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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Household Hazardous Waste Events: More Regional Collection Dates – beginning in June

The Lakes Region Planning Commission (LRPC) is pleased to announce that additional collection dates will be added to the long-running annual Lakes Region Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) collections. This year seven collections will be held on five separate dates beginning in June and running into September. The collections will be open to residents and residential taxpayers in 21 participating Lakes Region communities. [Visit the collection site/date that is most convenient to you!](#)

There are many toxic materials which exist right inside many Lakes Region homes. These toxic materials are known as “hazardous wastes”, substances that poison or contaminate the environment and threaten the health of those in the local community. They may be flammable, corrosive, or reactive, and should be disposed of properly so as not to harm people or damage the region’s soil and water resources. The fact is that most households use and create hazardous waste every day.

Look under your kitchen or bathroom sink, at the basement workbench, in the garage or garden shed – wherever you store cleaning products, home and vehicle maintenance items, or garden chemicals. If a product label says “danger”, “warning”, “toxic”, or “caution”, the product contains ingredients that are flammable, poisonous, will burn the skin and eyes, or react violently with other chemicals. These items, if disposed of improperly, are a very real threat to the health of the community, and the natural ecosystem. Municipal treatment plants and leachfields are incapable of processing these chemicals. In other words, these chemicals can remain in the water supply for quite some time. Even the chemicals you use daily around your home can easily reach the local water system or groundwater as the chemicals are used and washed down the drain. Disposal in a landfill poses similar risks, and the result is the eventual contamination of our groundwater, which our environment and economy are dependent upon.

This year the HHW collection season kicks off on Saturday June 22 in Franklin. On July 27, the Meredith and Gilford sites will be open. On the following Saturday, August 3, Moultonborough and Bristol will host collections. The Laconia collection site will be the final collection of the season on September 28. All these Saturday collections will be open

from 8:30 A.M. to 12:00 P.M. New this year, we will also have a weekday collection in Tuftonboro on Thursday, September 26 from 2:00 PM – 6:00 PM.

Residents and residential property owners in the 21 participating communities may bring up to 10 gallons or 50 pounds of household hazardous products in for safe disposal to the one collection site that is most convenient for them. Participating communities for the collections are Alexandria, Andover, Bridgewater, Bristol, Center Harbor, Effingham, Franklin, Gilford, Gilmanton, Hebron, Hill, Holderness, Laconia, Meredith, Moultonborough, New Hampton, Sanbornton, Sandwich, Tamworth, Tilton, and Tuftonboro.

It is never too early to start gathering waste for the collection - when opening a summer camp, preparing to move to a new house, or just cleaning out the garage. This is a small but important step that everyone can take for their families and their community to prevent contamination of water, our most valuable resource.

Note: We are no longer collecting fluorescent lamps (tubes and CFLs), batteries, or mercury-containing devices such as thermometers and thermostats. Information on collection sites, accepted materials, and other disposal options can be found at <https://www.lakesrpc.nh.gov/Pages/Index/228929/household-hazardous-waste>, use the QR code, or by calling LRPC at 279-8171.



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