

Vermont Household Hazardous Waste EPR Law Covered Products



The Vermont Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Law ([Act 58 of 2023](#)) requires manufacturers of “covered household hazardous products” to provide free statewide collection of covered products. Manufacturers must allow all municipal HHW collection programs operated by Vermont’s municipal solid waste management entities (“SWMEs”) to opt to be a part of the collection plan.

What is a covered household hazardous product?

Below are categories of products that may be considered “covered” under Vermont’s HHW EPR law. A “covered household hazardous product” means a consumer product offered for retail sale in Vermont that meets the following characteristics:

- a. The product must be a consumer product (defined as products regularly used or purchased to be used for personal, family, or household purposes), **and**
- b. The product must be contained in the receptacle in which the product is offered for retail sale; **and** the product must meet either of the following:
 - I. The product or a component of the product is a hazardous waste under subchapter 2 of the [Vermont Hazardous Waste Management Regulations](#) regardless of the status of the generator (generator is the person who generates the waste brought for collection, it is not the manufacturer in this instance) of the hazardous waste; **or**
 - II. The product is a gas cylinder. See below for details on gas cylinders.

- Aerosols (flammable or toxic)
- Automotive products and cleaners
- Corrosive cleaning products
- Fabric dye
- Flammable degreasers
- Flammable lubricants
- Flammable liquid adhesives
- Flammable nail polish and nail polish remover
- Furniture strippers
- Glues and adhesives
- Grout/masonry cleaners
- Non-bleach corrosive cleaners
- Lamp kerosene
- Lighter fluid
- Marine, auto, traffic and road paints
- Marine and road flares
- Metal polishes, cleaners, etching solutions
- Nicotine vaping devices
- Paint thinners, solvents, and removers
- Rug/upholstery cleaner
- Rust remover
- Tar and bug remover
- Gas cylinders:
 - Non refillable Helium, spray foam insulation tanks, CO₂, or other flammable pressurized gas (up to 50 pounds water capacity. Medical or industrial grade not covered)
 - Single-use and rechargeable handheld fire extinguishers (up to 50lbs water capacity)
 - Small Propane up to one pound (refillable and non-refillable)

This list may not be inclusive of all possible types of covered products, and not all products within product categories may be considered “covered”. Manufacturers of products are obligated to determine whether their products are covered as defined in this statute. Manufacturers can contact the ANR-DEC, Vermont Solid Waste Program (802-828-1138, VTrecycles.com) if they would like assistance determining if a product is “covered.”

What products are NOT covered by the HHW EPR law?

Products that are required to be registered with the VT Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets (AAFM) Pesticide Registration Law are exempt from the HHW EPR law, such as:

- a. Pesticides
- b. Pool and Hot Tub Cleaners
- c. Insect Repellents
- d. Turf Products, and
- e. Cleaning Products containing Bleach with antimicrobial claims.

All AAFM-registered pesticide products are not covered under HHW EPR law but may still be collected with other HHW products. VT AAFM uses manufacturers registration fees to defray pesticide collection costs.

Other products not covered by the law—some of which may have existing EPR programs—include:

- a. Any product sold only for industrial or business to business use
- b. A product not contained in the receptacle in which the product is offered for retail sale
- c. An empty covered household hazardous product container (note that empty gas cylinders are covered)
- d. An unlabeled covered household hazardous product container
- e. Primary and Rechargeable Batteries (see Vermont’s “Special Recycling” EPR program page)
- f. Mercury-Containing Lamps and Thermostats (see Vermont’s “Special Recycling” EPR program page)
- g. Architectural Paint and Primers (see Vermont’s “Special Recycling” EPR program page)
- h. Covered Electronic Devices (see Vermont’s “Special Recycling” EPR program page)
- i. Pharmaceutical Drugs
- j. Citronella Candles
- k. Flea and Tick Collars
- l. Any products intended to be rubbed, poured, sprinkled on, sprayed on, introduced into, or otherwise applied to the human body or any part of a human for cleansing, moisturizing, sun protection, beautifying, promoting attractiveness, or altering appearance, unless designated as a hazardous material or a hazardous waste by the Secretary of Natural Resources.

Additional Resources:

[VT HHW EPR web page](#)

[Resources for determining Pesticide Registration Status](#)

[VT Hazardous Waste Management Regulations](#)

Solid Waste Management Program
802-828-1138
www.VTrecycles.com

