

**SANTA BARBARA COUNTY  
HOUSEHOLD AND BUSINESS  
HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION PROGRAMS  
FISCAL YEAR 2017/2018**

The County of Santa Barbara offers many programs that provide the community with a means to properly dispose of household and business hazardous waste which has become a growing concern due to an increased understanding of the potential for harm to the health of humans and animals, as well as the environment.

***COMMUNITY HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION CENTER (CHWCC)***

The County of Santa Barbara (County) has supported the development and operation of the Community Hazardous Waste Collection Center (CHWCC), which has operated as a public/private partnership between the County and the University of California at Santa Barbara (UCSB) since 1993. The CHWCC diverts household hazardous waste (HHW) from being disposed at the County's solid waste facilities by providing the public with an alternative disposal method that is both safe and environmentally sound.

The CHWCC accepts waste from both residents and small businesses located in the Cities of Goleta, Santa Barbara, and Solvang, and the unincorporated areas of Santa Barbara County.

***OPERATION OF CHWCC FACILITY***

The CHWCC is open to residents from the unincorporated communities from Orcutt and the Santa Ynez Valley down to the Carpinteria Valley, and the Cities of Goleta, Santa Barbara, and Solvang. The CHWCC, which opened on October 1, 1993, serves a population of approximately 240,000. The facility is open to residents and to Conditionally Exempt Small Quantity Generators (CESQGs), which are businesses that generate up to 27 gallons or 220 pounds of hazardous waste per month. Businesses may use the CHWCC on Fridays from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. by appointment only, while residents may use the Center without an appointment, on Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and Sundays from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Three full-time employees, two half-time employees and several weekend student workers are trained in hazardous materials management and are responsible for offloading the incoming hazardous waste from the vehicles, identifying where the waste is originating from, and packaging the material to be transported for appropriate processing and disposal. The County has one full-time employee who spends three-fourths of her time answering inquiries from the public; setting up

appointments and meeting with businesses; tracking tonnage, participant and cost data; and monitoring the overall administration of the CHWCC.

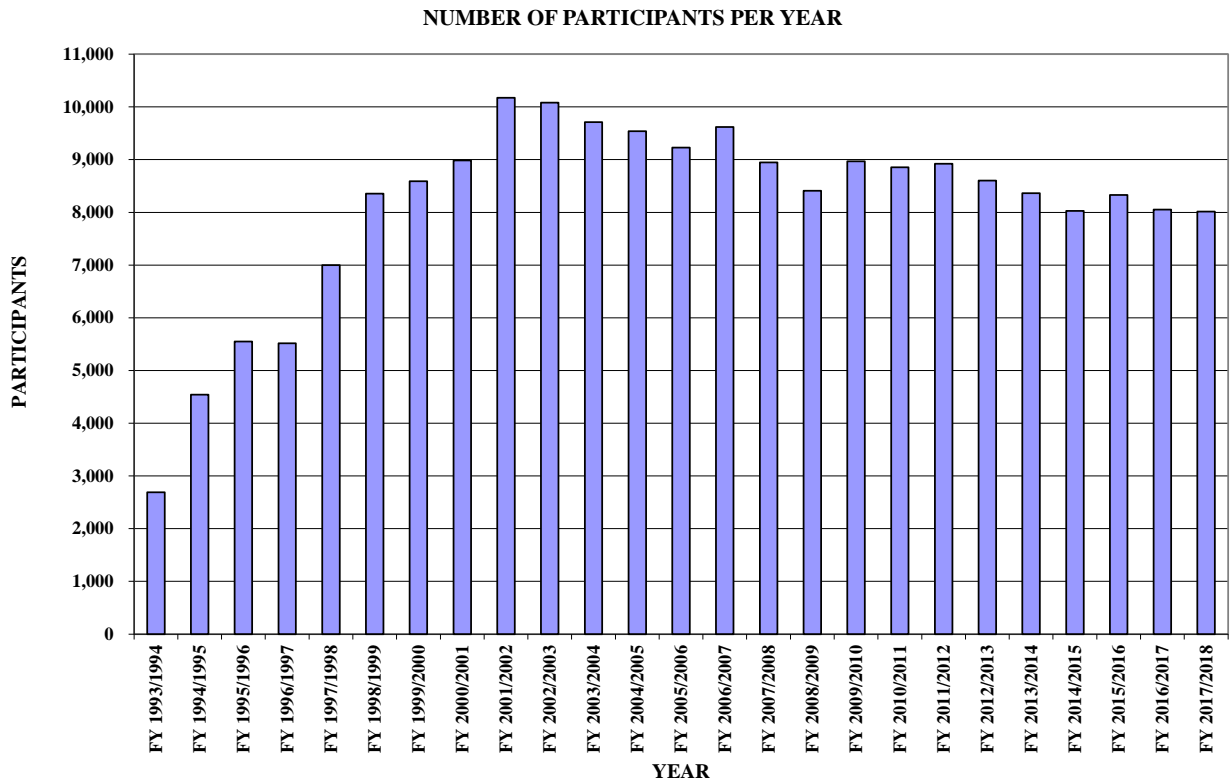
**CHWCC SERVICE AREA AND PARTICIPATION**

During FY 2017/2018, the CHWCC served 8,017 residential customers. The participation breakdown for residents is listed below.

	<u>Number of Participants</u>
Unincorporated County	2,967
City of Goleta	2,191
City of Santa Barbara	2,821
City of Solvang	30
Out of Area	<u>8</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8,017</b>

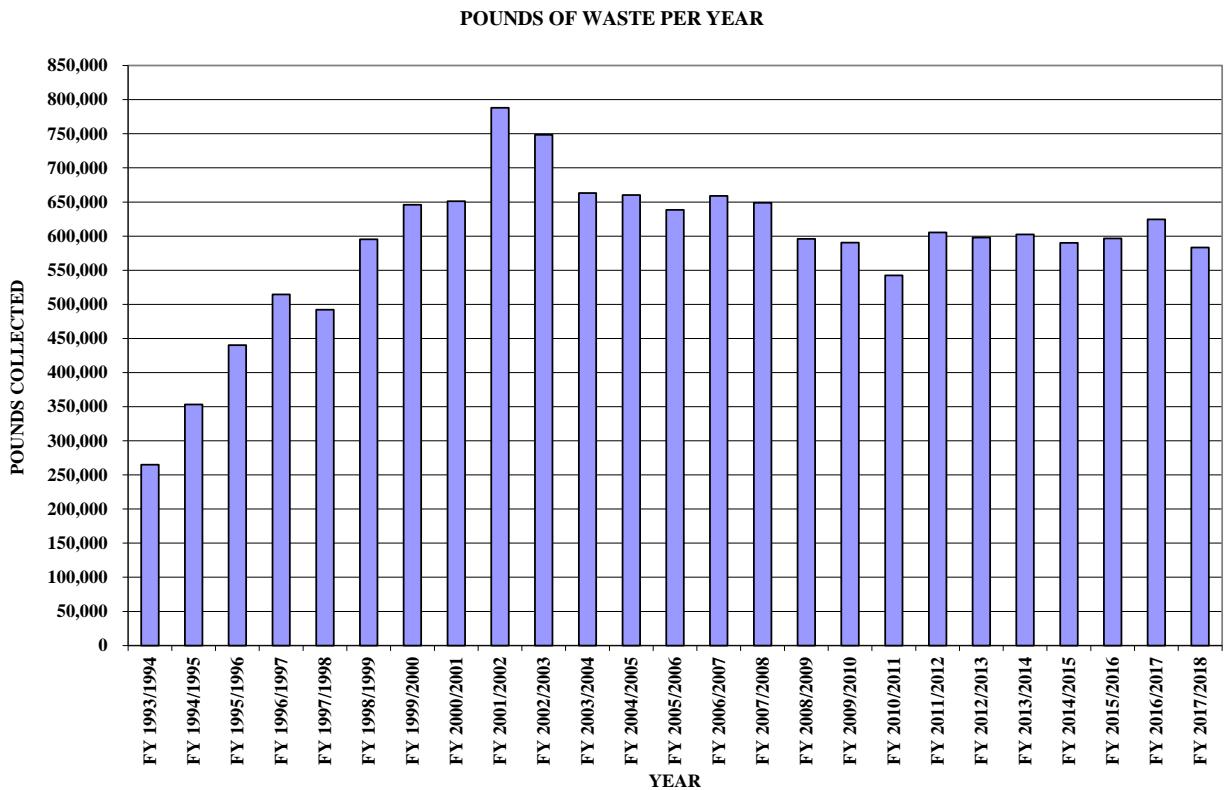
In addition to the 8,017 residents, 283 businesses also used the CHWCC in FY 2017/2018. Since these businesses serve customers from jurisdictions all over the County, a breakdown of where they are located is not as important in determining trends and is not shown for purposes of this Report.

The following graph shows the total residential and business participation rates since the CHWCC began operating in FY 1993/1994.



## ***CHWCC WASTE DISPOSAL***

The CHWCC had 8,300 residential and business customers in FY 2017/2018 who disposed of 583,425 pounds of hazardous waste. The graph shown below gives total quantities of hazardous waste accepted at the CHWCC from both residents and businesses collected over the life of the program.



## ***METHODS OF DISPOSAL AT THE CHWCC***

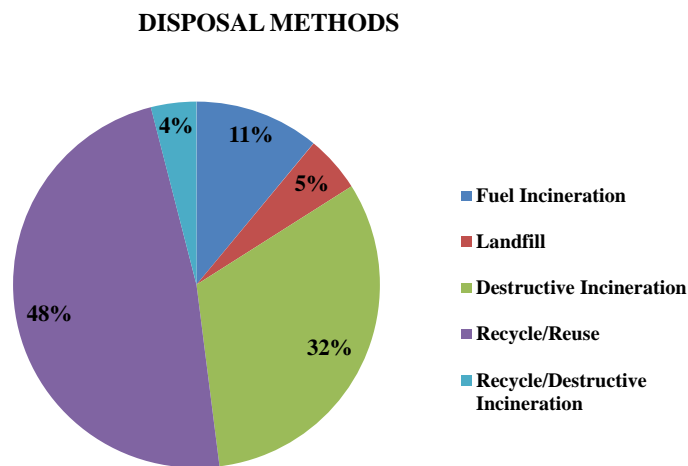
The County has set a priority of trying to recycle and reuse as much of the hazardous waste stream as possible before resorting to other management methods. Batteries, fluorescent lighting, mercury, latex and most oil-based paint, propane tanks, motor oil and oil filters, antifreeze, and a small number of other products are all recycled or reused through the County’s program – approximately 48% of the total hazardous waste received. The CHWCC also has a “Materials Exchange Cart,” which helps reduce another 4% of HHW that would otherwise be disposed. Many incoming products are placed on the cart and customers can take the products home for reuse by signing a release. Materials on the cart must be in their original containers and at least half full; no banned pesticides or extremely hazardous chemicals are released to the public. In FY 2017/2018, the CHWCC distributed 32,943 pounds of material back to the public through this program with a cost savings of approximately \$50,000.

The next method of waste treatment is fuel incineration, whereby waste material is blended into a fuel source for use in incinerators. Materials received at the CHWCC which are used in this process might include gasoline, paint-related materials, solvents, and thinners.

Destructive incineration, in which materials are sent to treatment facilities for neutralization and/or high temperature destructive incineration, is the next process used if materials can't be recycled, reused, or treated and used in fuel incineration. Materials included in this waste treatment category include oxidizers, acids, bases, PCB waste, pharmaceutical waste, photochemicals, Non-RCRA (Resource Conservation and Recovery Act) solids, and corrosive and poisonous aerosols. In the case of aerosols, the metal is most often recovered before the chemical is incinerated.

The final method of disposal is landfilling, which is usually the least expensive method of disposal and also the least preferred; this is reserved for materials such as asbestos.

The following chart shows the breakdown of waste disposal methods for FY 2017/2018.



The types and quantities of material collected at the CHWCC in FY 2017/2018 are listed below in pounds:

Aerosols	21,995	Latex Paint	21,718
Alkaline/Lead Acid Batteries	8,964	Mercury Items	167
Antifreeze	8,440	Motor Oil	39,312
Asbestos	31,894	Oil-Based Paint – PaintCare	28,223
Auto Batteries	23,200	Oil-Based Paint	6,375
Contaminated Soil	1,635	Oil Filters	5,250
Corrosive Liquids/Solids	1,601	Organics	1,262
Fertilizers	9,854	Oxidizers	2,859
Flammable Liquids/Solids	30,269	PCB Light Ballasts	1,995
Flammable Liquids – Solvents	32,770	Photochemicals	1,700
Flammable Liquids – Fuel Blends	12,479	Poison Liquids/Solids	108,233
Flammable Paint Liquids	22,576	Propane and Gas Cylinders	9,638
Fluorescent Lights	6,186	Rechargeable Batteries	1,137
Inorganics	13,818	Smoke Detectors	520
Isocyanates	1,219	Water Reactive Solids	53
Latex Paint – PaintCare	128,083		

The waste shown on the previous page was disposed using the following methods:

Recycle/Reuse

Alkaline/Lead Acid Batteries	8,964	
Antifreeze	8,440	
Auto Batteries	23,200	
Fluorescent Lights	6,186	
Latex Paint	149,801	
Mercury Items	167	
Motor Oil	39,312	
Oil-Based Paint	28,223	
Oil Filters	5,250	
Photochemicals	1,700	
Propane and Gas Cylinders	9,638	
Rechargeable Batteries	1,137	
Smoke Detectors	<u>520</u>	
TOTAL	282,538	(48% of Total Waste)

Fuel Incineration

Flammable Liquids – Solvents	32,770	
Flammable Paint Liquids	22,576	
Oil-Based Paint – Miscellaneous	<u>6,375</u>	
TOTAL	61,721	(11% of Total Waste)

Destructive Incineration

Contaminated Soil	1,635	
Corrosive Liquids/Solids	1,601	
Fertilizers	9,854	
Flammable Liquids/Solids	30,269	
Flammable Liquids – Fuel Blends	12,479	
Inorganics	13,818	
Isocyanates	1,219	
Organics	1,262	
Oxidizers	2,859	
PCB Light Ballasts	1,995	
Poison Liquids/Solids	108,233	
Water Reactive Solids	<u>53</u>	
TOTAL	185,277	(32% of Total Waste)

Recycle and Destructive Incineration

Aerosols	<u>21,995</u>	
TOTAL	21,995	(4% of Total Waste)

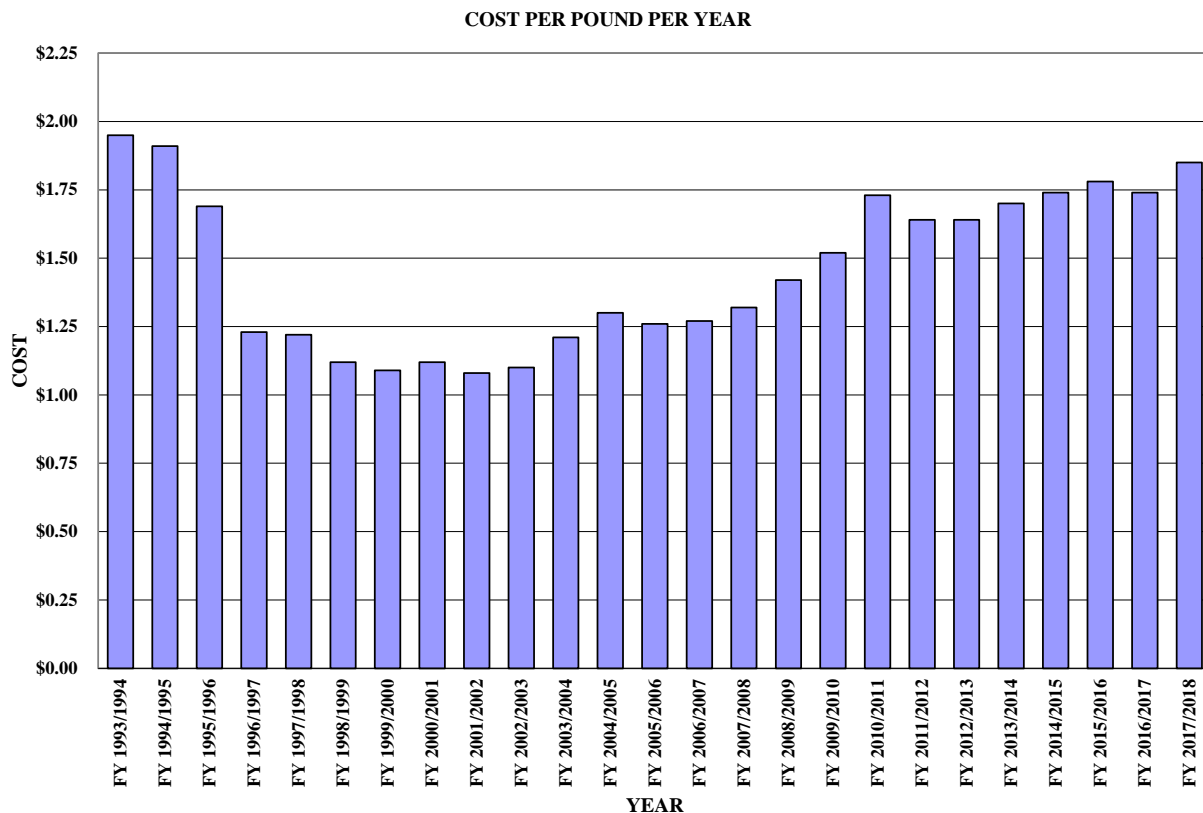
Landfill

Asbestos	<u>31,894</u>	
TOTAL	31,894	(5% of Total Waste)

In addition to hazardous waste, other types of solid waste materials were collected and recycled through conventional methods. These materials included empty metal cans, plastic containers, and cardboard.

### ***CHWCC COSTS***

The graph below shows the cost per pound to operate the program at the CHWCC since its inception. In addition to education programs for the public regarding best use practices and reducing the use of hazardous materials, the County attempts to contain costs through management of materials by reuse and recycling; blending of materials for fuel incineration, participating in the PaintCare program, and distributing useable items through the Materials Exchange Program. Currently, the cost per pound for operation of the program is \$1.85. An analysis of current costs for FY 2017/2018 shows that County administration costs (including advertising and supplies) make up 6% of the total cost per pound; transportation and management/disposal of the hazardous waste makes up approximately 41% of the total cost per pound; and University costs (facility use fees, salaries for employees handling the incoming hazardous waste, materials and supplies used in storing and packing hazardous waste, and miscellaneous operating equipment) make up 53% of the total cost per pound.



### ***PUBLIC EDUCATION FOR CHWCC***

The County has an extensive public education program that includes advertising in newspapers, television, and radio; distributing flyers; attending public events; displaying information on the

County and City websites; and using hauler newsletters to send information out to residents and businesses, and miscellaneous social media outlets. In addition, ads are run each spring with a “Spring Cleaning” theme. Program brochures are also distributed to retail sites and property managers such as Bartlein and Company to increase public awareness regarding hazardous waste and the CHWCC. All literature has also been translated into Spanish in order to reach the Spanish-speaking population in our community.

### ***ADMINISTRATION OF CHWCC***

In 2016, the Resource Recovery and Waste Management Division issued a Request for Proposal for the transportation and management of the collected hazardous materials; two companies responded. A panel of representatives familiar with the management of hazardous waste was assembled to review and rank the proposals. Using the criteria of low cost, quality of service, safety stands, and proximity to our service areas, the panel unanimously voted to award the contract to Clean Harbors; this contract continues at the present time.

In addition, the County has a contract with the University of California at Santa Barbara to house the CHWCC on campus at the Environmental Health and Safety Facility.

The Household Hazardous Waste program continues to be an integral part of Santa Barbara County’s Recycling and Waste Management program, and is very popular with the community; feedback from the public has been positive and supportive. Since 1993, this program has served approximately 204,011 residents and small businesses, and has collected over 14,496,777 pounds of material.

### ***OTHER HHW SERVICES PROVIDED***

The County also coordinates other programs that offer residents and businesses additional options for disposing of hazardous waste, sharps, pharmaceuticals, batteries, and used motor oil:

- The public can drop off household batteries at more than 40 local retail sites and public facilities on the South Coast of the County; these retailers can then bring their batteries to the CHWCC for free or use a private hauler to pick up their batteries along with other hazardous waste they generate onsite. In FY 2017/2018, approximately 7,500 pounds of batteries were brought to the CHWCC from these sites. In addition, City of Goleta and Santa Barbara residents, and County residents, can now put batteries in a baggie on top of their recycling container lid for curbside collection.
- The County, in partnership with the California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) and the Cities of Buellton, Goleta, and Solvang, operates a regional Used Oil Recycling Program. The program provides free and convenient opportunities for the public to safely recycle used motor oil and filters. Within the unincorporated area of the County and its partner Cities, there are nine certified used oil collection centers that include automotive supply stores, quick lubes, automotive repair shops, and a recycling buy-back facility. In FY 2017/2018, approximately 13,299 gallons of oil and 2,238 oil filters were collected from Do-It-Yourselfers at these sites. An

additional 24,025 gallons of oil and 6,642 oil filters were collected at County and private ABOPs (Antifreeze, Batteries, Motor Oil/Filters and Latex Paint).

- In addition to collection centers for the general public, the County provides a special used oil recycling program for the agricultural community. In partnership with Waste Management, the County operates two “ag oil” collection facilities – one in Buellton and one in Santa Maria. During FY 2017/2018, approximately 16,305 gallons of oil and 3,628 filters were collected from local farmers in the Santa Ynez and Santa Maria Valleys at these sites.
- The County also holds one-day collection events once a year at the New Cuyama Transfer Station and twice a year at the Santa Ynez Valley Recycling & Transfer Station, in order to accommodate residents who are not able to make it to the CHWCC due to its distance from their homes. In FY 2017/2018, residents dropped off 77,667 pounds of hazardous waste at these events (this includes electronic equipment).
- There are four ABOP (Antifreeze, Batteries, Motor Oil/Filters, and Latex Paint) facilities within the CHWCC service area: the County operates one at the Santa Ynez Valley Recycling & Transfer Station, MarBorg Industries operates two in the Cities of Goleta and Santa Barbara, and Waste Management operates one in the City of Buellton.
- The CHWCC does not accept sharps; however, the County offers a program in which residents can drop off sharps at five County clinics. Under this free program, residents can pick up a sharps container at one of the clinics and once the container is full they can bring it back to the clinic in exchange for a new, empty container. In FY 2017/2018, over 3,100 5-quart sharps containers were distributed throughout the community. In addition, trash haulers in both the South and North County offer a mail-back program for sharps.
- In FY 2017/2018, unwanted pharmaceuticals were collected from residents through Operation Medicine Cabinet which included collection kiosks at each of the Sheriff substations throughout the County. As a result of this ordinance approved by the County Board of Supervisors, which required that pharmaceutical manufacturers take responsibility for the proper management of unwanted pharmaceuticals, Santa Barbara County MED-Project took over the medicine disposal program beginning in March of 2018 and has since installed 31 kiosks throughout Santa Barbara County. MED-Project is a stewardship program paid for by the pharmaceutical companies that sell products here in Santa Barbara County and the service is provided free-of-charge to the community.

The hazardous waste programs offered throughout the County have successfully provided residents and small businesses with solutions for disposing of unwanted hazardous waste. Public education throughout the year continues to encourage participation in programs, increases public awareness regarding the harmful effects of improperly using and disposing of hazardous waste, and encourages residents to purchase smaller quantities of hazardous waste and to use less toxic alternatives.