GEORGETOWN TOWNSHIP

Waste & Recycling GUIDE

The intent of this resource guide is to provide information to Georgetown Township residents regarding opportunities for recycling and proper disposal of potentially hazardous materials. Every attempt was made to provide a thorough and accurate guide; however, it is recommended that residents call prior to using the resources offered to confirm services offered, hours of operation, location and pricing. If you are a business, or aware of a business, that provides waste and/or recycling services and would like to be added to this guide, or suggest topics to add, please contact the Township Office.

In This Guide:

What products are recyclable?

Curbside recycling services and drop-off locations

Composting Information

Curbside yard waste pick-up and drop-off locations

Disposal and recycling methods for:

- Household hazardous waste (also includes motor oil, propane tanks, car batteries and fluorescent light bulbs)
- Electronics
- Latex Paint
- Medications & Sharps
- Televisions
- Household, single use batteries
- Appliances
- Tires
- Styrofoam
- Ammunition & Fireworks

For Additional Information:

Georgetown Township

www.georgetown-mi.gov
1515 Baldwin Street
Jenison, MI 49428
(616)457-2340
Open: M-F, 8-5p

Ottawa County Health Department

www.miottawa.org/HealthComm/Health/hh_waste.htm
Hudsonville Office:
3100 Port Sheldon Street
Hudsonville, MI 49426
(616)669-0040
Open: M, W, F, 8-12p & 1-5p

HOUSEHOLD RECYCLING

What is recyclable?

Corrugated Cardboard:	Moving boxes, packing cartons, heavy brown boxes – ***Remove plastic & metal strapping and large staples, flatten boxes, no Styrofoam***
Mixed Paper:	Newspaper, brown bags, magazines, paperboard (like cereal boxes), computer paper, junk mail, phone books – ***Put shredded paper in clear plastic bags, remove plastic liners***
Glass:	Clear & colored food and beverage containers – ***Wash clean & remove lids, no windows or doors, no ceramics, no drinking glasses***
Metal:	Food & beverage containers, pie tins, aluminum foil, empty aerosol cans – ***Wash clean, remove aerosol cap & nozzle***
Plastic Containers:	Plastic containers stamped 1 & 2 including: milk jugs, water bottles, peanut butter jars, butter tubs, yogurt cups, plant flats, prescription bottles, laundry detergent bottles – ***No Styrofoam, wash clean, remove caps & labels***

Did You Know?

MEIJER retail stores accept used plastic bags. Look for the designated collection receptacle insides stores!

Curbside Recycling Pick-Up:

Many residential trash haulers offer a curbside recycling service (or one time pick-up) and may charge a monthly fee. To sign up for curbside recycling, contact your local trash hauler or look in the Yellow Pages under "**rubbish**."

Waste haulers offering curbside recycling currently:

Potluck Pick-up Inc.:	**(616)895-6399**	**www.potluckpickup.com**
Allied Waste Services:	**(877)MY-TRASH**	**www.republicservices.com**
Waste Management:	**(844)492-9417**	**www.wm.com**
Arrowaste Inc.:	**(616)748-1955**	**www.arrowaste.com**
Everkept Inc.:	**(616)669-2047**	**www.everkept.com**

Recycling Drop-Off Centers:

Ottawa County Waste Management - Resource Recovery Service Centers, (616)393-5645

An annual membership is required for $100.00 to participate in recycling services. Click HERE for more general recycling information or to fill out the membership form.

LOCATIONS:

Coopersville – 15600 68th Avenue

Hours:

M	12-4p
W	8-12p
3rd Sat	8-11a

Georgetown – 6693 Roger Drive

Hours:

T	12-4p
TH	8-12p
1st Sat	8-11a

Grand Haven – 16850 Comstock Avenue

Hours:

M	8-1p; 2-4p
W	8-1p; 2-4p
4th Sat	8-11a

Holland – 14053 Quincy

Hours:

T	8-1p; 2-4p
TH	8-1p; 2-4p
2nd Sat	8-11a

YARD WASTE

Since March 28, 1995, yard clippings have been banned from disposal in Michigan municipal solid waste landfills. **Section 324.11506(7) of Part 115, Solid Waste Management, of the Michigan Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, as amended (Act 451) defines yard clippings as follows:**

- Leaves
- Grass clippings
- Vegetable or other garden debris
- Shrubbery, brush or tree trimmings less than 4 feet in length and 2 inches in diameter

Yard clippings do NOT include:

- Agricultural wastes
- Animal waste
- Sewage Sludge
- Roots
- Stumps

The primary method of handling yard clippings since the landfill ban has been composting. For more information about starting backyard composting, contact the Ottawa County MSU Extension Service at (616)994-4580 or read this article on the MSU gardening website by clicking HERE.

The following links also provide good information about composting:

Better Homes & Gardens – Composting Basics

United States Environmental Protection Agency – Reduce, Reuse, Recycle - Compost

Curbside Yard Waste Pick-Up:

Many waste hauling companies also provide separate yard waste disposal pick-up. Contact your waste hauler directly to inquire about fees and to sign up for service.

Waste haulers offering curbside yard waste pick-up currently:

Potluck Pick-up Inc.:	**(616)895-6399**	**www.potluckpickup.com**
Allied Waste Services:	**(877)MY-TRASH**	**www.republicservices.com**
Waste Management:	**(844)492-9417**	**www.wm.com**
Arrowaste Inc.:	**(616)748-1955**	**www.arrowaste.com**
Everkept Inc.:	**(616)669-2047**	**www.everkept.com**

Yard Waste Drop-Off Centers:

Local Yard waste and clipping drop-off locations:

EVERKEPT	2412 Port Sheldon St., Jenison, MI 49428	(616)669-2047
TOP GRADE AGGREGATES	10501 Fillmore St., Zeeland, MI 49464	(269)751-8898
SPURT INDUSTRIES	5024 Adams St., Zeeland, MI 49464	(616)668-5575

OTHER HOUSEHOLD ITEMS AND HAZARDOUS HOUSEHOLD ITEMS

ELECTRONICS

Personal computers and other small consumer electronics can be recycled instead of going to a landfill. In addition, all manufacturers of computers and televisions that are sold to households and small businesses in Michigan are required to have a free and convenient take-back recycling program available to consumers. Click HERE for the electronics recycling guide on the Electronics TakeBack Coalition's website.

Many retail companies allow electronics recycling and some offer incentives for doing so:

- **Goodwill**
- **Office Depot**
- **Best Buy**
- **Staples**
- **Costco** (customers only), *Trade-In for gift card or Recycle*
- **Sams Club**, *Trade-In for gift card*

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTES

Household hazardous waste is material that may threaten human, animal and/or environmental health when disposed of improperly. Household hazardous waste material often includes toxic, flammable, caustic or chemically reactive ingredients. The Ottawa County Health Department offers FREE disposal of household hazardous wastes to all Ottawa County residents at any Resource Recovery Center (locations listed above in the Household Recycling Section).

FREE!

The Ottawa County Health Department offers a thermometer exchange program! Residents can bring a thermometer containing mercury to any Health Department branch or Recovery Resource Center and get a free digital thermometer in exchange.

Click HERE for a full checklist of accepted household hazardous waste items. Resource Recovery Centers also accept fire extinguishers and 20 pound propane tanks.

Some retail companies also allow specific household hazardous waste recycling:

- **Home Depot,** *Compact Fluorescent Light bulbs & Car Batteries*
- **Advance Auto Parts,** *Car Fluids & Car Batteries*
- **Walmart Tire & Lube Express,** *Car Fluids & Car Batteries*
- **Lowe's,** *Compact Fluorescent Light bulbs*
- **Tractor Supply,** *Car Fluids*
- **Quick Oil Change,** *Car Fluids*

LATEX PAINT

Latex paint is not a household hazardous waste and is not accepted at Resource Recovery Centers. To dispose of a small amount of unused latex paint, simply open the container (in a well ventilated area) and allow the contents to dry. For larger quantities of unused latex paint, mix with an absorbent material, such as cat litter, sawdust or shredded paper and stir (the mixture should be the consistency of thick oatmeal). Allow the paint mixture to dry in a well ventilated area. **Once solidified, latex paint can be disposed of in the regular trash. Be sure to remove the lid.**

Latex paint can also be donated:

Lakeshore Habitat Restore: (616)399-7006
Accepts full, unused cans of latex paint (that have not been frozen).

RepcoLite Paints, Inc.: (616)457-4190 www.re-coat.com
Accepts any amount of leftover latex paint (that is not dry, sour smelling or has been frozen) for their "re-coat" line of paint made from recycled latex paint.

MEDICATIONS & SHARPS

Needles & Sharps Disposal Options:

- The Ottawa County Health Department offers FREE Home Use Medical Sharps Containers to ensure safe disposal of syringes. Once full, participants can exchange containers for a new one. The Health Department then disposes of waste through a licensed medical waste disposal company. Only sharps containers provided by the Ottawa County Health Department will be accepted.
- Many pharmacies also sell sharps mail-back containers. The following companies offer a mail-back program:

BD Sharps Disposal by Mail	**1(888)237-2762**
Medwaste Tracker	**(866)803-7561**

- Ask your pharmacist or health care provider if they accept used sharps.
- Purchase a sharps clipper device from a drug store to remove the needle from a syringe.
- Place used sharps in a thick plastic container, like an empty bleach or laundry detergent bottle. Clearly mark outside of the container "**MEDICAL WASTE**" and place in the regular trash. **Do not put this container in a recycling bin!**

Medications:

The West Michigan Take Back Meds Program is a joint effort between local pharmacies, law enforcement, wastewater treatment facilities and government agencies to provide residents with safe, convenient access to proper medicine disposal. Click HERE for more information.

Non-controlled medication disposal locations:

- Any of three health department offices located in Holland, Grand Haven and Hudsonville during regular hours. ***Please remove any pills from the pill bottle and place them in a plastic bag before dropping them off at the Health Department.***
- The following pharmacies:
  Pharmacies can accept over the counter medications, samples, pet medications, vitamins, medicated ointments/lotions, and liquid medicines in addition to non-controlled prescription medications. Please do not remove the label, but black out all personal information from the label.
  - D&W
  - Family Fare
  - Walgreen's

Controlled medication disposal locations:

Examples of controlled substances are amphetamines, Valium, Ritalin, morphine, methadone and oxycodone. These drugs have a high potential for abuse. Current regulations allow only the patient or law enforcement to legally have custody of the drug.

- The following Police Stations:
  - Grandville Police Department
  - Holland Police Department

TELEVISIONS

Television recycling is a growing concern in Ottawa County. **Televisions, depending on their size, can contain up to 4 pounds of lead.** Contact either of the following to inquire about television disposal and recycling:

- Valley City Environmental Services Inc., (616)855-1090
- South Kent County Landfill, (616)632-7920

HOUSHOLD, SINGLE USE BATTERIES

Household batteries can be made of heavy metals and other elements include nickel, cadmium, mercury, lithium, silver and zinc. Use the following location for battery recycling drop-off to keep single use batteries out of landfills:

Dave's Batteries Unlimited
3662 Clyde Park Ave. SW
Wyoming, MI
(616)534-1142

APPLIANCES

Metal can be salvaged from your refrigerator, stove, washer, dryer and other large appliances. Some appliances, including refrigerators, freezers, air conditioner units and dehumidifiers, contain refrigerant gas that must be removed by a trained technician. Working appliances may be donated.

Disposal:

ALWAYS remove the doors before disposing of appliances (especially refrigerators and freezers). It only takes a moment for a child to get trapped inside an appliance and suffocate. ALL APPLIANCES MUST BE EMPTY BEFORE DISPOSAL.

- Your current trash hauler may offer a pick-up program for appliances and bulky items. Contact them directly.
- Scrap metal dealers may accept your appliances and pay you for them. See the yellow pages under **"scrap metal."**
- South Kent Landfill, 300 100th St., Byron Center, (616)632-7920
- Black River Recycling & Supply, (616)396-8587

Working Appliances/Recycling:

- United Way First Call for Help, (616)459-2255, 2-1-1
  Maintains a list of organizations in need of working appliances.

TIRES

Did You Know?

On average, 22 gallons of oil are required to create a new truck tire. However, to re-tread a tire, only 7 gallons of oil are required. Re-treading a tire costs anywhere from 30-70% less than manufacturing a new tire.

Every year on average, **290 million tires** are disposed of in the United States. Tires can be one of the most problematic sources of waste. This is mainly due to the high quantities produced and their great durability, prohibiting the tire from breaking down. However, their durability makes reuse and recycling of scrap tires easy. By recycling tires, we also reduce the amount of raw rubber needed for manufacturing, saving natural resources like crude oil. Rather than being tossed in empty lots or left on the side of the road, tires can be reused in a number of ways, from playground equipment to planters. They can also be used to create quieter highways through rubberized asphalt or to maintain a landscape through erosion control.

The South Kent Landfill (300 100th St., Byron Center) accepts clean, whole tires (off rims) and cut tires. Also, tire stores may take back tires for disposal.

STYROFOAM

Styrofoam products, including packing material and peanuts, meat trays, cups and plates, are not recyclable through the Ottawa County household recycling program at this time. The following companies recycle packing peanuts and block style Styrofoam. ***Do not include Styrofoam that has ever been in contact with food.***

Packing Peanuts Recycle:

PakMail	4370 Chicago Dr SW B, Grandville, MI 49418 (616)531-9790

Block Style Recycle:

MICHIGAN FOAM	1820 Chicago Dr. SW, Wyoming, MI 49519 (616)452-9611

AMMUNITION & FIREWORKS

Disposal:

- Contact the Ottawa County Sheriff's Department, (616)738-4000
- Many shooting ranges/gun clubs often have live round disposal bins
- Purchase a bullet puller for around $10-$15