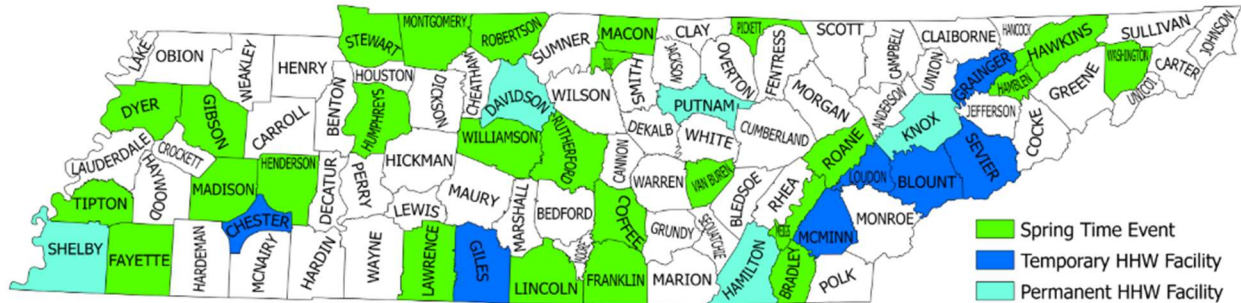


2024 Spring Mobile Hazardous Waste Collection



Spring 2024 Mobile HHW Analysis Season Report

Tennessee Department of Environment & Conservation | **January 2025**

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Overview

Since the program's inception in 1993, the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) continues to provide the Tennessee Household Hazardous Waste Mobile Collection Event services to counties to aid in the management of household hazardous wastes (HHW). Regulations for HHW are found in Tennessee Code Annotated [Title 68 chapter 211](#). To date, there have been over 1,500 one-day collection events with over 378,000 Tennessee families safely disposing of nearly 25 million pounds of HHW.

HHW is any unwanted, spent, used household product that can catch fire easily (flammable); eat away at or irritate living tissue (corrosive, both acid and base); react violently with water or other chemicals (reactive); or is poisonous to humans or animals (toxic). Usable household products may exhibit hazardous properties but until they become a waste, they are not appropriate for the HHW program.

The Mobile Collection Service is open to any Tennessee resident and is limited to households. Businesses, institutions, schools, and agri-business operations may not use this service, but can participate as a Very Small Quantity Generator (VSQG) which can assist with reduced mobilization fees for proper business waste disposal. Persons or businesses interested in participating in the business waste should refer to the following web site: <https://www.tn.gov/environment/sw-mm-household-hazardous-waste-program/very-small-quantity-generators.html>.

Counties request mobile HHW events using a tiered priority listing provided by TDEC. Interested parties can find the tiered guidelines on the Department's website in the [Mobile HHW Collection Service Guide](#). As the county requests are submitted, the schedule is set trying to maximize access of the majority of the citizens.

Season Participation Analysis

The 2024 Spring HHW (March 9th – May 18th) event season ended with 26 counties hosting 2,409 households versus 27 counties and 22.79 households in Spring 2023. The season saw a 21.5% increase in participation when evaluated among counties with comparative events in Spring 2023 (see table 3).

Batteries, Oil, Paint, Electronics and Antifreeze (BOPAE) continue to be a focus by the counties through the year. The Department conducted fourteen oil-based paint and thirteen fluorescent lamp milk runs in Spring 2024. The frequency and convenience of BOPAE collections provides added service for the citizens and spreads the workload for the collection sites. TDEC provided laminated paint job aids that assisted counties to identify and segregate oil paint that needed to be collected. These tips for identifying latex and water-based paint were useful to help solidify and manage latex paint in the solid waste stream.

In an effort to increase year-round access for HHW disposal, the Department has strategically placed seven temporary HHW containers across the state (Chester, Giles, Blount, McMinn, Loudon, Sevier, and Grainger Counties) that are available to all citizens of Tennessee. In the first half of 2024, the containers collected 14,565 lbs. of HHW via three milk runs.

The season concluded with a total of 157,707 pounds of discarded household hazardous waste that was collected in the combined 57 events (30 milk runs of oil-based paint, bulbs, and other HHW for a total of 76,316 pounds, other mobile HHW events included in tables 1-3). The Department collected through mobile events and milk runs: oil based paint, fluorescent bulbs, and other HHW at county facilities throughout the year and then picked up these materials

by a contractor for proper disposal that resulted in a total cost of \$256,053.42 (milk runs, \$32,763.01 other included in tables 1-3).

Summary of mobile HHW materials collected (Additional Data in Tables 1-3)

- Corrosive acids (Sulfuric acid, phosphoric acid, CLR cleaner, muriatic acid, battery acid); 2,646 pounds
- Corrosive Bases (Drano, sodium hydroxide); 4,453 pounds
- Pesticides, herbicides, rat poisons, insecticides, animal medications; 28,064 pounds
- Flammables, gasoline, charcoal lighter, kerosene, paint thinners; 14,637 pounds
- Aerosols, paint, health & beauty aids, insecticides, lubricants, cleaners; 6,257 pounds
- Mercury; 37 pounds
- Oxidizers, bleach, chlorine, pool sanitizers; spa and hot tub sanitizers; 890 pounds

Advertising

The Materials Management Program requires advertising and information sharing. The Department shared as an outreach to the counties, recommendations for advertising and promoting the events to help maximize communication opportunities in the serviced areas. The Program encouraged counties and participating organizations to reach out to public utilities, business employee newsletters, social media, and other forms of information sharing. Additionally, TDEC Central Office shared the schedule at the beginning of the Spring HHW season by using MyEmma as a platform for sending emails to interested citizens who have shared email addresses. Department drug take back programs coordinated by some counties increased the take back of products and increased awareness of the hazards of pharmaceuticals in households. Additional events associated with HHW collection events at some counties included beneficial item collection with local non-profits and electronics collections.

Safety

TDEC Materials Management Program considers safety the highest priority for state, county, volunteer staff, and participants. The TDEC event staff prioritized safety by wearing high visibility safety vests, making first aid kits available and providing additional event resource materials that encourage site safety. Many event staff workers have received CPR and AED training with a goal for all staff to be prepared for unexpected situations that may occur at mobile events. Clean Harbors, the event contractor, provides an onsite chemist and additional technical staffing who assists with the proper segregation of chemicals and Department of Transportation (DOT) requirements for safe packaging and transportation.

As industries develop household materials that may cause problems for proper disposal or impacts safe management, TDEC searches for consumer-based solutions. Disposal option challenges for sharps, needles, lancets, and auto inject pens caused the Program to expand this option to HHW mobile events. As participants remove these materials from the solid waste stream, the safety of solid waste staff, haulers, landfill staff and maintenance staff is greatly increased. HHW participants appreciate this added option and benefit from this expansion.

The Program urges counties to submit their recommended dates by December 1, 2025 so that staff may schedule the upcoming year's events by mid-January 2026. The Department will post the mobile event schedule at <http://tn.gov/environment/hhw/schedule> for public review.

Individual Counties-Participation-Table 1 of 3						
Event Date	County	Participation	Cost	cost/HH	cost/lb.	lbs./HH
3/23/2024	Bradley	84	\$8,565.79	\$101.97	\$2.60	\$39.26
4/27/2024	Coffee	105	\$8,451.55	\$80.49	\$2.34	\$34.41
4/27/2024	Dyer	47	\$3,593.32	\$76.45	\$2.84	\$26.94
4/20/2024	Fayette	66	\$7,238.67	\$109.68	\$2.37	\$46.30
4/20/2024	Franklin	207	\$9,928.40	\$47.96	\$3.13	\$15.30
3/16/2024	Gibson	20	\$2,384.86	\$119.24	\$2.17	\$55.05
4/6/2024	Hamblen	57	\$7,911.87	\$138.80	\$2.81	\$49.33
4/27/2024	Hawkins	24	\$2,305.44	\$96.06	\$2.86	\$33.58
4/13/2024	Henderson	40	\$3,961.90	\$99.05	\$2.98	\$33.28
5/11/2024	Humphreys	34	\$3,754.18	\$110.42	\$2.79	\$39.56
4/13/2024	Lawrence	25	\$3,389.49	\$135.58	\$2.99	\$45.40
4/6/2024	Lincoln	111	\$10,622.58	\$95.70	\$2.82	\$33.95
4/27/2024	Macon	18	\$1,012.94	\$56.27	\$2.01	\$27.94
5/18/2024	Madison	89	\$7,154.85	\$80.39	\$2.93	\$27.42
5/11/2024	Meigs	31	\$1,666.27	\$53.75	\$2.78	\$19.32
3/16/2024	Montgomery	278	\$22,932.66	\$82.49	\$2.75	\$29.97
4/13/2024	Pickett	8	\$354.68	\$44.34	\$2.46	\$18.00
3/9/2024	Roane	65	\$5,891.42	\$90.64	\$3.36	\$27.00
5/11/2024	Robertson	91	\$5,557.41	\$61.07	\$2.83	\$21.55
4/6/2024	Rutherford	170	\$14,222.32	\$83.66	\$2.28	\$36.74
5/18/2024	Stewart	32	\$1,773.15	\$55.41	\$1.77	\$31.31
5/4/2024	Tipton	110	\$10,287.61	\$93.52	\$2.84	\$32.93
5/4/2024	Trousdale	11	\$722.55	\$65.69	\$2.24	\$29.36
5/18/2024	Van Buren	8	\$1,068.80	\$133.60	\$3.87	\$34.50
4/20/2024	Washington	142	\$15,809.76	\$111.34	\$2.46	\$45.26
5/4/2024	Williamson	536	\$62,727.94	\$117.03	\$2.98	\$39.29
	Season Totals	2,409	\$223,290.41	\$92.69	\$2.74	\$33.79

Individual Counties-Participation-Table 2A of 3 (Weight in Pounds)								
County	Flammable Liquids	Non Flam Liquid	Poisonous Material	Acid	Caustics	Oxidizers	Reactives	Dry Cell Batteries
Bradley	578	1,156	700	44	152	280		
Coffee	526	1,378	766	97	244	83		
Dyer	156	318	518	35	36	12		
Fayette	903		588	41	186	21		
Franklin	508	553	1,317	102	251	40		
Gibson	34	546	147		9	91		
Hamblen	288	630	1,273	43	107			
Hawkins	182		235	67	31	4		
Henderson	231	281	327	171	109	13		
Humphreys	554		458	90	37	40		
Lawrence	44	328	326	39	92		19	
Lincoln	387	1,163	1,239	294	265	31		1
Macon	258		108	15	25			
Madison	269	674	832	35	116	2	104	
Meigs	265		133	37	86	3		
Montgomery	1,712	1,939	2,656	339	510	60		
Pickett	18		29		3			
Roane	109	396	782	89	110	47	2	
Robertson	711		932	56	56	13		
Rutherford	993	1,956	1,618	119	170	61		
Stewart	590		105	28	59			
Tipton	516	893	1,464	117	163	17		
Trousdale	8	105	36	11	22			
Van Buren			210		19			
Washington	1,037	1,267	1,827	189	348	31	4	
Williamson	3,760	2,201	9,438	588	1,247	41		
Season Totals	14,637	15,784	28,064	2,646	4,453	890	129	1

Individual Counties-Participation-Table 2B of 3 (Weight in Pounds)							
County	Oil Paint	Aerosols/ Compressed Gas	Mercury	Fluorescent Lamps	Fire Extinguishers (not lbs)	Sharps	Total
Bradley		177		167	1	43	3,298
Coffee		209	2	293		15	3,613
Dyer		104		52	1	34	1,266
Fayette	1,009	233		43	8	24	3,056
Franklin		379		15		2	3,167
Gibson	176	38	2	52		6	1,101
Hamblen		178	1	230		62	2,812
Hawkins	208	54	5	3		17	806
Henderson		119	3	60		17	1,331
Humphreys	30	58		19		59	1,345
Lawrence	177	100	2	5		3	1,135
Lincoln		238	1	137		12	3,768
Macon	50	21		15		11	503
Madison	114	122	1	140		31	2,440
Meigs		69				6	599
Montgomery		884	7	166		60	8,333
Pickett	59	22		2		11	144
Roane		199	1	18		2	1,755
Robertson		121	1	50		21	1,961
Rutherford	624	411	2	152		140	6,246
Stewart	123	76		21			1,002
Tipton		356		67		29	3,622
Trousdale	101	40					323
Van Buren		23		24			276
Washington	1,169	403	2	127		23	6,427
Williamson	1,860	1,623	7	171		126	21,062
Season Totals	5,700	6,257	37	2,029	10	754	81,391

HHW County Participation Comparison Table 3 of 3			
County	Spring 24	Spring 23	Spring 24/23
Coffee	105	132	-20.45%
Dyer	47	41	14.63%
Fayette	66	46	43.48%
Franklin	207	202	2.48%
Hamblen	57	45	26.67%
Henderson	40	40	0.00%
Humphreys	34	55	-38.18%
Lawrence	25	23	8.70%
Lincoln	111	98	13.27%
Madison	89	190	-53.16%
Meigs	31	14	121.43%
Montgomery	278	183	51.91%
Roane	65	84	-22.62%
Robertson	91	41	121.95%
Rutherford	170	175	-2.86%
Stewart	32	47	-31.91%
Tipton	110	75	46.67%
Trousdale	11	6	83.33%
Washington	142	100	42.00%
Williamson	536	437	22.65%
Households	2,247	2,034	21.50%

The Spring 2024 HHW event season ended with 26 counties hosting 2,409 households versus 27 counties and 2,279 households in Spring 2023. A 21.5% increase in participation from the 2023 Spring season can be seen when evaluated using same counties. Six counties that had a Spring 2024 event did not have an event in Spring 2023.



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