

The Hazardous Waste Collection and Disposal Service

CHEMICALS



The Hazardous Waste Collection and Disposal Service (HWCDs) provides a subsidised collection service to householders who pay council tax for the property where the waste originated. **We ask for proof of a recent council tax payment.**

Chemical collections are free of charge though subject to these limits:

You are entitled to a collection of up to 50 litres in total. Each container must weigh no more than 25kg each and/or contain no more than 25l. We provide a maximum of 3 collections per household in a rolling year. Only one collection can be booked in a month.

Businesses

We provide a collection to businesses for paint and chemicals. Please email us for a quote at hazwaste@cityoflondon.gov.uk

Safe handling of chemicals

- **Always refer to the safety advice on the container.** Remember that incompatible substances do not mix and may cause a reaction.
- Store chemicals in a safe dry place secured and inaccessible to children, and away from sources of heat and ignition.
- Leaking containers will **not** be collected. If containers are unsound and leaking, always handle with care and make safe for collection by placing inside a larger leak proof vessel.
- Wear disposable gloves and safety glasses if available.
- Do not flush any chemicals down the drain or sink. Material may be dangerous for the environment causing either immediate or delayed environmental damage.

The following items are acceptable for collection

- Inorganic Solids and Liquids (i.e. Sulphate Powders, Non Corrosive Aqueous Cleaning Agents)
- Organic Solids and Solvents (i.e. White Spirit, Paint, Petrol, Diesel, Paraffin, Antifreeze)
- Organic Peroxides (i.e. Adhesive Activators / Hardeners)
- Acids (i.e. Toilet Cleaners, Battery Acid)
- Alkalis (i.e. Bleach, Hydroxide Solutions, Ammonia)
- Cyanides (i.e. Old Rat Poisons)
- Water or Air Reactive Chemicals (i.e. Sodium, Potassium, Carbides)
- Oxidising Agents (i.e. Chlorate Weed Killers, Nitrate Fertilisers)
- Reducing Agents (i.e. Sulphites, Dylon Net Curtain Whiting Agent)
- Pesticides (i.e. Garden Chemicals – Liquid and Solid)
- Pharmaceuticals (i.e. Tablets and Medicine)

Safe packaging of chemicals

Pack the waste items **upright** in firm cardboard boxes / metal or plastic sealable containers.

If you pack glass bottles together use a packaging material such as shredded paper, vermiculite or polystyrene beads to prevent the glass from breaking.

Always keep the following chemicals segregated

1. Segregate Oxidising Materials (Peroxides and Nitrates) from Flammable Materials (Thinners, Solvent Based Paint, White Spirit and Petrol)
2. Segregate Acidic Materials (Battery Acid and Acid Cleaning Agents) from Alkali Materials (Ammonia and Hydroxide / Bleach Solutions)
3. Segregate and Corrosive Materials (Acid or Alkali) from Flammable, Oxidising or Toxic Materials.

Note: Containers will not be returned. They will be disposed of with the hazardous waste.

We do not collect the following items

- Clinical Waste (including biological specimens)
- Explosives (including fireworks)
- Nerve gas
- Polychlorinated Biphenyl Compounds (PCBs)
- Radioactive waste (including low level radioactive waste such as uranyl acetate/nitrate)
- Flammable film stock (cellulose acetate)
- Car and motorcycle batteries
- Fridges and other electrical items
- Cooking oil
- Expandable foam
- Pressurised vessels including gas cylinders and cartridges, although we accept 113ml camping gas stove

Completing the form

Request a form by calling the HWCDs team on **020 7332 3433**. When you receive the form, list all the items separately along with the size of the containers, for example:

2 x White Spirit @ 1l (Total = 2l)

1 x Bleach @ 750ml (Total = 0.750ml)

4 x Antifreeze @ 2.5l (Total = 10l)

If you have any unknown substances keep these stored and contact our office to see if we can assist.

Any highly toxic or reactive chemicals should be kept separate to all other chemicals and marked accordingly. For example,

- Sodium Cyanide 1 x 50gm (Highly Toxic)
- Calcium Carbide 2 x 1kg (Water Reactive)

Attach a list to the outside of the packaging.

Check all the details and sign the form before returning it to the address below.

Arranging the collection

Your application will be forwarded to the contractor who will contact you (usually by telephone) to advise when it is collecting. You will be given at least two days' notice of collection. Ensure the waste is packed correctly and ready for collection before returning your form.

Storing chemicals safely

- The waste must be stored safely and securely (i.e. boxed and properly segregated) at ground level close to the front boundary of the property and easily accessible for a van.
- You must not leave chemicals outside if your front door opens directly onto the street.
- The following items should not be left outside: Corrosive liquids (acids, ammonia, and bleach); Rat poison containing cyanide; petrol, paraffin and white spirit; Chlorates and peroxides.

The driver will provide you with a Waste Transfer Note. Check the details are correct before you sign to release the waste to the contractor. You are legally obliged to keep a copy of the Waste Transfer Note for at least 3 years at the property as proof of proper disposal.

For more advice on storage, handling or packaging chemicals, please contact Biffa Waste Services on 01438 759 850.

City of London Corporation

Hazardous Waste Collection and Disposal Service

Department of the Built Environment, 1st Floor, North Wing, Guildhall PO Box 270, London EC2P 2EJ

Telephone 020 7332 3433

Email hazwaste@cityoflondon.gov.uk Website: www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/hazardouswaste