

City of Elk Grove
Special Waste Collection Center
Q & A

Q: What is the future planning for the City of Elk Grove collection of household hazardous waste?

A: The City of Elk Grove has been working diligently to plan for and build a Special Waste Collection Center within Elk Grove in order to make it more convenient for our residents to dispose of their household hazardous waste. The City Council established the Transfer Station Long Range Planning Project and directed staff to start planning and developing long term options for future disposal of residential and commercial waste. The City has already undertaken the following actions:

- Held public outreach meetings to discuss the future needs the City of Elk Grove might have with regards to trash, recycling, and hazardous waste
- Developed a Facility Master Plan for the preferred sites to locate any facility
- Completed the Transfer Station Long Range Planning Project Draft and Final Environmental Report
- City Council selected and purchased the preferred site location
- Staff completed the design for the access road and the building
- Completed the bid documents for the solicitations for the Special Waste Collection Center construction award

By the end of 2011, the City will complete the design for the Special Waste Collection Center. To assist in the effort, the State provided grant funding for this design effort. Once constructed, residents will be able to drop-off their half used or unneeded hazardous waste items. These items will be collected, and packaged at this facility and then shipped off for recycling or proper disposal. Elk Grove residents will not be charged a fee when they drop off up to 15 gallons or 125 lbs of material. The cost to build and run the facility will be part of their bi-monthly utility bill fees.

Household Hazardous Waste items that will be accepted:

- Paint
- Pesticides
- Pharmaceuticals
- Batteries

- Used Oil
- Fluorescent Lights
- Solvents
- Cleaners
- Antifreeze
- Pool Chemicals
- Herbicides
- Transmission Fluid
- Gasoline
- Poisons
- Bio-Sharps (needles/syringes)
- Most Products Labeled: Danger, Caution, Warning, etc.

Q: When will this facility be open?

A: Currently we plan to open to residents in April of 2013.

Q: Where will the facility be located?

A: The facility will be located at **9255 Disposal Lane, Elk Grove, CA 95624**. To access the facility the resident will drive down a new street called Disposal Lane which will be built in 2012. The property is located off Grant Line and Highway 99.

Q: What will the facility look like?

Special Waste Collection Facility



Q: How was this facility paid for?

A: Based on current estimates for the purchase of property, design and construction of the facility, bond financing in the amount of \$10,715,000 was achieved. The bond financing repayment plan was developed and included three rate increases. The City Council adopted a resolution and called a public hearing that was held in December 2011 to consider the approval of proposed increases to the City's solid waste service rates for the purpose of financing land purchase reimbursement, construction of a HHWCF, and the contractual obligations to Allied Waste Services. Over the next three years (July 1 of 2011, 2012, 2013), there will be an annual increase to Allied's rates not to exceed the following amounts: \$0.38/month for a 32-gallon trash carts; \$0.40/month for a 64-gallon trash cart and; \$0.43/month for a 96-gallon trash cart, which is an estimate of the rate; the actual rate will be presented to the City Council annually and the costs to construct this facility will require an annual increase in the rates of \$1.26/month over the three years.

Q: Currently where can residents of Elk Grove take their hazardous waste for proper disposal?

A: Currently, the City of Elk Grove has a contract with the City of Sacramento and the County of Sacramento that allows free Household Hazardous Waste drop-offs at the North Area Recovery Station, located at 4450 Roseville Road, North Highlands. Hours of operation are Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. Residents also have the option of dropping off household hazardous waste materials at the Sacramento Recycling and Transfer Station, located at 8491 Fruitridge Road, Sacramento. They are open Tuesday through Saturday 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

However, there is a cost to the City for each drop off our residents make. In order to save you time and make it cost efficient for the City, we suggest you make one trip with up to the maximum allowable amount of materials instead of making several trips with small amounts of material as the City is billed \$70 per visit.

Q: How do I properly transport my waste?

A: All products must be packaged in sturdy, non-leaking, closed containers no larger than 5 gallons. Keep products in original containers. If a product does not have its original label, label it yourself if you're sure of the contents.

Don't mix products together. Make sure products are properly sealed to prevent leaks and spills. If a container is leaking, secure it in a secondary leak-proof

container. Place containers in sturdy boxes (don't double stack) in the trunk of your vehicle and away from the driver and passengers.

Keep all HHW in their original containers. HHW does not include radioactive materials, explosives, ammunition or medical wastes.

Q: What is household hazardous waste and what should I do with it?

A: Household hazardous waste (HHW) is a catchall term for a wide variety of common household products found under your sink, in your laundry room and out in the garage. HHW includes antifreeze, batteries, oils, paints, solvents, lubricants, gasoline, kerosene, car care products, pesticides, herbicides, fungicides, wood preservatives, fluorescent light bulbs, flares, pool chemicals, drain cleaners, adhesives, polishers, bleach, ammonia, acetone (finger nail polish remover), prescription drugs and many other chemicals and compounds.

The best way to manage your HHW is not to buy it to begin with. There are a wide variety of safe and effective alternatives to many of these products. If the product does not have an alternative, only purchase as much of the product you intend on using. If you have product left over that is still usable, give it away to a friend, a neighbor, or community group. HHW should not be disposed of with the rest of your household garbage. It endangers the workers managing your waste and can seep out of landfills causing air pollution and groundwater contamination.

Q: What is Universal Waste?

A: Universal Waste contains harmful chemicals which, if put in the trash, may harm people or the environment. UW may contain corrosive chemicals that can cause burns, as well as toxic metals like cadmium and lead.

The following is a list of Universal Waste:

- Fluorescent Tubes/Bulbs and other Mercury-containing lamps
- Household batteries, rechargeable batteries, button batteries
- Thermostats, Thermometers, electrical switches and relays
- Electronic Devices such as: Televisions, computer monitors, computers, printers, VCRs, cell phones, telephones, radios and microwave ovens

Q: Can I throw my batteries in the trash?

A: Effective February 9, 2006, a new law passed stating that Universal Waste (UW), such as batteries, electronic devices, fluorescent light bulbs, are hazardous and should not be thrown away in the trash.

Free battery disposal locations in Elk Grove:

Bel-Air

9435 Elk Grove Blvd.
Elk Grove, CA
(916) 774-6996

Elk Grove PD

8400 Laguna Palms Way
Elk Grove, CA 95758
(916) 683-7111

Bel-Air

8425 Elk Grove Florin Rd.
Elk Grove, CA 95624
(916) 687-3201

Franklin Community Library

10055 Franklin High Rd,
Elk Grove, CA 95757
(916) 264-2920

CVS Pharmacy

5040 Laguna Blvd
Elk Grove, CA
(916) 684-6811

Raley's

4900 Elk Grove Blvd
Elk Grove, CA 95758
(916) 683-0700

CVS Pharmacy

8585 Elk Grove Blvd
Elk Grove, CA
(916) 681-7911

United Methodist Church

8986 Elk Grove Blvd
Elk Grove, CA 95624
(916) 686-8303

CVS Pharmacy

9285 Elk Grove Blvd
Elk Grove, CA 95624
(916) 714-5280

Walgreens

9180 Franklin Blvd.
Elk Grove, CA
(916) 427-3589

Elk Grove City Hall

8401 Laguna Palms Way
Elk Grove, CA 95758
(916) 683-7111

Walgreens

7299 Laguna Blvd
Elk Grove, CA 95758
(916) 691-4404

Elk Grove City Hall Offices

8380 Laguna Palms Way
Elk Grove, CA 95758
(916) 683-7111

Walgreens

9200 Elk Grove-Florin Road
Elk Grove, CA 95624
(916) 687-3201

Elk Grove Community Library

8900 Elk Grove Blvd
Elk Grove, CA 95624
(916) 685-5270

Q: Can “Small Businesses” in Elk Grove utilize this facility once it is built?

A: Yes, if you are an Elk Grove business and have leftover hazardous materials, you may be eligible for a service to safely dispose of these items at reasonably affordable rates. Businesses that qualify as “small quantity generators” can dispose of hazardous materials safely, conveniently, and in ways that protect our environment.

Among the most common materials covered under the service are:

- Solvents, flammable solids and liquids, and detergents.
- Propane tanks and aerosol cans.
- Car and truck products, such as motor oil, lubricants, oil filters, and antifreeze.
- Lawn care products, such as pesticides, herbicides, fungicides, and fertilizers.
- Paint and paint-related materials, such as stains, varnishes, roofing tar, adhesives, joint compounds, and other petroleum-based products.
- Photo-chemical liquids, acids, bases, neutral oxidizers, and swimming pool chemicals.

Q: Who can drop off items at the Elk Grove Special Waste Collection Center?

A: The City of Elk Grove is currently working on documentation to potentially allow residents of surrounding cities to have access to the Elk Grove Special Waste Collection Center. The goal will be to have the Elk Grove Special Waste Collection Center operate as a regional facility.

Q: What features does the facility offer?

A: The new Special Waste Collection Center will be working to produce clean solar energy whether it's open or not. Almost half the roof will be covered in Solar Photovoltaic Panels that capture energy whenever the sun is shining on them. While the facility is operating, the sun will cause the panels to provide electricity to the building; while the facility is closed they will be delivering

electricity back into the grid. When this facility is complete, it is expected to be a certified LEED Gold Project (learn more about LEED at usgbc.org).

The Elk Grove Special Waste Collection Center will also feature a ReUse room. If the products or items dropped off at the HHW are: 1) useable, 2) not a banned product and 3) are full enough to make it worthwhile, our hazardous materials specialists will place them in the HHW Re-Use Room, where other county residents who can use these products can take them home FREE of charge. Why waste a perfectly good product by placing it in the trash when someone out there can re-use it? You can feel good about helping the environment and helping people save a few bucks.

Q: What happens to household hazardous waste after it leaves a collection facility?

A: Once dropped off at a regional depot by residents, household hazardous waste is transported for further processing. Here is what happens:

- Paint is reprocessed into new recycled paint and by-products are bulked and sent for fuel blending.
- Stains, non-paint coatings, aerosols, fuels and adhesives are bulked and sent for fuel blending.
- Acids and bases are neutralized and discharged once tested.
- Pharmaceuticals, pesticides, and oxidizers are sent to a secure hazardous waste landfill and are incinerated in a hazardous waste incinerator.
- Needles and syringes are incinerated or autoclaved (sterilized) and then disposed of in a landfill.
- Automotive batteries are dismantled and lead is reclaimed and the sulfuric acid is neutralized.
- Oil is sent to a refinery to make recycled oil.

Q: How can I get more information?

A: Phone: 916-691-CITY (2489)
Monday through Friday
8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.
askelkgrove@elkgrovecity.org