



For Immediate Release:

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Adams County Household Chemical and Electronic Waste Roundups Announced for 2010

Tri-County Health Department will operate two separate Household Chemical and Electronic Waste Roundup events for Adams County in 2010:

- **May 1**, Hyland Hills Water World, 88th and Pecos in Federal Heights. 9:00am – 3:00pm.
- **September 18**, Thornton Infrastructure Maintenance Center (IMC) Facility, 12450 Washington Street in Thornton. 9:00am – 3:00pm.

Both events are open to residents of Adams County, including residents of Commerce City, Federal Heights, Thornton and unincorporated Adams County. Participants will be asked for a driver's license, water bill, utility bill or phone bill to verify residence. People do not even have to get out of their vehicles as they drive through the Roundup, since volunteers help unload the materials.

In 2009, a total of 957 Adams County households participated in Adams County's Household Chemical and Electronic Waste Roundups, safely disposing of more than 34 tons of hazardous materials. This included 5,833 pounds of pesticides, 65 pounds of mercury-containing devices, 2,580 gallons of hazardous liquids and more than 20 tons of paint and paint products. If not for the Roundups, this waste might have ended up in creeks and rivers or disposed of illegally on other people's property.

Participants at the events may get rid of leftover paint and paint products, motor oil, antifreeze, vehicle batteries, rechargeable batteries, household cleaners, lawn and garden chemicals, fluorescent light bulbs, CFLs, scrap metal, fire extinguishers, fireworks, ammunition, items containing mercury, propane tanks, passenger vehicle tires, and pickup truck tires. Residents may also recycle electronic products, such as computers, televisions, cell phones, VCRs, DVD players and other similar products. There is an \$8 dollar charge for PC monitors, a \$15 dollar charge for any size TV, and a charge for all other electronics ranging from free to \$2 per item.

There will also be a FREE Drop-and-Swap area where people can leave or take household cleaners, paint products, car wax, antifreeze, fertilizer and garden products that are still in their original

containers. Sharing these products helps the environment, since the products get used up, rather than becoming part of landfill trash. The Drop-and-Swap also helps reduce the Roundup's disposal costs.

The events are offered free-of-charge to residents, except for the additional charges for electronics, and a \$2 charge per tire. A contribution of \$20 dollars per participant is requested to help offset the high costs of hazardous waste disposal, which can cost more than \$100 per household through a private company.

The Roundups cannot accept waste from businesses, and are not able to accept radioactive waste, smoke detectors, oil drums, asbestos, explosives stronger than fireworks, or any compressed gases other than propane.

Residents with water-based latex paint products are encouraged to dry the paint at home by mixing in an absorbent such as kitty litter, sand or dirt, and then disposing of the dried paint with their regular garbage. Solidified latex paint is not considered a hazardous waste, and properly disposing of it at home will significantly help lower the Roundup's disposal costs.

Volunteers are greatly needed at the events to help with registration, vehicle off-load, and waste processing. Volunteers are provided with free food throughout the day, a gift for helping out at the event, and are allowed to dispose of their waste for free. Individuals and groups interested in helping with either of these events should contact Ethan Novikoff at (720) 322-1508.

The Household Chemical and Electronic Waste Roundups are sponsored by Adams County; the cities of Commerce City, Federal Heights, and Thornton; Darling International Inc.; Suncor Energy (USA) Inc., and Tri-County Health Department.

The Cities of Brighton and Northglenn are not participating in the two Adams County Household Chemical Roundups this year. This does not affect residents of Unincorporated Adams County who have Brighton or Northglenn addresses, since anyone in Unincorporated Adams County is eligible to attend. Brighton residents should contact the Brighton Utilities Department at (303) 655-2082, and Northglenn residents are encouraged to contact the Northglenn Solid Waste Division at (303) 450-4004 for more information and a list of disposal services. The Cities of Aurora and Westminster administer separate household hazardous waste collection programs, call: Aurora, (303) 739-7372; or Westminster, 303-658-2400 x 3362.

For more information, visit www.tchd.org/householdchemical.htm or call the 24-hour Household Chemical Roundup Infoline at (303) 846-6249. Recorded information is available in English and Spanish.