

Department of Community & Economic Development

Fall 2016 Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Event



On October 8, the Department of Community & Economic Development (DCED) held a Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) collection event at Northampton Community College (NCC). This was the second of two events held for 2016. The next event is being planned for May 2017 at NCC.

DCED teamed up with NCC, PADEP, Lafarge (tires), Einfalt (scrap metal), and the County's hazardous waste service provider MXI. Our 911 center along with Lehigh County's emergency response team was on-hand too. The event was a great success. More than 1,400 residents from all parts of the county took advantage of the opportunity to properly manage hazardous wastes, tires, and scrap metal without charge. This attendance level set a new record. Proper management prevents wastes from impacting our air and water

while preserving landfill space.

Residents expressed their appreciation to DCED for coordinating the HHW event. DCED team members took the opportunity to thank participants and share hazardous waste reduction tips. Those tips are also posted on our [Facebook](#) and [web pages](#).

Master Gardener volunteers from Penn State Extension were also on-hand to provide important pesticide safety information, further enhancing the educational experience.

Ken Zinis, Environmental Services Coordinator, offered his perspective on the day. "I am so pleased that our department provides this valuable environmental service and educational opportunity to our residents throughout the county. The success of this event is a true demonstration of Northampton County's and our citizens' strong commitment to protecting our land and water resources."



Highlights of the day:

- Hard working crews and volunteers worked efficiently and effectively and, most importantly, safely with zero reported injuries or incidents
- Many residents complimented the team on how smoothly the event ran
- Each attendee brought in 90 pounds of HHW alone
- Broad appreciation was shared by attendees, personally thanking the county for providing this valuable service

THE IMPACT!

- Nearly 78 tons of waste managed
- 114,000 lbs. of hazardous waste collected, including oil-based paint, solvents, pesticides and more
- Laid end-to-end fluorescent bulbs recycled, could stretch nearly 4 1/2 miles
- 17,100 lbs., that's 640 tires recovered
- 24,080 lbs. of scrap metal recycled
- On average every person brought in more than 110 lbs. of waste

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