



# BACKGROUNDER: Municipal Hazardous or Special Waste (MHSW) / Orange Drop Program

## How we started:

Orange Drop is the name of the consumer-facing program that collects Municipal Hazardous or Special Waste (MHSW). The program provides safe end-of-life support for five materials:

- Antifreeze and its containers
- Empty lubricating oil containers (30 litres or less)
- Oil filters
- Pressurized containers (includes propane tanks and cylinders, oxygen and helium tanks)
- Single-use dry cell batteries.

Since launching in 2008, the program has grown to divert tens of millions of kilograms of hazardous or special waste from our landfills and waterways each year. Most Ontarians have access to many Municipal Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) depots, which makes disposing hazardous or special waste easier than ever before. Additional Orange Drop locations are also situated at retail stores, auto body shops and provincial parks. Municipalities also host over 300 collection events across the province each year.

The MHSW Program is managed by Stewardship Ontario, a not-for-profit industry-funded organization. Stewardship Ontario receives no funding from government or taxpayers. Instead, the program is uniquely designed by having the stewards pay for the MHSW materials they sell to consumers.

# **Quick Facts:**

- Materials are accepted at local Municipal Hazardous Household Waste Depots and collection events, retail stores, and other community sites. In 2015, these included:
  - o 30 return-to-retail locations (batteries)
  - o 88 municipal household hazardous waste depots for all five materials
  - o 883 automotive DIY drop-off sites (antifreeze, oil containers, oil filters)
  - 12,000+ automotive service centre locations (antifreeze, oil containers, oil filters) for commercial users
  - o 328 annual collection events
  - o 102 provincial parks where non-refillable propane cylinders are collected from campers
  - o 4,000+ battery collection sites
- In 2015, the Orange Drop Program collected over 24,000 tonnes of hazardous or special waste materials that's the weight of 55,000 grand pianos!





- Stewardship Ontario ensures leftover

materials and their containers deposited at a collection centre or retail drop zone are recycled or reprocessed into new materials — such as recycled paint, antifreeze and plastics, or good-as-new raw materials for manufacturing.

- For materials that can't be recycled, disposal is handled in the most environmentally responsible way.

#### WHAT HAPPENS TO YOUR RECYCLING? The brand owners, franchisers importers and manufacturers sell materials to the marketplace. Materials which cannot be recycled are managed through safe disposal, such as secure create waste once the materials are no longer useful. · Steel is recovered from paint Stewardship Ontario operates cans, pressurized conta the program that collects ORANGE DROP COLLECTIONS and oil filters. **ORANGEDROP** REUSE Paint is sorted by type and colour to make recycled paint. Collection Events Dirty oil is recovered from · Return-to-Retail filters and used to make new oil. Mobile Depots Plastic is recovered from oil and antifreeze containers Public/Private Collection Sites and turned into new plastics Single-use batteries are a source of metal, plastic PROCESSING and micro nutrients for a fertilizer to grow corn. Antifreeze is distilled to recover glycol so that it can be used again. Materials are processed Transporters move waste to recover and make use of their physical, chemica or biological properties. to its next destination for reuse, recycling or safe disposal.

### How we operate:

As an Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) program, the costs for the administration, collection, transportation, processing and responsible handling (recycling and safe disposal) of MHSW materials collected through Orange Drop is 100% funded by the stewards that produce the materials and products that are part of the program. In 2015, \$40.7 million was invested to manage the safe collection and processing of hazardous or special waste.

# A Transparent and Open Program:

The Orange Drop Program has a high degree of accountability. Stewardship Ontario reports quarterly on performance targets to the Resource Productivity and Recovery Authority (RPRA) and produces an annual report which is available on the <a href="website">website</a>. Materials in the program must meet a number of targets including collection, recycling, and consumer accessibility targets.

## More Information:

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