

Free Product Centers

At both Hennepin County Drop-off Facilities, residents 18 years and older may pick up products that have been screened for reuse. These are located at Free Product Centers at each facility. For more information on the Free Product Centers, go to www.hennepin.us/dropoffs.



Common items found at the Free Product Centers include:

- Automotive products
- Adhesives and glues
- Aerosols
- Cleaners
- Latex paint
- Oil-based paint
- Oil-based stain



Guidelines and limits

Residents must be 18 years and older to pick up items. The county does not guarantee these products, and items selected by residents are used at their own risk. For the safety of those inside the Drop-off Facilities, park your car in the parking lot and walk to the building to use the Free Product Centers. Reselling products is prohibited.

The county limits the number of items that a person can take.

- Aerosol cans: 2 per week
- Electronics (available at Bloomington only): 1 per week
- No more than 10 items total per week



Hennepin County Drop-off Facilities

Brooklyn Park

Brooklyn Park Transfer Station and Recycling Center

Full and self service areas

8100 Jefferson Highway
Brooklyn Park, 55445



Bloomington

South Hennepin Recycling and Problem Waste Drop-off Center

Full service only

1400 W 96th St.
Bloomington, 55431



Facility hours

Tuesday, Thursday, Friday10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Wednesday10 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Saturday8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Closed Sundays, Mondays and holidays

Open to residents of Hennepin, Anoka, Carver, Dakota, Ramsey and Washington Counties

What to bring:

- Proof of residency, such as a driver's license or utility bill
- Payment, if applicable – cash, check or credit card

For the most current facility information go to www.hennepin.us/dropoffs or call 612-348-3777.

- Attention If you want help translating this information, call 612-348-3777
- Atencion Si desea recibir asistencia gratuita para traducir esta información, llama 612-348-3777
- Ogow Haddii aad dooneyso in lagaa kaalmeeyo tarjamadda macluumaadkani oo laceg la' aan wac 612-348-3777
- Ceeb toom Yog koj xav tau kev pab txhais cov xov no rau koj dawb, hu 612-348-3777
- TDD/TTY 612-596-6985



Hennepin County Public Works

Environment and Energy
www.hennepin.us/dropoffs
environment@hennepin.us
612-348-3777

34-501-03-15

What happens to this stuff?



What happens to this stuff?

About 100,000 participants bring waste items to Hennepin County's Drop-off Facilities and collection events each year. Waste is then managed by the county in the most environmentally conscious, cost effective method possible.

The products brought to drop-off facilities travel different paths as they leave Hennepin County. Many are processed in the United States, while others travel internationally to commodities markets.

Batteries

Some batteries contain toxic metals like lead and mercury. The acid contained within them can also be hazardous. Batteries are shipped to a recycling facility in the United States where the acid is neutralized, toxic metals are contained, and reusable metals are separated and recycled. The recycled metals are sold to international commodities markets. Check with your local battery retailer to see if they offer recycling of batteries.



Tires

Tires are consolidated, shipped to a vendor in the United States, and recycled for use as sub-grade material in roads, fill in retaining walls, septic system installations, for drainage in rain gardens, or incinerated. Most tire retailers will properly dispose of your old tires when they are replaced. Check with your tire shop before getting tires replaced to save a trip.



Latex (water-based) paint

Paint is harmful to humans, animals, ecosystems and water supplies. Mercury was used as a preservative in latex paints until 1991. Good paint is made available for reuse in the Free Product Center at the drop-off facilities. If it does not qualify, it is shipped to a paint recycler in Minneapolis. Depending on the quality of the paint, it is either made into new paint, or solidified and ground for use in cement production. Check with your local paint retailer to see if they will take your leftover paint when you are done with it.



Oil-based paint, stain, sealer, etc.

Oil-based paint contains chemicals that can be harmful to humans, animals, ecosystems and water supplies. Good paint is made available for reuse in the Free Product Center at the drop-off facilities. If it does not qualify, it is shipped to various facilities in the United States where it is used as a fuel in cement production. Check with your local paint retailer to see if they will take your paint cans when you are done with them.



Mercury and mercury-containing products

Mercury is toxic to humans and wildlife. Mercury is consolidated and sent to a facility in the United States to be reclaimed. Common products that contain mercury include: thermostats, compact fluorescent bulbs and thermometers.



Appliances and Electronics

Many household appliances and electronics contain toxic substances such as mercury, PCBs, and Freon. These appliances are consolidated at the drop-off facility and then sent to a local vendor where they are broken down into components. The mercury is reclaimed, PCBs are processed for metals, Freon is captured and reused, and metals and plastics are recycled. Wood and some plastics are incinerated to produce energy. At the drop-off facility in Bloomington, usable electronics are placed in the Free Product Center.



Pesticides (poisons)

Pesticides are harmful to humans, animals, ecosystems, and water supplies. Pesticides are shipped to a hazardous waste facility in the United States and incinerated.



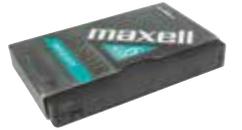
Mattresses

Mattresses brought to the drop-off facility in Brooklyn Park are recycled in Minneapolis. Padding and upholstery are removed to be used in oil cleanup projects in the western United States. Wood frames are reused or incinerated for energy. Springs are reused or recycled and sold to international commodities markets.



Media (VHS tapes, DVDs, CDs, etc.)

Media is sent to various recyclers in the United States who shred the plastic. Plastic is then sold to manufacturers that will produce new items from recycled plastic resin.



Scrap metal

Scrap metal is sent to a recycler in the United States who separates it by metal type and then sends it to a smelter or furnace where it is melted and formed into large blocks. These are purchased by companies who create products out of them.



General household recycling (glass, cans, paper, cartons, plastic)

Materials are collected at our drop-off facilities and shipped to a local recycling facility where they are sorted, baled, and sold to various markets. Plastics are shredded, glass is broken down into pellets, paper is processed down to pulp and these raw materials are sold to manufacturers that will produce new products from them.



Organics

Food scraps, soiled paper, food-service items and certified compostable plastic foodware are delivered to a composting facility in the Twin Cities. After six to nine months, the material has been recycled into compost that is put to good use in landscaping and road construction projects. Finished compost is an organic-rich soil amendment that is used to improve soils, prevent soil erosion and runoff, and capture carbon dioxide for climate protection.

