

Temporary Flood Debris Collection Sites for Special Materials Best Practices

VTRecycles.com

In the event of an emergency such as the July 2023 Flood, municipalities are permitted to set up temporary collection sites for flood debris such as Household Hazardous Waste, Electronics (computers, monitors, printers, TVs), Batteries, Tires, Appliances, and other flood-damaged wastes banned from landfill disposal. Municipalities must separate these materials from other flood debris trash. Flood Debris Trash should be processed at area transfer stations as soon as possible to mitigate any health or nuisance issues.

Notify the Solid Waste Program- Dennis Fekert(dennis.fekert@vermont.gov) of the location of a temporary flood debris collection site and specify what and how materials will be collected, the contractor or destination facility, and on what date they will be transferred to a proper management facility.

Save addresses of locations where material originated and all other records for collection and processing costs in order to be eligible for FEMA reimbursement.

Household Hazardous Waste (HHW)

1. Be safe! Staff handling HHW should use PPE (personal protective equipment).
2. Place the HHW in a secondary containment, like a plastic bin or bucket, and put a lid on it. Do not open or mix materials from separate containers.
3. If an HHW container is leaking, place it in its own compatible container.
4. Set the HHW aside, under cover, in a secure, vented area out of the way so it doesn't get knocked over. Do not put it in a location where it could be close to heat or someone smoking.
5. Take it as soon as possible to a permanent HHW facility or utilize a HW Contractor for pick up.

Electronics and Batteries

1. Store materials in a covered area in containers and on a solid surface
2. Tape terminals or bag individually any lithium or lithium ion batteries
3. Store any damaged electronics containing batteries or individual bulging or damaged batteries in a closed container such as a pail or drum with Cellblock or with sand or kitty litter.

20 pound Grill Size or 1 pound camping Propane Tanks and Fire Extinguishers

1. Store all tanks upright and out of traffic areas to prevent being knocked over. If possible, store in a cage or some rigid, **open** container to prevent injury.
2. Do not store inside a building or closed waste container and keep away from heat and open flames. Do not allow smoking near any storage areas.

Note that larger propane or other fuel tanks must be collected by a fuel provider.

Appliances

1. Stand upright
2. Remove refrigerator or freezer doors or lock closed.
3. Separate any units containing Freon or other refrigerant gases such as refrigerators, dehumidifiers, air conditioners, freezers, heat pump/mini-splits for transfer to a licensed refrigerant removal contractor.