

A Guide to Managing Household Waste

As well as recycling your used items, there are many ways that you can reduce your household waste being sent to Landfill.

Household waste materials

Here are some simple things you can do to reduce the waste created in your house.

1. Set printers to print double sided
2. Take yourself off mailing lists if you don't read the information anymore
3. Send e-newsletters using email
4. Opt for no paper statements when you use online banking
5. Put lunches in reusable plastic containers, rather than wrapping items in baking paper or plastic wrap.
6. Keep packaging and reuse it to wrap gifts or items you are going to store or move. For example, bubble wrap and polystyrene can be reused to protect fragile gifts being posted.
7. Reuse glass jars for jam, preserves, left over soup, or packet sauces.
8. Reuse plastic water bottles by refilling them with tap water or other drinks.
9. Use boxes and containers for arts and crafts, or donate them to a local school, kindergarten or community groups.
10. Give your old magazines and journals to medical centres' waiting rooms, schools and libraries.

The following table includes contact information for Companies and Organisations who provide for the correct recycling, reuse or disposal of household waste:

Waste Material	Company	Service details	Contact details
Eco bulbs	Interwaste	Commerical collection, fees apply; recycle all types of fluorescent lamps and high intensity discharge lights.	Phone: 0800 102 131
	Waitomo District Landfill	Ministry for the Environment - provides for the safe disposal of household lamps.	Phone: (07) 878 5230
Computer recycling	Diana and Graham, Ngaruawahia	Most electronic waste (Computers, monitors, faxes, phones) in all conditions.	Phone: (07) 8245280 Email: diecast@extra.co.nz
Computer recycling - end of life	Dell computers recycling program, Auckland	Prices vary from rebates received for reusable equipment (any brand) to \$13 per unit cost (computer system = 2 units) plus \$10 pickup fee in metropolitan areas. Example of total cost: \$36.	Phone: 0800 440 603 Web: www.dell.com.au/recycle
Oils - cooking waste	Bain Liquid's Disposal, Te Awamutu		Phone: (07) 871 5609
Junk mail	The Marketing Association of NZ	Complainants can call from 7am to 7pm, Monday to Friday. Deals with complaints about unsolicited junk mail and the dumping of printed material.	Phone: 0800 111 081
	WDC Recycle Kerbside Collection Service	Weekly kerbside collection of paper and cardboard. Bundle and secure with string and place next to your Green Bin on your recycling collection day.	Phone. 07 878 0800 or 0800 932 4357
Used clothing	St Lukes Community Shop, 92 Rora Street, Te Kuiti	Will take clean clothes in reasonable condition, delivered to shop in bags.	Phone: (07) 878 5166
Furniture and other small goods	Freecycle Hamilton	Online furniture exchange group.	Register at www.freecycle.co.nz
	Waikato Waste Exchange	A free online waste exchange group.	Register at www.nothrow.co.nz
Polystyrene	Waitomo District Landfill	Charges Apply - see www.waitomo.govt.nz	Phone: (07) 878 5230
Inkjet and toner cartridge recycling	Empties, 165C Sunny Brae Road, Glenfield Auckland	Receive empty inkjet or laser toner cartridges. Recycled Cartridges are remanufactured in New Zealand. May offer rewards for Cartridges.	Phone: 0800 800479 www.empties.co.nz

Household chemicals

Chemicals can be found in different areas of the home, including the kitchen, bathroom and garage. We use chemicals every day and they are very useful but can be harmful if we store or dispose of them incorrectly.

Many of the household detergents and pesticides used in and around your home are hazardous substances. That means they are potentially dangerous to you, your family and the environment. Chemicals need to be carefully stored and used correctly to avoid harm.

Hazardous substances you may find around your house could include things like:

- Bleach
- Cleaning products such as dishwasher powder.
- Antiseptics and antibacterial lotions.
- Pesticides such as rat poison and fly sprays.
- Swimming pool chemicals such as chlorine.



How can you tell if a substance is hazardous?

Information provided by the manufacturer, supplier or retailer (usually found on the label on the package or container) should tell you:

1. If a substance is hazardous.
2. What its hazardous properties are.
3. How to dispose of the waste material properly or where to find that information.
4. Contact details for the manufacturer or the supplier.

There may be additional information (for instance, in the package or attached in a plastic sleeve) depending on its type and degree of hazard.

Storage tips for household chemicals

- Store hazardous substances in a dry place, out of reach of young children, away from extreme heat, cold, sources of combustion and away from drains.

- Ensure containers are labelled clearly and correctly.
- Check containers regularly to ensure that they are not rusted, leaking or corroded.
- Ensure lids are kept on all storage containers at all times and that containers are durable, corrosion resistant, watertight and rodent-proof.
- Store oil on an impermeable surface such as concrete.
- Store solvents, which are flammable, away from sources of ignition.
- Swimming pool chemicals require particular care and should be stored away from sources of ignition such as electrical sparks from tools, naked flames or flammable substances e.g. petrol and oil.

Disposal of household chemicals

1. Don't dispose of leftover or unwanted chemicals down the sink, toilet or storm water drain.
2. Don't mix old chemicals together as this will make it hard for them to be reused or recovered.
3. The Waitomo District Landfill provides for the safe and correct disposal of household chemicals.
4. Keep you, your household and the environment safe from harm by contacting a qualified Company who specialise in the correct and safe disposal of hazardous household waste (see the Table on opposite page).



For more information on managing household waste, contact Waitomo District Council on (07) 878 0800, 0800 932 4357, Fax (07) 878 7771 or send us an email: waitomodc@waitomo.govt.nz.



A Guide to managing Household Waste is bought to you by Waitomo District Council, promoting Waste Minimisation through the Solid Waste (asset) Management and Minimisation Plan (SWaMMP).

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**Waitomo**
District Council