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Shelby Township to host hazardous household waste collection

LATEX PAINT TO BE ACCEPTED FOR FIRST TIME

BY SARAH WOJCIK

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SHELBY TOWNSHIP — From 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, April 30, the Solid Waste and Recycling Committee will host the township's 18th annual hazardous household waste collection event at the municipal building.

New this year will be the acceptance of latex paint, which organizers say residents have been requesting for years.

Although latex paint is not a hazardous material when mixed with cat litter and dried, Solid Waste and Recycling Committee Chairwoman Marietta Crabtree said a lot of residents, especially seniors, did not want to

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Collection

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deal with the extra steps to dispose of latex paint.

"We can't have it collected in liquid form because when the (garbage) truck compacts things, the paint will go down the street," Crabtree said.

Crabtree said Trustee Paula Filar, the committee's Board of Trustees liaison, was instrumental in renegotiating the committee's contract with Rizzo Environmental Services last year to include the disposal of latex paint.

"Most people don't use oil-based paints anymore. Most people do use the latex because it's not really considered toxic," Filar said. "I think we really are grateful that we have always been able to work with a waste provider who is willing to add in hazardous waste collection one time a year in their contract."

The hazardous household waste collection is limited to Shelby Township single-family residential customers of Rizzo.

Accepted items include pesticides, herbicides, oil, gasoline, an-

tifreeze, paint thinner, car batteries, household batteries, tube and compact fluorescent bulbs, devices containing mercury, oil-based paint, latex paint and medications.

Residents should remove non-controlled medications from their containers or blister packs and place pills in Ziploc bags. They should leave controlled medications in their bottles and remove personal information.

The Shelby Lions Club will also collect eyeglasses at the event.

Items that will not be accepted include smoke detectors, explosives, fire extinguishers, propane cylinders, medical waste, ammunition and trash.

"We usually have around 700-800 cars come in (during the hazardous household waste collection event)," Crabtree said.

The township's monthly electronics recycling event also will take place Saturday, April 30, at the municipal building from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Shelby Township residents may recycle all electronics, including cathode ray tube TVs, free of charge. Nonresidents may recycle all electronics for free, except CRT

TVs. Organizers request a \$1 donation per car to support the township's community giveback program for charities working the electronics recycling event.

"We want people to use the south entrance and, for people bringing household hazards, it will be helpful if they have their driver's license, because we have

to check that they're residents," Crabtree said. "Containers and things should be stabilized in their trunks in boxes, and we would prefer for safety reasons that they remain in their car and just pop their trunk."

The municipal building is located at 52700 Van Dyke Ave., south of 24 Mile Road.

For more information about Shelby Township's hazardous household waste collection or electronics recycling events, call the Shelby Township Department of Public Works at (586) 726-7272 or visit www.shelbytwp.org/recycling.

Call Staff Writer Sarah Wojcik at (586) 498-1029.

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Photo provided by Marietta Crabtree

Cars line up during the township's annual hazardous household waste collection event last April at the municipal grounds.