



BACKGROUNDER

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

It's time to clean house

Orange Drop is the name of the consumer-facing program that collects Municipal Hazardous or Special Waste (MHSW). Launched in July 2008, it provides safe end-of-life support for nine materials:

- Paints, stains and coatings
- Paint thinners, strippers, degreasers and other solvents
- Single-use batteries
- Pressurized cylinders that held propane, oxygen, helium or other gasses
- Fertilizers and pesticides
- Vehicle engine antifreeze/coolant
- Empty lubricating oil containers
- Oil filters

Since 2008, the program has grown to divert tens of millions of kilograms of hazardous or special waste from our landfills and waterways each year.

Currently, 84.5% of Ontarians have access to 87 Municipal Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) depots, which makes disposing of hazardous or special waste easier than ever before. Additional Orange Drop locations are also situated at retail stores, auto-body shops and provincial parks. In addition, municipalities host nearly 350 collection events across the province each year to ensure that all Ontario residents have access to Orange Drop collection opportunities.

Facts about the MHSW/Orange Drop Program

Here are a few key facts from Stewardship Ontario, the not-for-profit, industry-funding organization that manages the Orange Drop program on behalf of Ontario businesses:

- Materials are accepted at local Municipal HHW Depots and collection events, retail stores, and other community sites. In 2011, these included:
 - o 87 municipal household hazardous waste depots for all nine materials
 - Nearly 200 return-to-retail locations (paints, stains and coatings, and batteries)
 - Nearly 600 automotive DIY drop-off sites (engine coolant, oil containers, and oil filters
 - Over 12,000 automotive service centre locations (engine coolant, oil containers, and oil filters) for commercial users
 - Nearly 350 annual collection events

- 102 provincial and private parks where non-refillable propane cylinders are collected from campers
- Over 3,500 battery drop-off locations
- Since the Orange Drop Program launched in 2008, nearly 130,000 tonnes of waste has been diverted from landfills and waterways in Ontario
- 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 friendly way

WHAT HAPPENS TO YOUR RECYCLING?



Funding and Administration of the MHSW/Orange Drop Program

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. Over \$44 million was invested last year to manage the safe collection and processing of hazardous or special waste.

Industry stewards have contributed over \$203 million towards the Orange Drop program since 2008.

A Transparent and Open Program

The Orange Drop Program has a high degree of accountability. We report quarterly against our performance targets to Waste Diversion Ontario and produce an annual report which is publicly available from our Stewardship Ontario website. In addition, materials in our program must meet a number of targets including: collection targets, recycling targets and consumer accessibility targets.

For more information:

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