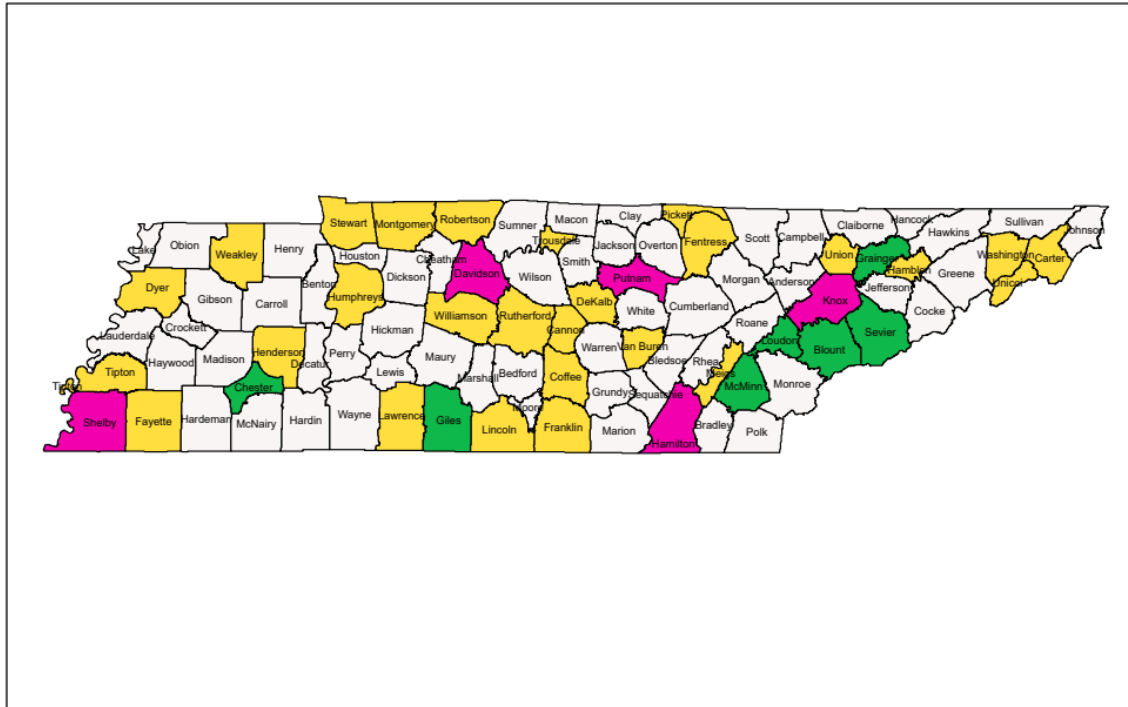


HHW Spring 2025



Permanent HHW

Davidson, Hamilton, Knox, Putnam, Shelby

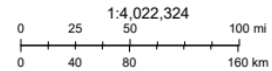
Spring Mobile Events 2025

Coffee, Cannon, Carter, DeKalb, Dyer, Fayette, Fentress, Franklin, Henderson, Humphreys, Hamblen, Lawrence, Lincoln, Meigs, Montgomery, Pickett, Robertson, Rutherford, Stewart, Tipton, Trousdale, Unicoi, Union, Van Buren, Washington, Weakley, Williamson

Temporary Containers

Blount, Chester, Sevier, McMinn, Loudon, Grainger, Giles

Other



Spring 2025 Mobile HHW Analysis Season Report



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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 383,000 Tennessee families safely disposing of over 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 2025 Spring HHW (March 15th – May 17th) event season ended with 27 counties hosting 2,175 households versus 26 counties and 2,409 households in Spring 2024. The season saw a 13.94% increase in participation when evaluated among counties with comparative events in Spring 2024 (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 2025, the containers collected 8,589 lbs. of HHW via one milk run.

The season concluded with a total of 167,636 pounds of discarded household hazardous waste that was collected in the combined 56 events (28 milk runs of oil-based paint, bulbs, and other HHW for a total of 95,511 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 \$220,154.12 (milk runs, \$30,325.53 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); 2,102 pounds
- Corrosive Bases (Drano, sodium hydroxide); 3,836 pounds
- Pesticides, herbicides, rat poisons, insecticides, animal medications; 21,183 pounds
- Flammables, gasoline, charcoal lighter, kerosene, paint thinners; 13,307 pounds
- Aerosols, paint, health & beauty aids, insecticides, lubricants, cleaners; 5,166 pounds
- Mercury; 24 pounds
- Oxidizers, bleach, chlorine, pool sanitizers; spa and hot tub sanitizers; 654 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. 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
4/12/2025	Cannon	28	\$2,984.73	\$106.60	\$3.10	34.36
3/22/2025	Carter	77	\$4,935.18	\$64.09	\$3.01	21.30
4/26/2025	Coffee	138	\$9,249.22	\$67.02	\$2.26	29.59
3/15/2025	DeKalb	4	\$1,370.96	\$342.74	\$1.14	300.00
4/26/2025	Dyer	62	\$3,066.73	\$49.46	\$2.48	19.95
5/3/2025	Fayette	34	\$3,536.75	\$104.02	\$2.36	44.03
4/5/2025	Fentress	8	\$735.80	\$91.98	\$4.00	23.00
3/29/2025	Franklin	156	\$7,076.89	\$45.36	\$2.96	15.30
3/15/2025	Hamblen	194	\$5,146.54	\$26.53	\$3.60	7.38
4/12/2025	Henderson	20	\$3,865.07	\$193.25	\$3.10	62.35
5/10/2025	Humphreys	54	\$3,517.81	\$65.14	\$3.00	21.69
3/29/2025	Lawrence	37	\$2,912.63	\$78.72	\$3.75	21.00
4/5/2025	Lincoln	101	\$4,626.99	\$45.81	\$2.67	17.17
4/5/2025	Meigs	17	\$1,707.61	\$100.45	\$2.50	40.12
3/22/2025	Montgomery	247	\$17,662.16	\$71.51	\$3.04	23.54
4/26/2025	Pickett	18	\$3,811.83	\$211.77	\$3.86	54.89
5/10/2025	Robertson	52	\$6,092.83	\$117.17	\$3.08	38.00
4/5/2025	Rutherford	187	\$13,096.58	\$70.04	\$2.08	33.60
5/17/2025	Stewart	33	\$3,073.36	\$93.13	\$2.69	34.58
5/10/2025	Tipton	45	\$2,728.80	\$60.64	\$2.33	25.98
3/22/2025	Trousdale	19	\$3,259.16	\$171.53	\$2.49	68.89
5/3/2025	Unicoi	61	\$6,384.71	\$104.67	\$2.34	44.66
3/22/2025	Union	26	\$2,706.10	\$104.08	\$3.18	32.77
5/17/2025	Van Buren	6	\$222.00	\$37.00	\$0.82	45.00
4/12/2025	Washington	196	\$16,554.24	\$84.46	\$3.13	26.96
3/29/2025	Weakley	26	\$3,105.76	\$119.45	\$3.09	38.69
5/3/2025	Williamson	329	\$43,397.85	\$131.91	\$3.00	44.03
	Season Totals	2,175	\$176,828.29	\$102.17	\$2.78	43.29

Individual Counties-Participation-Table 2A of 3 (Weight in Pounds)							
County	Flammable Liquids	Non Flam Liquid	Poisonous Material	Acid	Oxidizers	Caustics	Reactives
Cannon	54	239	550	17		30	
Carter	130	324	627	62	28	134	
Coffee	1,081	1,309	907	84	64	237	
DeKalb	545					48	
Dyer	135	467	347	51	7	42	
Fayette	395	385	496	19	2	43	
Fentress			172	3			
Franklin	610	284	698	112	9	193	
Hamblen	66	266	608	62	13	138	
Henderson	62	370	566	54	2	113	
Humphreys	220	158	468	21	2	68	1
Lawrence	325	93	160	26	48	33	
Lincoln	319	526	513	30		99	
Meigs	341		256	21		51	
Montgomery	676	1,526	2,152	185	62	436	3
Pickett	214		508	37	103	28	
Robertson	456	180	645	146	48	123	
Rutherford	1,316	2,454	1,398	149	39	216	8
Stewart	499		410	22		74	
Tipton	611		291	43	7	67	
Trousdale	157	281	394	19		73	
Unicoi	264	377	690	81	7	88	
Union	329		127	2	1	340	
Van Buren	236					6	
Washington	925	709	2,155	309		392	
Weakley	165	142	566	27		27	
Williamson	3,176	1,468	5,479	520	212	737	
Season Totals	13,307	11,558	21,183	2,102	654	3,836	12

Individual Counties-Participation-Table 2B of 3 (Weight in Pounds)						
County	Oil Paint	Aerosols/ Compressed Gas	Mercury	Fluorescent Lamps	Sharps	Total
Cannon		32		24	16	962
Carter		63	3	228	41	1,640
Coffee		197	1	178	26	4,084
DeKalb	52	18		537		1,200
Dyer		102		65	21	1,237
Fayette		90	1	45	21	1,497
Fentress				9		184
Franklin		391		90		2,387
Hamblen		262		1	15	1,431
Henderson		56		20	4	1,247
Humphreys		143	1	79	10	1,171
Lawrence		75	2	15		777
Lincoln		245	2			1,734
Meigs		11			2	682
Montgomery		649		91	34	5,814
Pickett		60	2	5	31	988
Robertson		179	6	189	4	1,976
Rutherford	272	234	2	86	109	6,283
Stewart		119		17		1,141
Tipton		83	1	52	14	1,169
Trousdale	293	77	1	14		1,309
Unicoi	1,007	123		70	17	2,724
Union		45		8		852
Van Buren				27	1	270
Washington		514	1	206	73	5,284
Weakley		40		38	1	1,006
Williamson	1,331	1,358	1	116	89	14,487
Season Totals	2,955	5,166	24	2,210	529	63,536

HHW County Participation Comparison Table 3 of 3			
County	Spring 25	Spring 24	Spring 25/24
Coffee	138	105	31.43%
Dyer	62	47	31.91%
Fayette	34	66	-48.48%
Franklin	156	207	-24.64%
Hamblen	194	57	240.35%
Henderson	20	40	-50.00%
Humphreys	54	34	58.82%
Lawrence	37	25	48.00%
Lincoln	101	111	-9.01%
Meigs	17	31	-45.16%
Montgomery	247	278	-11.15%
Pickett	18	8	125.00%
Robertson	52	170	-69.41%
Rutherford	187	170	10.00%
Stewart	33	32	3.13%
Tipton	45	110	-59.09%
Trousdale	19	11	72.73%
Van Buren	6	8	-25.00%
Washington	196	142	38.03%
Williamson	329	536	-38.62%
Households	1,945	2,188	13.94%

The Spring 2025 HHW event season ended with 27 counties hosting 2,175 households versus 26 counties and 2,409 households in Spring 2024. A 13.94% increase in participation from the 2024 Spring season can be seen when evaluated using same counties. Seven counties that had a Spring 2025 event did not have an event in Spring 2024.



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