


FROM	NAME & TITLE	Alfred H. Foxx, Director	CITY of BALTIMORE MEMO	
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Department of Public Works 600 Abel Wolman Municipal Building		
	SUBJECT	CITY COUNCIL BILL 11-0289R		

DATE: June 6, 2011

TO

The Honorable President and Members
of the Baltimore City Council
c/o Karen Randle
Room 400 - City Hall

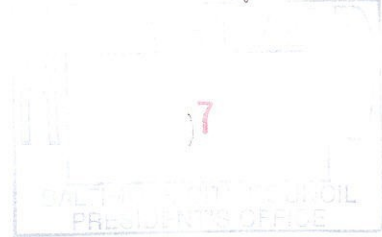
I am herein reporting on City Council Resolution 11-0289R introduced by Council Members Spector, Kraft, Stokes, Middleton, Cole, Branch, Holton, Council President Young, Council Members Conaway, Welch, Reisinger, Clarke, D'Adamo, and Henry.

The purpose of the Resolution is to request the Director of Public Works and the Chief, Bureau of Solid Waste to brief the Council on the City's Hazardous Waste Disposal program; the adequacy of the number, frequency, and timing of scheduled disposal days to address citizens' needs to dispose of household hazardous waste materials in a timely fashion; the possible revisions to the Hazardous Waste Drop-Off schedule to accommodate persons for whom the opportunities to dispose of waste are not conducive to compliance; and other revisions that would facilitate resident's participation in the program.

The Department of Public Works first offered a household hazardous waste drop-off day in 1994. The program was successful and was eventually expanded to collection days in the spring and in the fall. Originally conducted on a Saturday and a Sunday, and in two locations, the event was later reduced to one day and one location twice a year. The program is offered to City residents and is limited to certain substances (see attachment for examples). The City contracts with a company qualified to handle and dispose of these materials in an environmentally sound manner. This service costs approximately \$60,000 to \$100,000 for a one day collection event.

Due to budget constraints, the frequency of collection days were reduced or removed from the Public Works budget. The most recent event held on April 30, 2011 was made possible through cost savings in the FY2011 budget. While the Department was happy to be able to offer this service, it is preferable to be able to budget and plan well in advance so that our residents may make full use of this vital service. We will be able to offer another collection day on October 1, 2011. However, the Department would prefer to have a permanent drop-off program available on certain days of the week, beginning in the spring and extending through the fall, and is currently investigating whether such a program may be viable and affordable.

Comments




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The Department currently offers drop-off services for several materials typically collected on household hazardous waste days at any of the five Solid Waste yards:

- Motor oil
- Tires
- E-cycling (Western Yard at Reedbird temporarily not accepting E-cycling)

It is acceptable to place latex paint in with mixed refuse for curbside collection if the contents are dried (leave can open until dry, or absorb liquid using kitty litter). The Baltimore City Fire Department does accept mercury products at its fire stations.

Representatives of the Department of Public Works will be happy to attend the hearing on City Council Resolution 11-0289R to discuss the City's household hazardous waste days in more detail.



Alfred H. Foxx
Director

Attachment

AHF/MMC:pat

Visit our Website @ www.baltimorecity.gov

ATTACHMENT
City Council Resolution 11-0289R
Informational Hearing – Household Hazardous Waste Disposal

Examples of Acceptable Materials:

Cleaners

Chlorine Bleach
Disinfectant
Drain Cleaner
Floor Care Products
Fungicide
Oven Cleaner
Rug/Upholstery Cleaners
Spot Remover
Toilet Cleaner
Window Cleaner

Shop

Furniture Strippers
Glue
Latex Paint
Oil Paint
Paint Thinner
Photographic Chemicals
Stains/Finishes
Turpentine
Varnish
Wood Preservatives

Laundry Room

Ammonia
Detergent
Furniture Polish
Mothballs
Softener
Spray Starch

Car

Anti-freeze
Brake Fluid
Car Batteries
Gasoline
Motor Oil
Transmission Fluid
Tires (up to 4)

Personal Care

Aerosol Deodorant
Hair Colorants
Nail Polish Remover
Mercury Thermometer

Garden

Fertilizers
Flea & Tick Powder
Herbicides
Weed Killer
Pesticides

Other

Coal tar products
Household batteries
Insecticides
Lighter fluid
Pool chemicals
Rust removers

Materials that will not be accepted:

Trash, unknown or unlabeled materials, acids, asbestos, ammunition, explosives, fire extinguishers, fireworks, industrial wastes, medical wastes, propane tanks, radioactive materials, smoke alarms with radioactive symbol