

Given the long timeframe needed to implement a permanent HHW collection facility, RPC also recommends adding additional single-day collections in the interim. Focus on the Exeter, Brentwood, and Raymond programs, which currently have lower participation rates and only one event per year. Interested municipalities may also consider trying a mid-week, evening collection in June, July, or August. Finally, RPC recommends that Newton partner with an existing HHW collection program in order to reduce its costs and provide at least one collection opportunity per year for its residents.

SECTION 5. Appendix

References

"$711,402 in 2018 → 2025 | Inflation Calculator." Official Inflation Data, Alioth Finance, 22 Apr. 2025, https://www.officialdata.org/us/inflation/2018?amount=711402.

Chang A, Schnall AH, Law R, et al. Cleaning and Disinfectant Chemical Exposures and Temporal Associations with COVID-19 — National Poison Data System, United States, January 1, 2020–March 31, 2020. MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep 2020; 69:496–498.

Monte, Susan and Bartels, Bart. "Strategies for Improving Household Hazardous Waste Collection Options in East Central Illinois." Champaign County Regional Planning Commission. March 31, 2015.

New Hampshire Department of Business and Economic Affairs. "2023 Population Estimates of New Hampshire Cities and Towns." Prepared by the NH Office of Planning and Development. https://www.nheconomy.com/getmedia/702f5a4f-d5c6-4c22-878d-708f1e87f953/2023-Population-Estimates.pdf. July 29, 2024.

Nightingale, David E.B., "Lessons from Collection Facilities Operating at Least Six Years", Proceedings of the 1997 Hazardous Materials Management Conference on Household, Small Business, and Universal Waste, San Diego, CA, November 1997.

Nightingale, David (9/1/2000). "Expensive But Smart" *Waste Advantage* *https://www.waste360.com/smart-waste-technology/expensive-but-smart*

Nightingale, David (11/2/2020). "HHW Collection Effectiveness Metric." *Waste Advantage* *https://wasteadvantagemag.com/hhw-collection-effectiveness-metric/*

Nightingale, David (4/30/2021). "First of Two Parts: Should our Community have a Permanent HHW Collection Facility?" *Waste Advantage* https://wasteadvantagemag.com/first-of-two-parts-should-our-community-have-a-permanent-hhw-collection-facility/

Nightingale, David (5/30/2021). “Second of Two Parts: Should our Community have a Permanent HHW Collection Facility?” *Waste Advantage* https://wasteadvantagemag.com/second-of-two-parts-should-our-community-have-a-permanent-hhw-collection-facility/

Nightingale, D. and Ellis, E. “Moderate Risk Waste Collection System Report,” Publication No. 00-07-041. Washington State Department of Ecology, Solid Waste and Financial Assistance Program. December 2000.

Nightingale, D.; Nightingale, J.; and Sweetser, L. (6/30/2020). “Staffing Levels at Permanent Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facilities” *Waste Advantage* *https://wasteadvantagemag.com/staffing-levels-at-permanent-household-hazardous-waste-collection-facilities/*

Nightingale, D. and Lewry, B. “HHW Collection Facilities.” In A.D. Cabaniss (Ed)., *Handbook on Household Hazardous Waste* (pg. 107-118). Lanham, MD: Government Institutes, 2008.

Patrick Engineering, Inc. “Household Hazardous Waste Facility Feasibility Study.” Prepared for Peoria County, Office of Health and Human Services, Recycling and Resource Conservation. December 2009.

Rockingham Planning Commission. “Regional Master Plan Survey 2025.” https://publicinput.com/rpcregionalsurvey. May 2025.

Solera, Inc. “Household Hazardous Waste Feasibility Study for the County of Erie.” Prepared for Erie County, NY. June 29, 2018.

UCLA Engineering Extension. “Permanent Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facility Project Development Guide.” Prepared for CA Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (formerly California Integrated Waste Management Board). May 2008.

U.S. Census Bureau, "Total Households," American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates Subject Tables, Table DP02, 2023, https://data.census.gov/table/ACSDP5Y2022.DP02 last accessed on April 23, 2025.

Current Collection Event Details

Plaistow Program

1. **Participating Municipalities:** Atkinson, Danville, Hampstead, Kingston, Plaistow, Chester (Southern RPC)
2. **# of Events per Year:** 2
3. **Event Dates:** typically April and October
4. **Host Municipality:** the spring collection is always in Plaistow; the fall collection rotates between the other 5 communities (Chester hosted in the fall of 2021, Kingston in 2022, Atkinson in 2023, and Danville in 2024)
5. **Collection Locations:**
   - Plaistow: Plaistow Public Works Facility, 144F Main Street
   - Chester: 50 Dump Road
   - Kingston: 12 Main Street
   - Atkinson: 78 Woodlock Park Lane
   - Danville: Danville Community Center, 169 Main Street
6. **# of Participants per Event:** 363 (Plaistow, spring 2024), 327 (Danville, fall 2024)
7. **HHW Vendor:** Veolia in 2022, 2023, and 2024
8. **Cost for Disposal:** $46,284.69 in April 2023; $44,032 in April 2024; varies depending on the type and quantity of materials collected and the number of participants
9. **Cost per Participating Household:** $114 in April 2023, $121 in April 2024, $125 in fall 2024
10. **Do you charge participants a user fee?:** no fee, but there is a 10 gallon limit
11. **How are costs distributed among municipalities (ex. by population, by participation rates)?:** cost is broken out by participants from each town. Each person arriving at the collection point must fill out a survey stating what town they reside in.
12. **Do you receive NH DES HHW grant funding?:** each community that hosts the fall collection applies for grant funding to assist with the cost.
13. **Is there a formal governance structure for the communities that participate in your HHW collection (ex. RSA 53-B Solid Waste Management District)?:** There is no formal governance structure, but we have an established schedule that has been followed for years. The Highway Supervisor from Plaistow is the unofficial coordinator.

Brentwood Program

1. **Participating Municipalities:** Brentwood, Fremont, Kensington, North Hampton, Rye, Sandown
2. **# of Events per Year:** 1
3. **Event Dates:** September
4. **Host Municipality:** Brentwood
5. **Collection Location:** Highway Shed, 207 Middle Road
6. **# of Participants per Event:** 300-325 households

7. **HHW Vendor:** the District has used North Ward Environmental (previously Care Environmental) for the past 20 years; they went out to bid in 2023 but didn't get many responses
8. **Cost for disposal:** $14,400 in 2023; $11,742 in 2024
9. **Cost per Participating Household:** $44 in 2023, $38 in 2024
10. **Do you charge participants a user fee?:** there is no fee for residents from participating communities; they do charge non-residents $50 and there is a fee for electronics
11. **How are costs distributed among municipalities (ex. by population, by participation rates)?:** the 53-B structure governs how costs are shared. They are calculated based on each town's % of the total trash produced each year (ex. if Brentwood produces 20% of the trash they pay 20% of the costs).
12. **Do you receive NH DES HHW grant funding?:** according to District representatives, the District applies for DES funding each year but does not always receive it.
13. **Is there a formal governance structure for the communities that participate in your HHW collection (ex. RSA 53-B Solid Waste Management District)?** the collection is part of Southeast Regional Refuse Disposal District (https://srrd53.com/), which operates under RSA 53-B.

Exeter Program

1. **Participating Municipalities:** East Kingston, Epping, Exeter, Newfields, Seabrook, South Hampton, Stratham
2. **# of Events per Year:** 1
3. **Event Dates:** October
4. **Host Municipality:** Exeter
5. **Collection Location:** Exeter Public Works Garage, Newfields Road (RT 85)
6. **# of Participants per Event:** 313 households in 2024
7. **HHW Vendor:** Tradebe
8. **Cost for Disposal:** $48,605 in 2023; $41,731.68 in 2024
9. **Cost per Participating Household:** $135.77 in 2023, $133.33 in 2024
10. **Do you charge participants a user fee?:** yes, $15 per vehicle up to 10 gallons or 20 pounds
11. **How are costs distributed among municipalities (ex. by population, by participation rates)?:** costs are distributed by population
12. **Do you receive NH DES HHW grant funding?:** yes
13. **Is there a formal governance structure for the communities that participate in your HHW collection (ex. RSA 53-B Solid Waste Management District)?** None
14. **Other notes:** Rockingham Planning Commission provides administrative services for the program.

Portsmouth Program

1. **Participating Municipalities:** Portsmouth, Greenland, Newington
2. **# of Events per Year:** 2

3. **Event Dates:** fall and spring
4. **Host Municipality:** Portsmouth
5. **Collection Location:** Department of Public Works, 680 Peverly Hill Road
6. **# of Participants per Event:** 286 (spring 2024), 249 (fall 2024)
7. **HHW Vendor:** ACV Environmental
8. **Cost for Disposal:** spring 2023 = $47,000; fall 2023 = $42,000; spring 2024 = $50,000; fall 2024 = $37,000
9. **Cost per Participating Household:** $150.85 in 2023, $174.83 in spring 2024, $148.59 in fall 2024
10. **Do you charge participants a user fee?:** no
11. **How are costs distributed among municipalities (ex. by population, by participation rates)?:** costs are divided based on participant survey responses. They utilize an electronic survey on an iPad; every participant is asked their municipality at the gate by event staff.
12. **Do you receive NH DES HHW grant funding?:** yes
13. **Is there a formal governance structure for the communities that participate in your HHW collection?** There is not a formal governance structure, but they have an ongoing mutual agreement.

Hampton Program

1. **Participating Municipalities:** Hampton, Hampton Falls, New Castle
2. **# of Events per Year:** 2
3. **Event Dates:** May 18, 2024 and September 14, 2024
4. **Host Municipality:** Hampton
5. **Collection Location:** Hampton Public Works, 1 Hardardt's Way
6. **# of Participants per Event:** 371 (spring 2024), 356 (fall 2024)
7. **HHW Vendor:** Environmental Projects, Inc. (EPI)
8. **Cost for Disposal:** 2023 pricing = $31.50 per unit (vehicle) plus $2,860 set up fee; spring 2024 pricing = $22,390; fall 2024 pricing = $21,602.50
9. **Cost per Participating Household:** $60
10. **Do you charge participants a user fee?:** yes
    - Residents of Hampton do not pay to attend the event.
    - Residents of Hampton Falls buy tickets prior to the event (ticket price = $31.50 in 2023, $33 in 2025)
    - Residents of New Castle do not pay directly to attend. The Town of New Castle is invoiced based on the number of New Castle residents who attended the event.
11. **How are costs distributed among municipalities (ex. by population, by participation rates)?:** see #10 above
12. **Do you receive NH DES HHW grant funding?:** yes
13. **Is there a formal governance structure for the communities that participate in your HHW collection (ex. RSA 53-B Solid Waste Management District)?** no

Raymond Program

1. **Participating Municipalities:** Raymond, Auburn (Southern RPC), Nottingham (Strafford RPC)
2. **# of Events per Year:** 1
3. **Event Dates:** end of September
4. **Host Municipality:** Raymond
5. **Collection Location:** end of Industrial Drive
6. **# of Participants per Event:** 152 in 2022, 193 in 2024
7. **HHW Vendor:** it is put out to bid every year, but the last three years it has been Tradebe
8. **Cost for Disposal:** approximately $8,975 in 2022; $13,050 in 2025
9. **Cost per Participating Household:** $59 in 2022, $67 in 2024
10. **Do you charge participants a user fee?:** no
11. **How are costs distributed among municipalities (ex. by population, by participation rates)?:** by population
12. **Do you receive NH DES HHW grant funding?:** yes, approximately $3,500
13. **Is there a formal governance structure for the communities that participate in your HHW collection (ex. RSA 53-B Solid Waste Management District)?** no
14. **Other notes:** "I would agree that once a year is probably not enough as it may force people to either improperly dispose of items or have to hang on to them for quite some time before they can dispose of them." Stacey Grella, Raymond DPW Manager

Salem Program

1. **# of Events per Year:** 1
2. **Event Dates:** late September or October
3. **Collection Location:** 21 Cross St., DPW Garage, Parking Lot
4. **# of Participants per Event:** 430 cars in 2023, 500 in 2024
5. **HHW Vendor:** MXI has been the vendor for the last few years. It is a yearly bid and they have been the low bidder.
6. **Cost for Disposal:** $50,000 in 2023; $49,000 in 2024
7. **Cost per Participating Household:** $116.28 in 2023, $98 in 2024
8. **Do you charge participants a user fee?:** There is no fee for Salem residents.
9. **Do you receive NH DES HHW grant funding?:** no
10. **Other notes:** The logistics for the event are handled by the vendor. Salem supplies the facility and traffic control.

Newton Program

1. **# of Events per Year:** 1 event every other year
2. **Event Dates:** 10/2/21 and 10/28/23
3. **Collection Location:** Transfer Station, 4 Dugway Rd.

4. **# of Participants per Event:** 275 in 2021, 161 in 2023
5. **HHW Vendor:** Care Environmental in 2021, North Ward Environmental in 2023 (formally Care)
6. **Cost for Disposal:** $25,000 in 2021; $35,000 in 2023
7. **Cost per Participating Household:** $91 in 2021; $217 in 2023
8. **Do you charge participants a user fee?:** no
9. **Do you receive NH DES HHW grant funding?:** no

Households per Program

Municipality	# of Households
Raymond Program	
Raymond	1705
Auburn	1,998
Nottingham	2,021
TOTAL Raymond Program	**5,724**
Plaistow Program	
Atkinson	2908
Danville	1721
Hampstead	3746
Kingston	2751
Plaistow	3207
Chester	1,827
TOTAL Plaistow Program	**16,160**
Brentwood Program	
Brentwood	1548
Fremont	1689
Kensington	710
North Hampton	1990
Rye	2446
Sandown	2206
TOTAL Brentwood Program	**10,589**
Exeter Program	
East Kingston	821
Epping	2841
Exeter	4552
Newfields	637
Seabrook	3803
South Hampton	344
Stratham	3047
TOTAL Exeter Program	**16,045**
Portsmouth Program	
Portsmouth	10435
Greenland	1540
Newington	379
TOTAL Portsmouth Program	**12,354**
Hampton Program	
Hampton	7412
Hampton Falls	874
New Castle	430
TOTAL Hampton Program	**8,716**
Salem Program	**12,258**
Newton Program	**1,789**
TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS	**83,635**

Facility and Operating Cost Examples

The following capital and operating cost estimates are intended to provide examples of how communities budgeted for their permanent HHW collection facilities.

Example 1. Estimated Costs for a Facility in Erie County, NY in 2018

Specifications and Assumptions:

- Facility designed to handle 6,000 participants per year, with 85 pounds of material per participant.
- Open 15-20 hours per week.
- Collection and sorting labor provided by municipality, plus contractor chemist as needed.

ESTIMATED CAPITAL COSTS	
Architecture and Design	$50,000
Operating Plan and Permitting	$20,000
Construction	$125,000
Air & Fire Control Systems	$50,000
Equipment and Supplies	$20,000
Estimated Capital Costs	**$265,000**

ESTIMATED ANNUAL OPERATING COSTS				
	Unit Price	**Units**	**Quantity**	**Annual Cost**
Annual Location Costs				
Maintenance & Repairs	$12,000	/location	1	$12,000
Labor—3 people, municipal resources utilized	$50	/hour	3,000	$150,000
Equipment/Supplies	$10,000	/location	1	$10,000
Technology/Insurance	$10,000	/location	1	$10,000
Chemist	$75	/hour	324	$24,300
Location Costs Subtotal				$206,300
Annual Collection Costs				
Disposal	$0.30	/pound	510,000	$153,000
Transportation	$0.10	/pound	510,000	$51,000
Collection Costs Subtotal				$204,000
Annual Administrative Costs				
Administrative Labor—1/2 person, municipal resources used	$55	/hour	1,000	$55,000
Registration	$0.75	/participant	6,000	$4,500
Promotion & Education—year round	$7	/participant	6,000	$42,000
Annual Administrative Subtotal				$101,500
Estimated Operating Costs				**$511,800**

Source: Solara, Inc. 2018

Example 2. Estimated Costs for a Facility in Eastern Illinois in 2015

Specifications and Assumptions:

- Service area includes Champaign, Clark, Coles, Cumberland, Douglas, Edgar, and Vermilion Counties in IL.
- Does not include site acquisition costs, based on the assumption that a suitable site may be donated.
- Facility is designed and sized to accommodate electronics recycling collection and latex paint collection, as well as HHW.
- Estimate is for a 3,456 ft^2 pole barn style building (24'x144') with open air flow on two sides and access for vehicle drop-offs via an interior building drive through or under an attached covered drive-up area. Allows sufficient area for sorting, bulking, and packaging of HHW materials. Also allows for potential to sort and temporarily store electronics and latex paint for recycling and a paint exchange area.
- Open-air building areas where sorting, pour-off, and bulking occur will have open-air ventilation and no air conditioning, keeping utility costs low.
- Chemical storage locker is pre-fabricated, 40'6"x8'x8'6", includes 2-hour fire rating, dry chemical fire suppression system, and will hold 42 55-gallon drums.
- Assumes facility is in full compliance with public safety, building safety, and operational standards, but not exceeding standards.
- Facility will operate 10 hours per week, 50 weeks per year.
- Online reservation system will pace traffic flow and minimize staff requirements, initially set to allow vehicle drop-off every 10 minutes.
- One non-HHW collection staff will supervise a number of unpaid community service workers to assist in electronics sorting and packaging and latex paint collecting and sorting.
- Snow removal anticipated to be the primary site maintenance cost.

ESTIMATED CAPITAL COSTS	
Site Acquisition (assumes a suitable site may be donated)	$0
Chemical Storage Locker (40'6"x8'x8'6"), includes 2 hour fire rating, dry chemical fire suppression system, will hold 42 55-gallon drums	$48,000
Installation of concrete pad and bollards (520 ft^2)	$3,200
Installation of unit/HVAC/electric/security	$8,800
HHW Collection Facility Building (24'x144')	$90,000
Concrete footings for building	$9,100
Building Assembly	$10,000
Lighting/Miscellaneous	$10,500
Site Preparation and Fencing	$15,000
Landscaping (topsoil, finish grading, low maintenance planting)	$12,000
Equipment (forklift, dollies, shelving, scale, can crusher, computer system)	$30,000
Engineering Plan/Architectural Drawing	$25,000
Plan Review and Permitting	$25,000
Subtotal	$286,600

20% Contingency	$57,300
Estimated Capital Costs	**$343,900**

ESTIMATED ANNUAL OPERATING COSTS		
	Units	**Annual Cost**
Annual Labor Costs		
Part-time Chemist	12 hrs/week, 50 weeks, $35/hr	$21,000
Part-time HHW Collection Staff 1	10 hrs/week, 50 weeks, $10/hr	$5,000
Part-time HHW Collection Staff 2	10 hrs/week, 50 weeks, $10/hr	$5,000
Part-time non-HHW Collection Staff 1	10 hrs/week, 50 weeks, $10/hr	$5,000
Part-time non-HHW Collection Staff 2	10 hrs/week, 50 weeks, $10/hr	$5,000
Part-time Administrator	8 hrs/week, 50 weeks, $25/hr	$10,000
Fringe Costs	23% of estimated labor costs	$11,730
Staff Safety Training		$9,500
Annual Collection Costs		
HHW Transportation and Processing		$225,000
Other Costs		
Utilities		$3,500
Routine Site Maintenance		$1,500
Building Fund		$5,000
Subtotal		$307,230
10% Contingency		$30,723
Estimated Annual Operating Costs		**$337,953**

Source: Monte and Bartels, 2015

Example 3. Estimated Costs for a Facility in Peoria County, IL in 2009

Specifications and Assumptions:

- Assumes 3,750 households per year (75,000 households in Peoria County at a 5% participation rate), 65 pounds of HHW per household
- Assumes the County will operate the facility, not a HHW contractor.
- Building is 5,400ft^2, pre-engineered, commercial steel building, clear span, with insulation and fire-rated internal walls. Sealed, custom concrete slab floor. Storage area for 325 drums, plus additional space in two exterior hazmat storage units for flammables and other high hazard materials. Covered loading area with ramp. Interior space divided between receiving/processing area, storage area, office with bathrooms, and swap shop.
- Pre-fabricated, exterior hazmat storage units include integrated dry chemical fire suppression system, explosion proof electrical fixtures and heating system, active ventilation system, and integrated explosion relief panels. Each unit can store approximately 40 drums and can be divided into 2 or 3 compartments.
- Insurance costs estimate only includes special liability coverage. Does not include general liability coverage or personal liability coverage for public officials.

Item	Unit	Quantity	Unit Cost (Low)	Total Cost (Low)	Unit Cost (High)	Total Cost (High)
Capital Costs						
Land Acquisition	Acre	2	$9,000	$18,000	$17,000	$34,000
Building Costs (building, electric, heating, cooling)	Square Feet	5,400	$100	$540,000	$150	$810,000
HazMat Storage Containers	Container	1	$35,000	$35,000	$45,000	$45,000
Site Work (grading, ponds, asphalt, cement, rock, excavation, utilities, etc.)	Estimate	1	$50,000	$50,000	$100,000	$100,000
Engineering/Architecture						
Engineering/Architecture Design	Estimate	1	$45,000	$45,000	$70,000	$70,000
Pre-purchase investigation and permitting (legal not included)	Estimate	1	$30,000	$30,000	$45,000	$45,000
Equipment Costs						
Forklift, scale, computer system, can crusher, etc.	Estimated	1	$30,000	$30,000	$40,000	$40,000
Capital Cost Subtotal				**$748,000**		**$1,144,000**

ESTIMATED ANNUAL OPERATING COSTS					
Labor	***Months/year***	***Hrs/month***	***Employees***	***$/Hr***	***Total***
HHW Technician, Specialist, Supervisor	12	80	1	$24	$23,040
Equipment Operator/Maintenance	12	80	1	$18	$17,280
Lab Packer/attendant/assistant	12	80	2	$15	$28,800
Administration/support	12	80	0	$18	$0
Labor Subtotal					$69,120
Other Costs					
Building & Equipment Annual Operation & Maintenance		Estimated	1	$18,000	$18,000
Operating Supplies & Commodities		Estimated	1		$8,000
Annual Utilities		Estimated	1		$7,800
Education & Promotion		Estimated	1		$3,000
Insurance		Estimated	1		$24,000
Transportation & Disposal of HHW					$275,000
Building, Engineering, Site, Equipment Costs Annualized at 4.5%, 20 years				$722,000	$55,505
Total Annual Costs (Incl. Amortization)					**$460,425**

Source: Patrick Engineering, 2009

Sample Waste Management At Your Door Contract

This document is being provided to the Market Area as a template for use for At Your Door Special Collection. Market Area - Legal should review and amend as needed.

AT YOUR DOOR SPECIAL COLLECTION®

SERVICE AGREEMENT

This At Your Door Special Collection® service Agreement (the "Agreement") is entered into on_____, 20____ (the "Effective Date"), by and between _____, a municipal corporation created under the laws of the State of _____ ("Municipality"), and Waste Management of _____, ___. ("WM"), a _____ corporation

Recitals

A. The Municipality desires to provide its residents with environmentally sound collection and disposal of the residents' home generated special materials;

B. WM and its affiliates have extensive experience in providing collection and disposal services for such materials; and,

C. The Municipality has determined that it would be in the best interests of its citizens to contract with WM for the collection of its residents' home generated special materials according to the terms and conditions contained in this Agreement.

Agreements

1. **Definitions**

(a) "**Eligible Materials**" shall mean most ordinary household, automotive and gardening chemicals, electronics and other items identified by WM as being eligible for collection but shall exclude Ineligible Materials. Eligible Materials may vary depending on federal, state and local regulations and shall be subject to specific instruction sheet sent to the Residential Unit. Below is a non-exhaustive list of Eligible Materials, but WM, in its sole discretion, reserves the right to modify the list below and/or definition of Eligible Materials.

Household Items	Paint Products	Batteries and Fluorescent Lamps	Electronics	Automotive Material
• Ammonia • Floor stripper • Drain cleaner • Floor cleaner • Tile/shower cleaner • Carpet/upholstery cleaner	• *(5-gallon maximum size container)* • Oil based paint • Latex paint • Stripper and thinner • Caulking	• Household, Nicad, NiMH and Lithium Ion batteries • Fluorescent lamps (straight tubes, circular, and compact)	*(Includes related cords)* • Televisions (1 max per p/u) • Computer monitors • CPU/computer tower • Laptop and tablet computers • Keyboard, Mouse	• Motor oil • Antifreeze • Waxes/Polishes • Cleaners • Brake fluids • Used oil filters • Transmission fluid

• Rust remover • Toilet bowl cleaner • Hobby glue	• Wood preservative and stains • Sealers • Spray paint • Artist paint	• Compact fluorescent lamps (CFL) and high intensity lamps	• Fax machine • Desktop printer/scanner • CDROM/DVD/CD/ • tape player • VCR • Cell phone • MP3 player, iPod • Microwave	• Windshield washer fluid • Hydraulic fluid • Vehicle batteries (4 max per p/u -), specifically excluding batteries from electric and/or hybrid vehicles
Swimming Pool Chemicals	**Mercury Containing Items**	**Flammable and Combustible Materials**	**Garden Chemicals**	**Sharps***
• Pool acid • Chlorine tablets and liquid • Stabilizers	• Thermostats • Thermometers • Switches	*(Must be placed in containers designed and sold for the containment and transportation of such material)* • Gasoline and Diesel fuel • Kerosene • Solvents	• Insect sprays/Insecticides • Weed killers • Fertilizer • Herbicides • Pesticides	*(Sharp items must be placed into a sealed, rigid, puncture-resistant container)* • Syringes • Needles • Lancets

*** EXCEPT WHERE PROHIBITED BY STATE LAW**

(b) "**Ineligible Materials**" shall mean any and all of the following: (i) material not included in the list of Eligible Materials, including but not limited to, biological waste, ammunition and explosives, asbestos, appliances (washing machines, refrigerators vacuums or tools), construction related debris, containers over 5 gallons, fire extinguishers, food waste, pressurized cylinders, medicines/pharmaceuticals, radioactive materials, tires, primary batteries from hybrid or electric vehicles, trash, liquid mercury, white goods, smoke and carbon monoxide detectors, cooking oil, bulky items and Incandescent light bulbs and LED lights; (ii) commercial materials and/or materials generated from the operation of a business, even if the business is run out a residential home; (iii) any materials, including Eligible Materials, that are improperly packed, leaking, unlabeled, unknown or unidentifiable material, oversized or in unusually large quantities or exceed the pre-arranged quantities; (iv) any material that is prohibited from being received, managed or disposed of at a transfer, storage or disposal facility used hereunder by federal, state or local law, regulation, ordinance, permit or other legal requirement; (v) materials not prepared in accordance with the specific instruction sheet; (vi) any other material that poses a risk to WM's equipment or employees; (vii) any materials containing information protected by federal, state or local privacy and security laws or regulations; and, (viii) any other items WM, in its sole discretion, deems excluded from the scope of this program.

(c) "**Residential Unit**" shall mean a residential dwelling where Eligible Materials may be collected that is subject to services described herein. ***(Note to Market Area Legal: Clarify whether Residential Unit includes multi-unit dwellings, such as apartments or condos with 4 or more individual dwellings)***

2. **Term and Termination**.

(a) The initial term of this Agreement shall be for ___ (__) years commencing on _____ (the "Commencement Date"), and ending on _____, and thereafter shall automatically renew for successive renewal terms of one-year each, unless either Party gives the other Party written notice of its intention to terminate the Agreement at least ninety days prior to the end of the then-current term. All notices shall be served by certified mail, return receipt requested, or by a nationally recognized overnight courier service.

(b) The failure of either Party to perform a material obligation under this Agreement shall be considered a breach of this Agreement, and the breaching Party shall be in default. In the event of default, the non-defaulting Party shall give written notice of the default, and the defaulting Party shall have: (i) ten (10) days from the receipt of the notice to cure any failure to pay money under this Agreement, or (ii) thirty (30) days from the receipt of the notice to cure any other default under this Agreement. If the defaulting Party fails to cure the breach within the allotted time, the non-defaulting Party may, at its option, immediately terminate the Agreement. In the event of a default, the defaulting Party agrees to pay all damages caused by said default, except under no circumstances shall the Parties be liable for any consequential, indirect, punitive or special damages for any alleged default under this Agreement.

(c) Either Party may terminate this Agreement at any time without cause by providing the other Party at least 60 days' advance written notice.

(d) Prior to any expiration or termination of this Agreement, WM shall not be obligated to provide more service collections to the Municipality during the last sixty (60) days or two (2) months than the monthly average of service collections performed during the prior six (6) months of service (e.g. if WM provides an average of forty (40) collections per month for the prior six (6) months, then WM will provide no more than forty (40) collections per month for the final sixty (60) days or two (2) months of service.)

3. **Scope and Scheduling of Services.**

(a) WM shall provide Residential Unit with collection, management, transportation, disposal, and treatment of Eligible Materials generated by Residential Units with the Municipality during the term of this Agreement. This is a demand-based service, so the frequency of collections will vary. The parties agree that the At Your Door program is designed for the routine and ordinary collection of home generated special materials.

(b) For Residential Units to utilize this service, they must first contact WM to schedule a home collection. Residents can request a home collection of their Eligible Items two different ways:
   i. or,
   i. **Phone**. Residents may call the At Your Door Operations Service Center at the WM provided phone number during WM's hours of operation Monday through Friday: or.
   ii. **Website.** Residents may go to www.wmatyourdoor.com, which is accessible 24/7.

(c) The Residential Unit must provide name, address, cross streets, phone number, email address and gate codes (if needed) with an estimate of the types and quantity of Eligible Materials to be collected. WM then provides the Residential Unit with a specific date for their home collection.

(d) Depending on the Eligible Materials to be collected, WM may send the Residential Unit a collection kit after scheduling collection. The collection kit consists of a containment device, an instruction sheet and may also include a cable tie, labels and/or survey. Residential Units that only have electronics, vehicle batteries and unbroken fluorescent lamps do not need, and will not be sent, a collection kit because such items can be collected without being placed in the containment device; however, the resident must follow the instructions provided. . Each Residential Unit is solely responsible for removing any and all data and personal information from any Eligible Materials prior to collection.

(e) The Residential Unit must adhere to the instructions provided and place their Eligible Materials at the front door or in the front of their garage where materials are visible from the road and readily accessible by 7:00am on the scheduled collection day. WM will not enter the premises, which include homes, garages, basements, or back/side yards or sheds to gather or remove any materials. Additional instructions may apply based on applicable regulations.

(f) On the scheduled collection date, WM will collect Eligible Materials that are properly prepared and placed out in a timely manner. In the event that the Eligible Materials are not properly or timely set out for collection, or the materials exceed the pre-arranged quantities to be collected or if the materials are, or contain Ineligible Materials, WM may reject the materials.

(g) WM may also conduct a survey.

4. **Compensation, Invoicing and Payment.** (*Note to Market Area Legal: Payment terms should reflect the correct charges to the customer)*

(a) The Municipality shall pay WM a per Residential Unit rate of $_____ per month (the "AT YOUR DOOR SPECIAL COLLECTION® Rate"). WM will submit monthly invoices to the Municipality and the Municipality shall have thirty (30) days from the invoice date to remit payment in full. Payment by Municipality shall be made by check or wire transfer or ACH debit. The maximum interest permitted by law shall be applied to balances due and unpaid beyond the due date.

(b) Annually, the At Your Door Special Collection service rate shall be adjusted on the anniversary date of the Commencement Date by _____ percent. In addition, WM may modify the rates to account for any increase in costs due to uncontrollable circumstances, including, without limitation, changes in local, state or federal laws or regulations, disposal or processing costs, third party transportation costs, imposition of taxes, fees or surcharges, municipal franchise fee increases and acts of God such as floods, fires, etc.

5. **Allocation of Risk.**

(a) The Municipality agrees to indemnify, defend, and hold WM harmless from and against all claims and actions, suits, debts, damages, liabilities and costs whatsoever, including but not limited to attorneys' fees and costs of defense, based upon or arising out of the Municipality's breach of this

Agreement, and based upon or arising out of any injuries (including death) to persons, or damage to property, to the extent caused in whole or in part by the negligent acts or omissions of the Municipality, or any of its directors, officers, employees, agents, or subcontractors, in the performance of this Agreement.

(b) WM agrees to indemnify, defend, and hold the Municipality harmless from and against all claims and actions, suits, debts, damages, liabilities and costs whatsoever, including but not limited to attorneys' fees and costs of defense, based upon or arising out of the breach of this Agreement, and based upon or arising out of any injuries (including death) to persons, or damage to property, to the extent caused in whole or in part by the negligent acts or omissions of WM, or any of its directors, officers, employees, agents, or subcontractors, in the performance of this Agreement.

(c) Notwithstanding any provisions to the contrary, WM is not responsible and has no duty to indemnify, defend, and hold the Municipality harmless (i) for any Eligible Materials placed out for collection until the items are physically collected by WM and (ii) any occurrences with Ineligible Materials. Furthermore, title to and liability for Ineligible Materials shall remain with the Residential Unit at all times.

(d) WM is not responsible for any spills or property damage caused by any materials set out for collection by Residential Units unless the spill or property damage is solely the result of WM's negligence.

(e) The indemnification obligations of this section shall survive the termination or expiration of this Agreement for any reason.

6. **Municipality Obligations.**

(a) The Municipality is responsible for notifying its residents of the program.

(b) At least 30 days prior to the Commencement Date, the Municipality must provide WM, in an Excel spreadsheet, a complete list of addresses of Residential Units within the Municipality along with the full street address, city, state and zip code along with apartment or unit number, if applicable, of each Residential Unit included in this service agreement.

(c) If additional Residential Units are added within the Municipality's boundaries to the agreement, the Municipality will provide WM with the above information for each such Residential Unit(s) within 60 days of the addition of the Residential Unit(s).

7. **WM Obligations.**

(a) WM will manage Eligible Materials collected from Residential Units in a safe manner in compliance with applicable federal, state and local laws, ordinances, orders, rules and regulations.

(b) WM will use disposal facilities that have been issued permits, licenses, certificates or approvals required by valid and applicable laws, ordinances and regulations necessary to allow the facility to accept, treat and /or dispose of Eligible Materials.

(c) Except as provided herein, WM makes no other warranties and hereby disclaims any other warranty, whether implied or statutory.

8. **Miscellaneous.**

(a) Force Majeure. Neither party shall be in default for its failure to perform or delay in performance caused by events or significant threats of events beyond its reasonable control, whether or not foreseeable, including, but not limited to, strikes, labor trouble, riots, imposition of laws or governmental orders, fires, acts of war or terrorism and acts of God, and the affected party shall be excused from performance during the occurrence of such events. In the event of the occurrence of such an event, WM reserves the right to suspend the At Your Door Special Collection program for a period of up to six months.

(b) Independent Contractor. WM shall perform the Service as an independent contractor. WM, its officers, employees, agents, contractors, or subcontractors, are not and shall not be considered employees, agents or servants of the Municipality for any purpose whatsoever under this Agreement or otherwise. WM at all times shall have exclusive control of the performance of the Service. Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed to give the Municipality any right or duty to supervise or control WM, its officers, employees, agents, contractors, or subcontractors, nor to determine the manner in which WM shall perform its obligations under the Agreement.

(c) Amendments. No amendment to this Agreement shall be made except upon the written consent of both Parties.

(d) Entire Agreement. This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement and understanding between the Parties hereto with respect to the subject matter and supersedes any prior and contemporaneous agreements and understandings, express or implied.

(e) Waiver. A waiver by either Party of any breach of any provision hereof shall not be taken or held to be a waiver of any subsequent breach, whether similar or dissimilar, or as a waiver of any provision itself. No payment or acceptance of compensation for any period subsequent to any breach shall be deemed a waiver of any right or acceptance of defective performance.

(f) Severance. In the event that any provision of this Agreement is found by a court of competent jurisdiction to be void, invalid, or unenforceable, the balance of this Agreement shall remain in effect and binding on the Parties.

(g) Choice of Law. This Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the state where the services are being performed, without regard to choice of law rules.

(h) Assignment. Neither Party may assign its rights and obligations under this Agreement without the prior written consent of the other Party, except that WM may assign its rights and obligations under this Agreement to any WM affiliate without the Municipality's consent. An assignment shall not relieve the assignee of any obligations under this Agreement.

The parties have executed this At Your Door Special Collection Service Agreement as of the Effective Date indicated above.

Waste Management of _____, ____.		**[Insert Municipality Name]**	
Signature:	_____	Signature:	_____
Printed Name:	_____	Printed Name:	_____
Title:	_____	Title:	_____

Survey Results

2025 RPC Regional Master Plan Survey Results

Regional Master Plan Survey 2025

Project Engagement

VIEWS	PARTICIPANTS	RESPONSES	COMMENTS	SUBSCRIBERS
2,808	906	61,596	1,709	330

5. Which of the issues do you think should be the top priorities for **the investment in the region**? (Select the top 3 priorities)

45%	Affordable housing choices	366 ✓
44%	Environmental protection and natural resources conservation	363 ✓
36%	Enhancing and protecting water resources	292 ✓

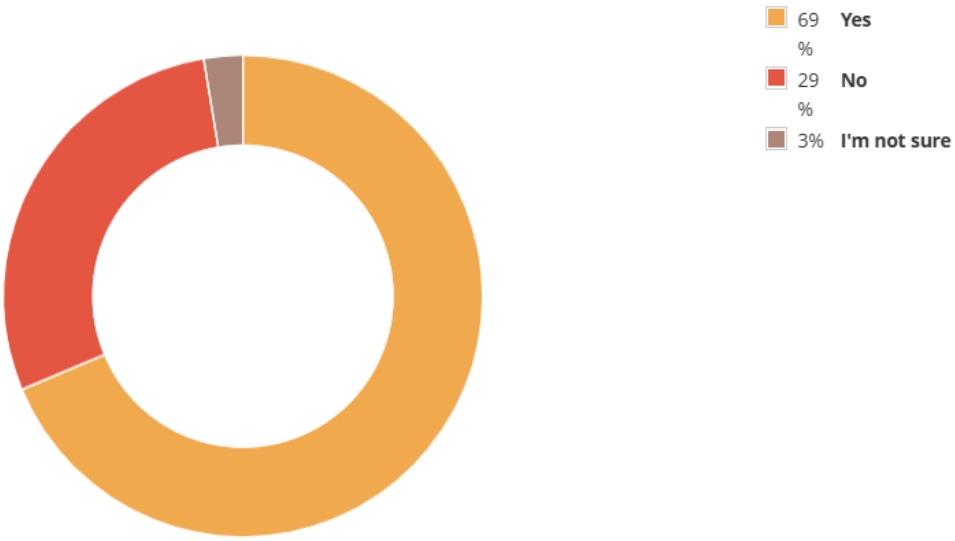
6. Which of the issues do you think should be the top priorities for **the investment in your community**? (Select the top 3 priorities)

45%	Environmental protection and natural resources conservation	362 ✓
41%	Affordable housing choices	330 ✓
37%	Enhancing and protecting water resources	299 ✓

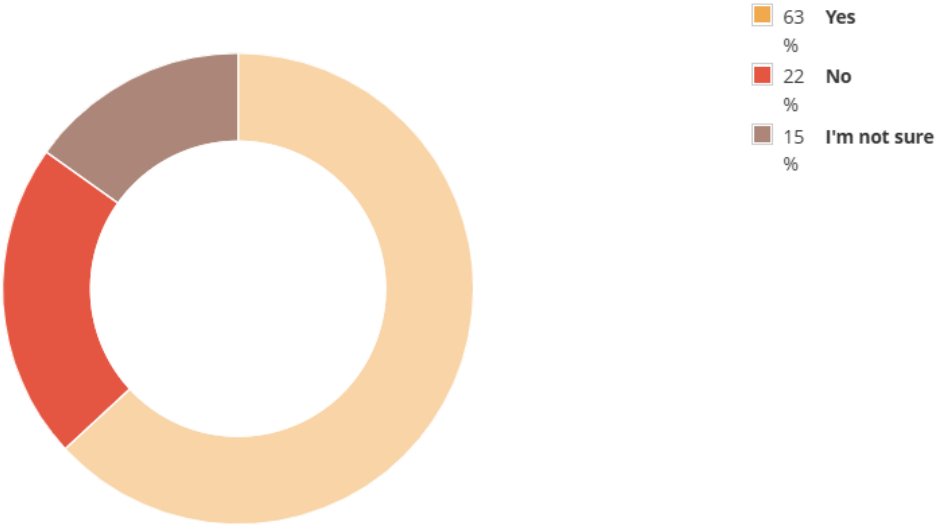
17. Which of these should be the top environmental protection priorities in the region? (Select the top 3 priorities.)

72%	Protecting the quality of drinking water supplies	495 ✓
38%	Preserving open space and agricultural land	261 ✓
25%	Protecting water bodies for animal and plant life	174 ✓

20. Have you ever participated in a household hazardous waste collection in the region?



21. Would you like additional opportunities to dispose of your household hazardous waste, beyond what is currently offered in your community?

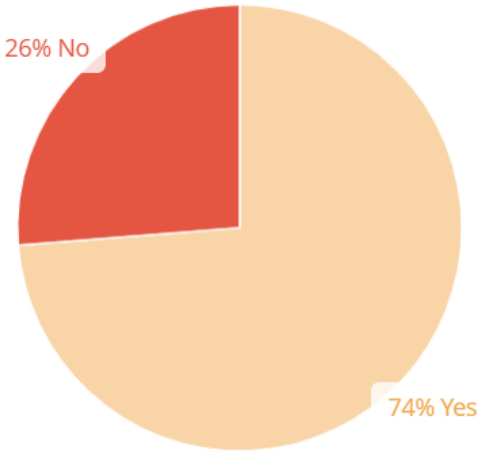


22. What additional household hazardous waste opportunities would be beneficial to you? (Check all that apply)

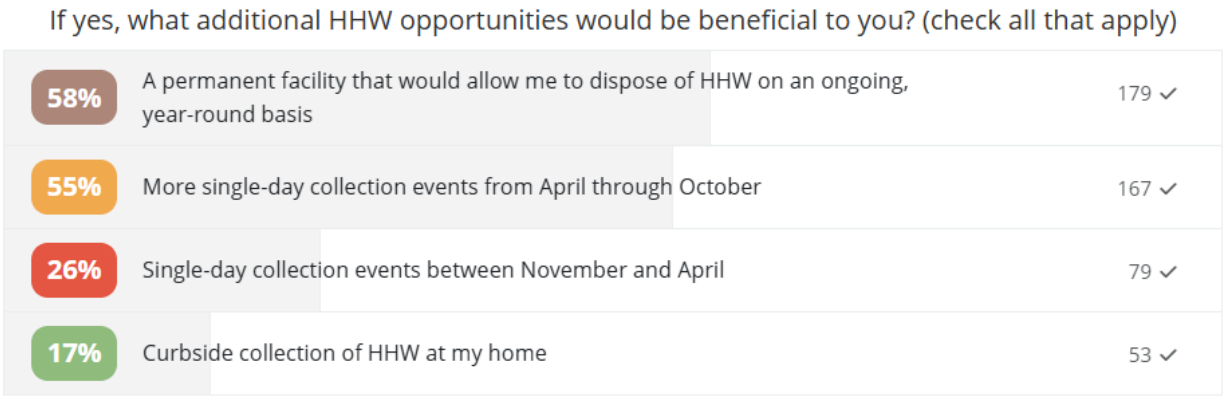
68%	A permanent facility that would allow me to dispose of household hazardous waste on an ongoing, year-round basis	427 ✓
33%	More collections from April through October	209 ✓
22%	Curbside collection of household hazardous waste at my home	137 ✓
21%	Single day collection events that are geographically closer to my home	130 ✓
17%	Collection opportunities between November and April	108 ✓

2025 Exeter Area HHW Collection Survey Results

Would you like additional opportunities to dispose of your household hazardous waste, beyond the annual collection event in Exeter?



400 respondents



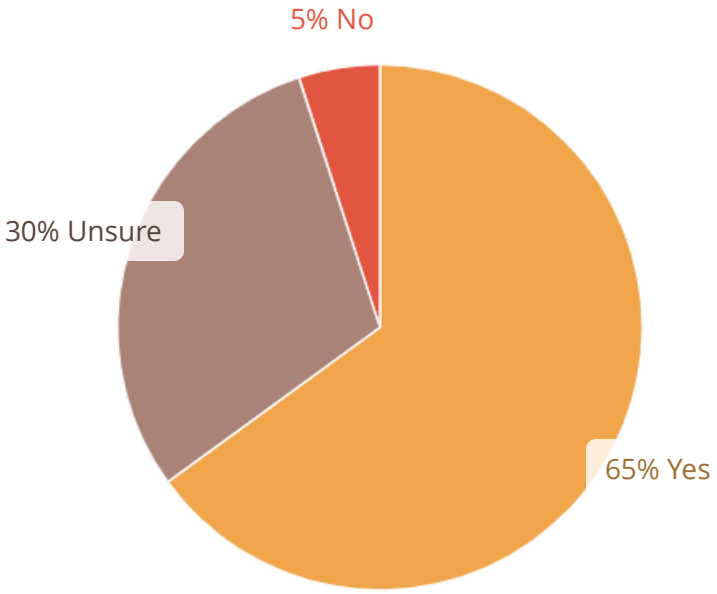
2025 Municipal Staff & Officials Survey Results

Municipal HHW Feasibility Input

Project Engagement

VIEWS	PARTICIPANTS	RESPONSES	COMMENTS	SUBSCRIBERS
130	20	140	73	14

Question 1: Would your municipality like to participate in additional single-day HHW collection events?



20 respondents

If No:
Question 1.1: why not?

I put my answer as "unsure" due to some of the questions I'd have with Regards to residents, and whether or not they have to travel somewhat lengthy trips to get to a collection event. However, I am sure we would still be willing to participate depepnding on distance.

9/10/2025

Maybe one more would be sufficient.

9/4/2025

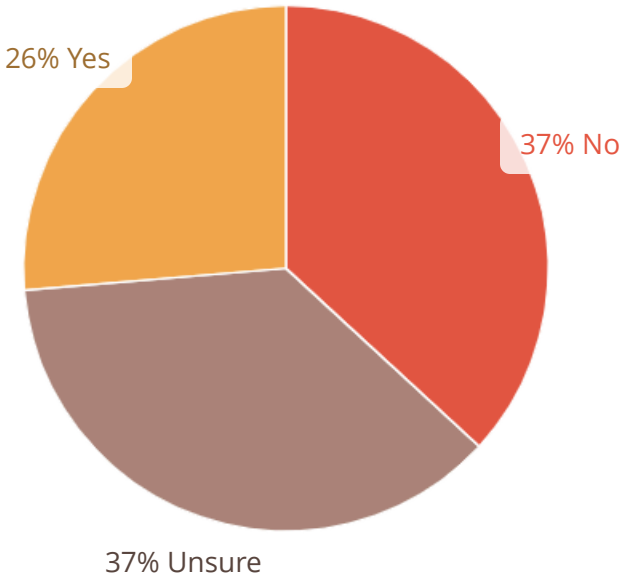
We have an HHW at no cost to residents

9/4/2025

Time commitment, manpower, organization, etc....

9/4/2025

If Yes:
Question 1.2: Would your municipality be interested in hosting an additional collection?



19 respondents

Question 1.3: What month(s) would you like the additional collection(s) to take place? Currently, there are no collection events in the region during the months of January, February, March, June, July, August, November, or December.

March, July

9/16/2025

April or May seem to be most requested in our town as people are cleaning up from the winter.

9/11/2025

June

9/10/2025

June, July, August

9/8/2025

March

9/5/2025

July

9/5/2025

June

9/4/2025

Possibly June or July. Most people clean out basements and garages in the summer.

9/4/2025

Spring for sure

9/4/2025

August

9/4/2025

June and November

9/4/2025

June & November

9/4/2025

The end of March after elections and when people start their spring cleaning is usually when we get questions on where to dispose of things.

9/4/2025

Maybe July. We currently offer our residents two dates for HHW, April & October.

9/4/2025

Question 1.4: Would your municipality be interested in a mid-week/evening HHW collection? All HHW collections in the region currently take place on Saturday or Sunday mornings.

No

9/16/2025

Definitely

9/11/2025

Weekends seem better, but we're open to it.

9/10/2025

Yes

9/8/2025

We would not be interested in mid-week HHW collections

9/5/2025

No

9/5/2025

No. I believe that Saturday’s work best.

9/4/2025

Mid week is challenging with people and full time work schedules. Unless a later afternoon/evening could be offered. Weekends would be more ideal for families. Especially single families, like mine. Being a single income household weekends are the only opportunity to do anything like that.

9/4/2025

I believe if you have it they will come.

9/4/2025

Saturdays

9/4/2025

No

9/4/2025

Yes for local builders

9/4/2025

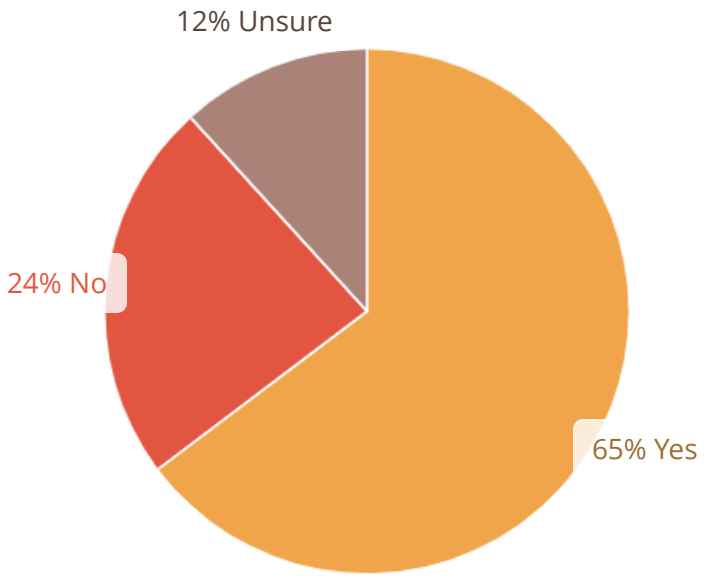
Yes, a mid week evening would work great for Kensington!

9/4/2025

I don't believe so.

9/4/2025

Question 2: if a permanent HHW facility could be established in the region for roughly the same annual operating cost as your municipality's single-day HHW events, would you be interested in using it?



17 respondents

If No:
Question 2.1: why not?

The residents may not want to travel far to dispose of waste

9/5/2025

Cost

9/4/2025

We work with surrounding communities when we do our events, we are not only supplying the service to Kingston residents.

9/4/2025

If Yes:
Question 2.2: Are there suitable sites in the region for a permanent facility?

Unsure

9/11/2025

I think so. But I dont know there is a centralized location that can "convieniently" serve major population centers in Rockingham county. That being said, if it were in a location such as Brentwood for example, most larger population centers could reach that center within 30-40 minutes.

9/10/2025

Yes

9/10/2025

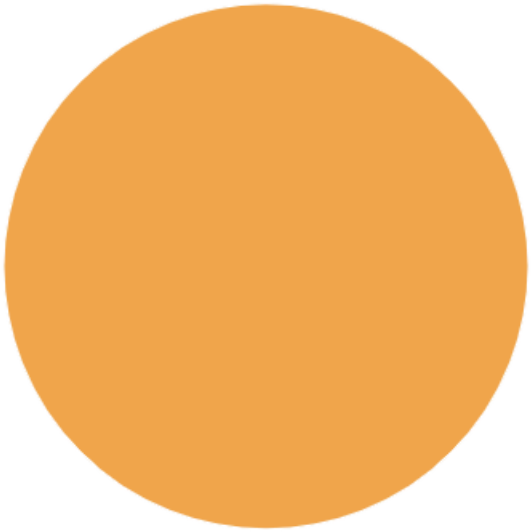
Unsure

9/8/2025

Unk

9/5/2025

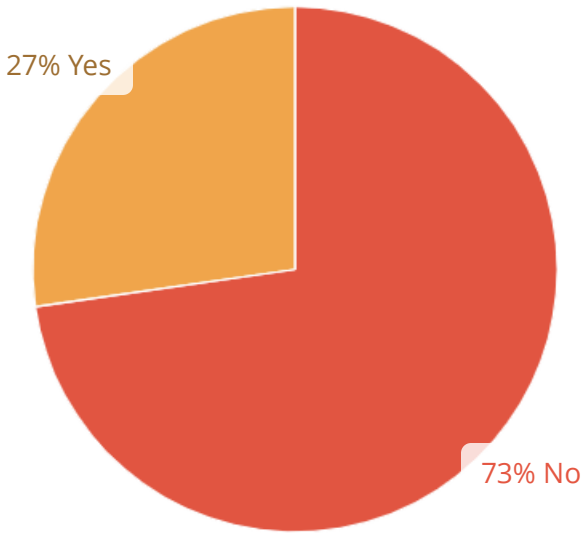
Question 2.3: If a few sites could be identified, would you like to see a detailed cost estimate for constructing and operating a facility?



100% Yes

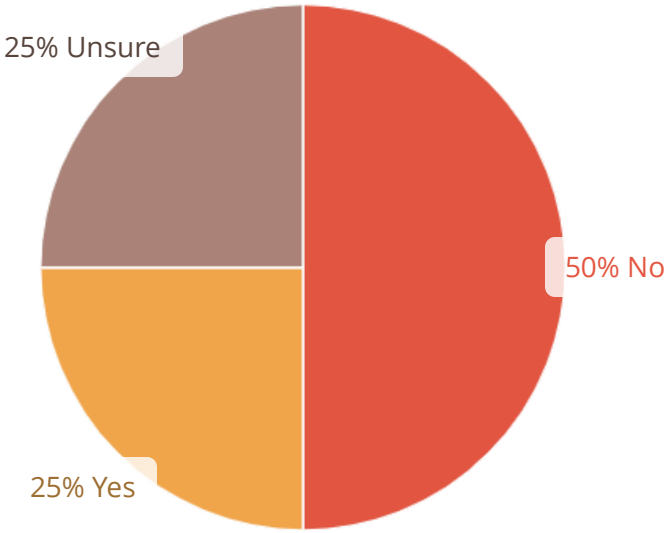
12 respondents

Question 2.4: Would you be willing to participate in a committee to help research and develop a permanent facility?



11 respondents

Question 3: is curbside HHW collection a service that your municipality would be interested in providing, if it were available in our region?



16 respondents

If No:
Question 3.1: why not?

depending on cost

9/10/2025

Zero control over what is picked up.

9/10/2025

Too many unknown factors. Resources for handling HHW is a potential issue

9/8/2025

Expense, environmental risk

9/5/2025

What I meant to write is that more truck collection could be a problem for narrow roads in our smaller towns.

9/4/2025

Question 3.2: what additional questions do you have about curbside collection?

in a town with 20k people, only 250-300 attend HHW events. assuming this number grow marginally, is it enough to justify minimum operating costs for curbside pickup by a HHW contractor?

9/10/2025

Some of our elderly residents may not want to participate in

9/5/2025

None

9/5/2025

Are special containers needed?

9/4/2025

Guidelines as to what would be permitted

9/4/2025

Question 4. Please rank the following options from highest (1) to lowest (5) priority:

100%	A privately owned and operated permanent facility that would allow residents to dispose of HHW on an ongoing, year-round basis	Rank: 2.22	9 ✓
100%	A publicly owned and operated permanent facility that would allow residents to dispose of HHW on an ongoing, year-round basis	Rank: 2.56	9 ✓
100%	More single-day HHW collections from April through October	Rank: 3.00	9 ✓
100%	Single-day HHW collections between November and April	Rank: 3.22	9 ✓
100%	A privately run curbside collection service for HHW	Rank: 4.00	9 ✓

9 Respondents

* Contact Information

No data to display...

Loading more report objects...