



Pennsylvania Resources Council, Inc.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 2011

CONTACT: Mary Beth Mueller
412-351-7702

PA RESOURCES COUNCIL ANNOUNCES 2011 SCHEDULE OF HOUSEHOLD CHEMICAL COLLECTIONS

events provide opportunity to safely dispose of common household chemicals such as cleaners, automotive fluids, paints, pesticides and more

Pennsylvania residents will have an opportunity to safely and cost effectively dispose of common chemicals found in their homes at a series of drop-off collections sponsored by the Pennsylvania Resources Council (PRC) and its partners.

According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, an average home can easily accumulate 100 pounds of common chemicals referred to as “household hazardous waste.” These household chemicals include cleaners, paints, stains and varnishes, car batteries, automotive fluids, pesticides, pool chemicals and other products containing potentially hazardous ingredients.

Individuals dropping off waste materials at the collection events will pay a fee of \$2 per gallon. Payment will be cash only (no checks or credit cards accepted).

The seven collection events in 2011 are held in conjunction with PRC’s Zero Waste Pittsburgh project in partnership with Allegheny County Health Department, UPMC, NewsRadio 1020 KDKA, the HHW Task Force and other private and public sector partners.

“The types of items we collect at these events are products typically found under kitchen and bathroom sinks and in garages and basements. While products classified as ‘household hazardous waste’ are safe to use if you follow all label directions, problems can arise when you use or dispose of them improperly,” according to PRC Regional Director David Mazza. “Throughout the past eight years, PRC has collected and safely disposed of more than 2.5 million pounds of household chemicals from over 26,000 Pennsylvania households. While significant numbers, this just begins to scratch the surface of the problem of safe disposal of these materials.”

2011 HOUSEHOLD CHEMICAL COLLECTIONS (all collections held 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.)

Saturday, May 7 – ALLEGHENY COUNTY – North Park Swimming Pool parking lot

Saturday, May 21 – CAMBRIA COUNTY – Concurrent Technologies Corporation, Johnstown

Saturday, June 18 – ARMSTRONG COUNTY – Walmart (Hilltop Plaza), Kittanning

Saturday, July 30 – VENANGO COUNTY – Cranberry Mall, Route 322, Cranberry Township

Saturday, Aug. 6 – SOMERSET COUNTY – location to be announced

Saturday, Oct. 1 – ALLEGHENY COUNTY – location to be announced

Saturday, Oct. 22 – BEAVER COUNTY – Bradys Run Park Recycling Center

The following materials will be accepted: aerosol cans; automotive fluids (motor oil, transmission fluid, antifreeze, brake fluid); batteries; chemistry sets; gasoline and kerosene; household cleaners (ammonia, drain openers, acid cleaners, oven cleaners); mercury; paint products (latex, oil based, alkyd based, arts/crafts chemicals, rust preservatives, creosote, water sealers, paint thinners, furniture strippers); pesticides/herbicides (rodent killers, insecticides, weed killers, mothballs, fertilizer); photo chemicals; and pool chemicals.

A certified contractor will process the hazardous wastes collected for proper disposal. Materials may be recycled, incinerated or safely buried in special landfills.

The following materials will not be accepted: ammunition; appliances; bulk waste; commercial and industrial waste; compressed gas cylinders (including propane tanks); drugs; electronics; explosives; flares; fluorescent tubes; leaking containers; medical waste (including needles); PCBs and dioxin; radioactive materials (including smoke detectors); and tires.

For more information concerning the household chemical collection events – and other opportunities to reduce, reuse and recycle – visit www.zerowastepgh.org or call the Pennsylvania Resources Council at 412-488-7452.

###