

**SANTA BARBARA COUNTY
HOUSEHOLD AND BUSINESS
HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION PROGRAMS
FISCAL YEAR 2023/24**

The County of Santa Barbara (County) provides a variety of opportunities for the community to safely 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 has supported the development and operation of the Community Hazardous Waste Collection Center (CHWCC), a public/private partnership between the County and the University of California, Santa Barbara (UCSB) since October 1, 1993. The CHWCC provides residents and businesses with a convenient, safe, and environmentally sound way to properly dispose of unwanted hazardous materials on a weekly basis.

The CHWCC accepts hazardous waste from both residents and businesses located in the unincorporated communities of the South Coast, and the cities of Goleta, Santa Barbara, and Solvang.

OPERATION OF CHWCC FACILITY

State and Federal hazardous waste laws limit the use of this type of hazardous waste collection program to residents, as well as businesses that qualify as Conditionally Exempt Small Quantity Generators ("CESQGs"). To qualify as a CESQG, a business must not produce more than 27 gallons or 220 pounds of hazardous waste per calendar month, including a maximum of 1 kilogram (1 quart or 2.2 pounds) of acutely hazardous waste. Businesses that generate more than this amount are required to use a licensed hazardous waste hauler to manifest and transport their waste. CESQGs are eligible to use the CHWCC's business program on Fridays, by appointment only.

Eligible residents use the household program on Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and Sundays from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., without requiring an appointment. The CHWCC serves a population of approximately 263,015 and provides services to approximately 7,887 residents and businesses on an annual basis.

Four full-time employees and several student workers are trained in hazardous materials management and are responsible for offloading the incoming hazardous waste from the vehicles, identifying the type of waste, and packaging the material to be transported for appropriate processing and disposal. The County has one full-time employee who spends three-fourths of their time overseeing program operations and management of collected waste; regularly corresponding with contractors; coordinating all public outreach and an annual promotional campaign; handling daily inquiries from the public regarding the storage, transportation, and end-of-life management of hazardous materials; submitting required reports; and performing other tasks associated with the CHWCC.

CHWCC SERVICE AREA AND PARTICIPATION

During Fiscal Year (FY) 2023/24, the CHWCC served 7,703 residential customers. The participation breakdown for residents is listed below.

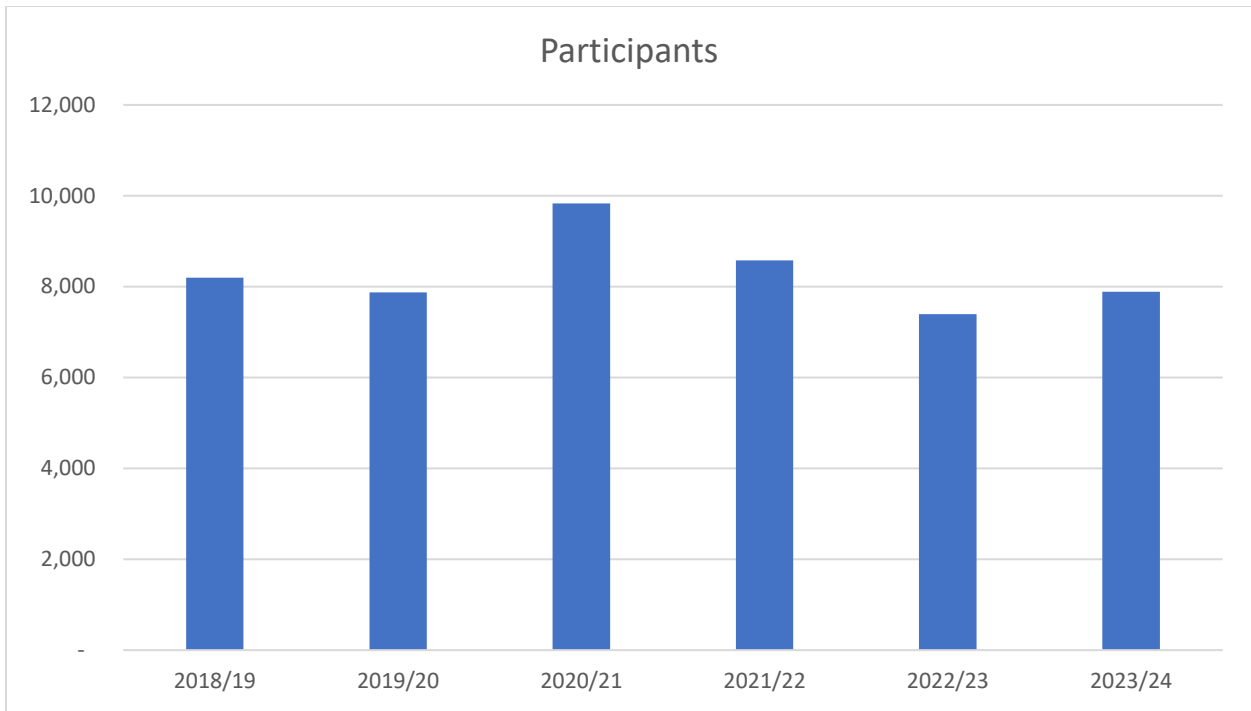
	<u>Number of Participants</u>
Unincorporated County	2,832 (37%)
City of Santa Barbara	2,818 (36%)
City of Goleta	1,820 (24%)
City of Solvang	4 (<1%)
Out of Area	229 (3%)
TOTAL	7,703

During Fiscal Year (FY) 2023/24, the CHWCC also served 185 CESQG customers. The participation breakdown for CESQGs is listed below.

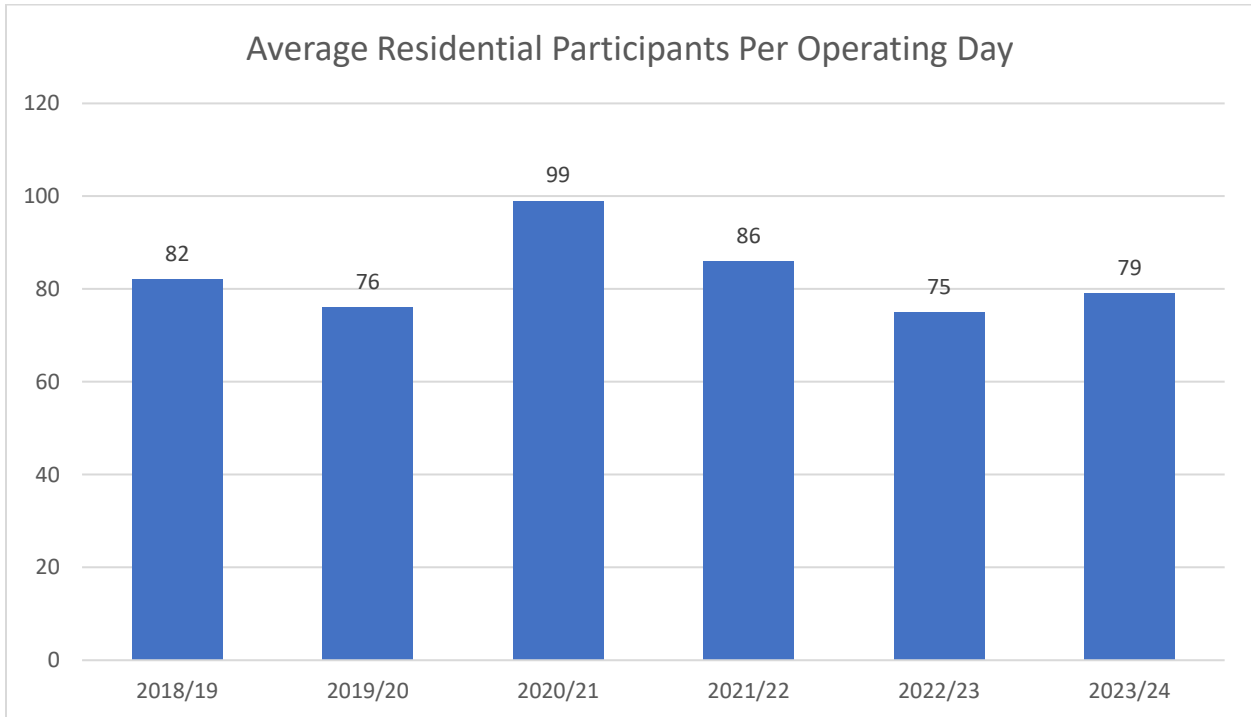
	<u>Number of Participants</u>
Unincorporated County	35 (19%)
City of Santa Barbara	54 (29%)
City of Goleta	95 (52%)
City of Solvang	0 (0%)
Out of Area	0 (0%)
TOTAL	184

The most common business types utilizing the program are engineering and manufacturing companies; painters and contractors; automotive repair companies; landscapers; property management firms; schools; dentists; analytical laboratories; public agencies; and research and development firms.

The following graph shows the CHWCC total residential and business participation rates over the past several years.

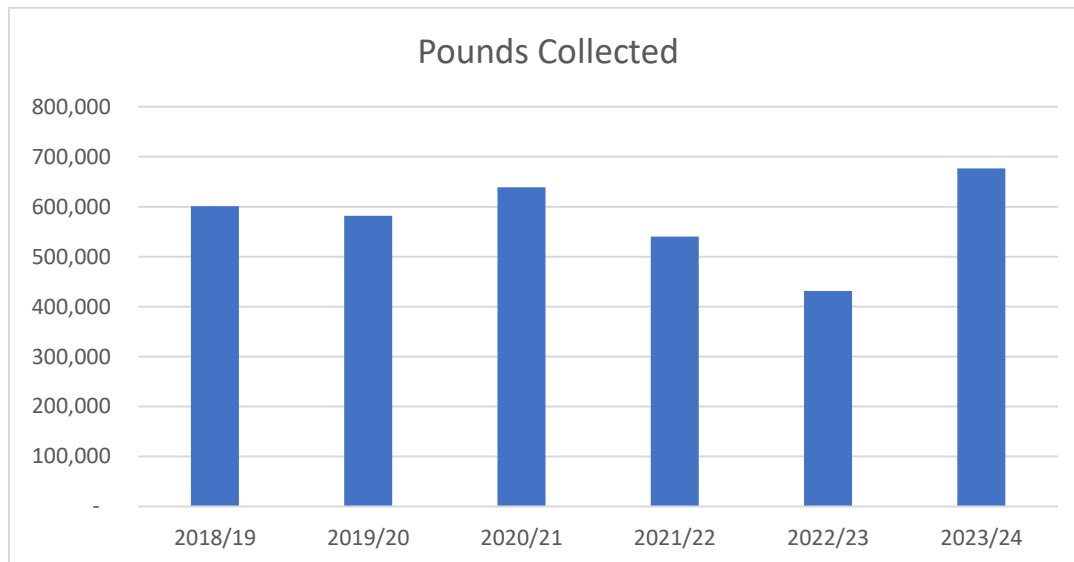


The following graph shows the average number of residential participants at the CHWCC per operating day over the past several fiscal years.



CHWCC WASTE DISPOSAL

In FY 2023/24, the CHWCC served 7,887 residential and business customers who disposed of 676,655 pounds of hazardous waste. The following graph illustrates the total quantities of hazardous waste accepted at the CHWCC from both residents and businesses over the past several years.



METHODS OF DISPOSAL AT THE CHWCC

The County prioritizes recycling and reusing hazardous wastes as much 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 collected through the County's program are all recycled or reused – approximately 65.11% of the total hazardous waste received.

The CHWCC also has a "Materials Reuse Program" which helps reduce the amount of HHW that would otherwise be disposed. Products brought to the CHWCC in good condition, still usable, at least half full, and in their original containers are removed from the waste stream and made available to the public at no cost. These materials include paint, cleaning products, fertilizers, automotive products, and home improvement products. Acceptable items are placed in accessible storage cabinets, and customers can take the products home for reuse by signing a release form. In FY 23/24, 5,883.6 pounds of material were added to the materials reuse cabinet, and 5,725 pounds of material was removed and reused in the community. Prior to the implementation of the PaintCare Program at the CHWCC (described on page 6), the Materials Reuse Program achieved significant cost savings, as the CHWCC was responsible for covering the recycling/disposal costs for all paint products. Now that the CHWCC serves as a PaintCare site, the cost savings for the Materials Reuse Program are lower; however, the program still helps avoid disposal costs for non-paint products that can be reused. To read more about the CHWCC's cost saving practices, visit "CHWCC Costs" on page 6 of this report.

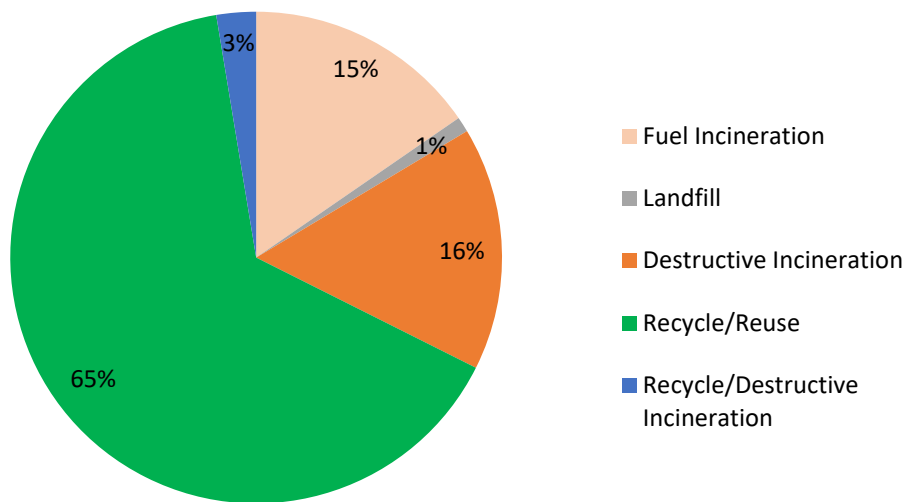
The next method of waste management is fuel incineration, whereby hazardous waste material is blended into a fuel source for use in incinerators. Materials received at the CHWCC which are used in this process include gasoline, paint-related materials, solvents, and thinners.

Materials that can't be recycled, reused, or treated and used in fuel incineration are sent to treatment facilities for neutralization and/or high temperature destructive 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. However, in the case of aerosols, the metal is most often recovered before the chemical is incinerated.

The final method of hazardous waste disposal is landfilling, which is the least preferred method. This is reserved for materials such as asbestos, which cannot be recycled or incinerated.

The following chart shows the breakdown of waste disposal methods for FY 2023/24:

DISPOSAL METHODS

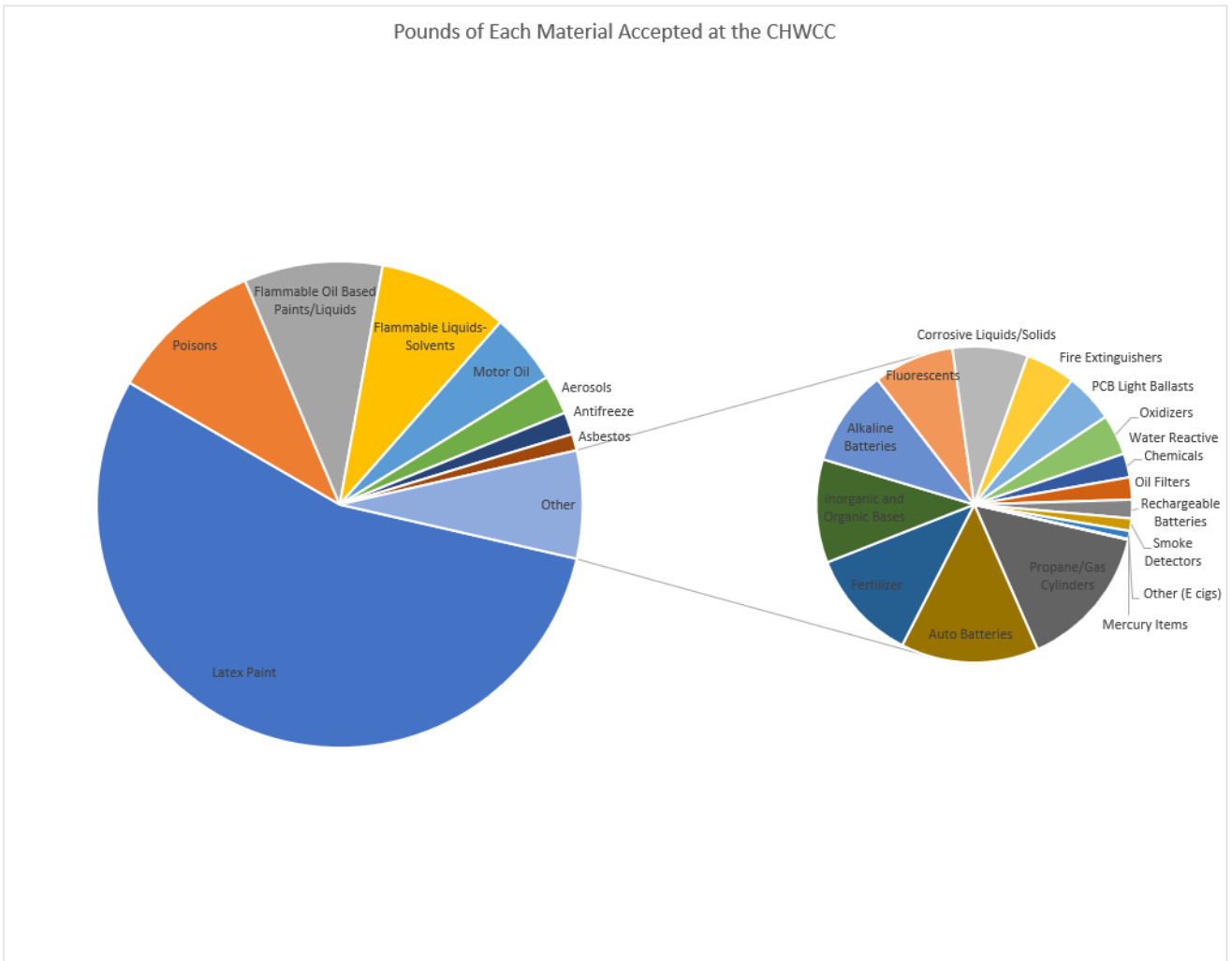


The types and quantities of material collected at the CHWCC in FY 2023/24 are listed below in pounds and grouped by disposal category.

<u>Recycle/Reuse</u>	<u>Pounds</u>	
Antifreeze	9,945	
Batteries-Alkaline	4,785	
Batteries-Auto	6,832	
Batteries-Rechargeable	921	
Fire Extinguishers	2,468	
Fluorescent Lights	4,002	
Latex Paint	370,643	
Mercury Items	28	
Motor Oil	32,025	
Oil Filters	1,103	
Propane/Gas Cylinders	7,190	
Smoke Detectors	617	
Total	440,559	(65% of Total Waste)
<u>Fuel Incineration</u>	<u>Pounds</u>	
Flammable Liquids-Solvents	40,861	
Flammable Oil Based		
Paints/Liquids	62,331	
Total	103,192	(15.4% of Total Waste)
<u>Destructive Incineration</u>	<u>Pounds</u>	
Corrosive Liquids/Solids	3,746	
Fertilizer	5,566	
Flammable Liquids-Solvents	17,748	
Inorganic and Organic Base	5,126	
Oxidizers	2,011	
PCB Light Ballasts	2,431	
Poisons	69,533	
Water Reactive Chemicals	1,179	
Other	404	
Total	107,744	(16% of Total Waste)
<u>Recycle & Destructive Incineration</u>	<u>Pounds</u>	
Aerosols	17,679	
Total	17,679	(2.6% of Total Waste)
<u>Landfill</u>	<u>Pounds</u>	
Asbestos	7,481	
Total	7,481	(1% of Total Waste)

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

The following chart shows a breakdown of the relative amount of each type of waste the CHWCC received in FY 2023/24.



CHWCC COSTS

In addition to education programs for the public regarding best use practices and reducing the use of hazardous materials, the County attempts to reduce costs by prioritizing the reuse and recycling of materials; blending materials for fuel incineration; distributing useable items through the Materials Reuse Program; and participating in California’s PaintCare program.

PaintCare is a statewide product stewardship program, whereby a point-of-purchase fee on each container of paint sold in the state is used to fund the collection and recycling of paint and other "program products" that are delivered to PaintCare’s free collection sites. Participating collection sites do not pay for expenses related to paint transportation, recycling, and disposal. During FY 2023/24, participation in the PaintCare program saved the CHWCC approximately \$166,603 in disposal costs.

It is very rare that the CHWCC processes paint for disposal outside of the PaintCare program, especially since the type of paint products accepted into the program recently expanded. Historically, the PaintCare program only allowed products in their original containers with secure-fitting lids and the original manufacturer's printed labels, and in

sizes no larger than five gallons each. In October 2021, PaintCare staff authorized the CHWCC Hazardous Waste Technicians who are 40-hour HAZ-WOPER-certified to have autonomy in decision-making when segregating paint. The technicians are now able to divert paint in container sizes larger than five gallons and/or without an original label to the PaintCare program, as long as the paint meets the program's other acceptance criteria.

The costs of operating the CHWCC are shared among the participating jurisdictions and are allocated to each jurisdiction based on the previous year's cost of service. During FY 2023/24, fixed costs, including facility rental fees, staffing, administration, and promotion of the program, represented 75.5% of the program's overall costs. These costs are allocated based on population percentages. For FY 2023/24, the population breakdown was as follows:

City of Goleta – 13%
City of Santa Barbara – 33%
County Unincorporated – 54%

Waste disposal costs are considered variable costs and represented 24.5% of the program's overall costs for FY 2023/24. The variable costs are allocated based on the breakdown of residential participants using the CHWCC. During FY 2023/24, the participation percentages were as follows:

City of Goleta – 23.6%
City of Santa Barbara – 36.6%
County Unincorporated – 39.8%

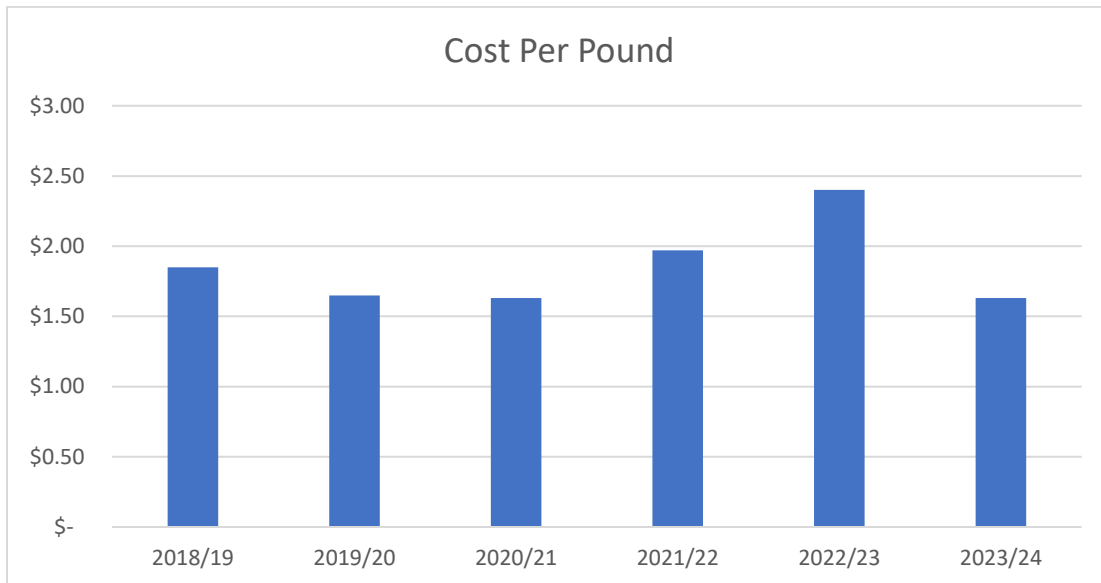
Combining the fixed and variable costs, the percentage of total costs covered by each jurisdiction for FY 2023/24 is as follows:

City of Goleta – 15.1%
City of Santa Barbara – 33.6%
County Unincorporated – 51.3%

Please note that the County's allocation includes participants from the City of Solvang and other incorporated areas outside of the cities of Goleta and Santa Barbara. Solvang's participation in the CHWCC program is relatively small, as Solvang residents tend to more frequently utilize the County's biannual Santa Ynez Valley household hazardous waste collection events, which are closer in proximity to the City of Solvang.

Currently, the cost per pound for operation of the CHWCC program is \$1.63. An analysis of current costs for FY 2023/24 shows that County administration costs (including advertising and supplies) make up 9.4% of the total cost per pound; transportation and management/disposal of the hazardous waste make up approximately 23.2% 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 67.4% of the total

cost per pound. The following graph shows the cost per pound to operate the CHWCC over the past several years.



PUBLIC EDUCATION FOR CHWCC

The County has an extensive public education program that includes print advertisements, television and radio ads, online media, distribution of flyers, tabling at public events, displaying of information on County websites, inclusion of articles in waste hauler newsletters sent to residents and businesses, and the use of social media outlets. In addition, radio, web, and print ads are run each spring with a “Spring Cleaning” theme. Program brochures are also distributed to retail sites and property managers to increase public awareness regarding hazardous waste disposal and the CHWCC. All literature is translated into Spanish to reach the Spanish-speaking population in our community. The County also offers a tour of the CHWCC in collaboration with the annual Creek Week celebration, as an opportunity for community members to learn more about the County's hazardous waste collection and disposal programs.

ADMINISTRATION OF CHWCC

In February 2022, the Resource Recovery and Waste Management Division issued a Request for Proposals 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 standards, and proximity to our service areas, the panel unanimously voted to award the contract to Clean Harbors Environmental Services (Clean Harbors). A three-year contract with Clean Harbors began on July 1, 2022 and will extend through June 30, 2025. The contract also includes renewal provisions for one (1) two-year extension, at the sole discretion of the County.

Additionally, in June 2024, the County reestablished a contract with UCSB to house the CHWCC on campus at the Environmental Health and Safety (EH&S) Facility.

The Household Hazardous Waste program continues to be an integral part of Santa Barbara County's solid waste management system and is very popular with the community; feedback from the public remains positive and supportive. Since 1993, the program has served approximately 253,815 residents and businesses, and has collected 17,924,352 pounds of material.

OTHER HHW SERVICES PROVIDED

The County and its franchised waste haulers offer additional options for community members to safely dispose of hazardous waste, home-generated sharps, household pharmaceuticals, batteries, and used motor oil:

- Residents in the cities of Goleta and Santa Barbara and in the unincorporated areas of the County can recycle batteries at home by putting their batteries in a clear plastic bag and placing it on top of their curbside recycling container lid on collection days. The public can also drop off household batteries at numerous retail sites and public-facing facilities in Santa Barbara County; a complete list of locations can be found at www.LessIsMore.org/batteries. These retailers are eligible to 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 2023/24, approximately 5,706 pounds of batteries were collected and recycled at the CHWCC.

- 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 Motor 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 7 certified used oil collection centers that include automotive supply stores, quick lubes, automotive repair shops, and a recycling buy-back facility. In FY 2023/24, approximately 18,586 gallons of oil and 1,126 oil filters were collected from do-it-yourselfers at these sites. Additionally, 11,088 gallons of oil and 654 used oil filters were collected at County-run and private "ABOP" facilities (sites that accept Antifreeze, Batteries, Motor Oil/Filters and Latex Paint).

- There are six ABOP (Antifreeze, Batteries, Motor Oil/Filters, and Latex Paint) facilities within the county. Santa Barbara County operates one at the Santa Ynez Valley Recycling & Transfer Station; the City of Carpinteria operates one at the City's Public Works Yard (please note that the County does not track or report data for the City's hazardous waste collection program); MarBorg Industries operates two in the cities of Goleta and Santa Barbara; and Waste Management operates two in the cities of Buellton and Santa Maria.

- In addition to collection centers for the public, the County provides a special used oil recycling program for the agricultural community. In partnership with Waste Management, the Agricultural Oil Collection Program serves the agricultural communities

in the Santa Ynez and Santa Maria valleys. Two collection sites are available at the Waste Management ABOP facilities – one in Buellton and one in Santa Maria, where the “ag oil” and associated oil filters are mixed with the general public’s oil-related waste.

- During FY 2023/24, the County also held three (3) one-day household hazardous waste collection events: one at the New Cuyama Transfer Station in the fall, and two at the Santa Ynez Valley Recycling & Transfer Station (SYVRTS) in the fall and then spring, to accommodate residents who are not able to make it to the CHWCC due to its distance from their homes. In FY 2023/24, 728 residents dropped off 46,728 pounds of hazardous waste, including electronic equipment, at these events.

- The CHWCC does not accept home-generated sharps; however, the County offers a program in which residents can drop off sharps at five County-run health clinics. Under this free program, residents can pick up a sharps container at one of the clinics and once the container is full, bring it back to the clinic in exchange for a new, empty container. In FY 2023/24, 2,688 pounds of sharps were collected at these clinics. In addition, the franchised waste haulers in both the South and North County offer a mail-back program for sharps. In FY 2023/24, 586 customers requested sharps containers from the haulers, totaling an estimated 1,070 pounds of sharps collected. The County also collects sharps at the three (3) one-day household hazardous waste collection events. In 2023/24, 347 pounds of sharps were collected at these events.

- During FY 2023/24, MED-Project, a stewardship program paid for by the pharmaceutical companies that sell products in Santa Barbara County, collected 17,265 pounds of unwanted household medications from 48 collection sites located throughout the county. The service is provided free of charge to the community.

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