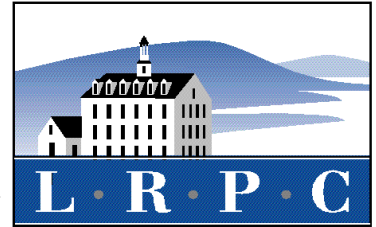


LAKES REGION PLANNING COMMISSION

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Lakes Region Household Hazardous Waste Collection 2013 Annual Report

The 2013 Lakes Region Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Collections were conducted in a safe and efficient manner on July 27, 2013 and August 3, 2013 at eight different locations. The event was coordinated by the Lakes Region Planning Commission (LRPC). 1,669 households participated in this annual collection; overall this represents 4.4% of the households in the twenty-four Lakes Region communities that participated in this year's HHW Collection. Five communities had local participation rates of more than 7%.

More than 75,000 pounds of HHW, 29,000 feet of fluorescent bulbs, and more than 2,800 compact fluorescent bulbs (CFLs) were disposed of properly through these collections. Oil-based paint products and other petroleum products such as old gas comprise the majority of the hazardous products brought to the collection. Residents are encouraged to use latex paint when possible, for it is not considered a hazardous material in New Hampshire and any residue can be dried out and disposed of in the household trash.

One-third of those attending this year's collections had never attended an HHW collection in the Lakes Region. More than half the people participating in the survey indicated that they have used alternatives to household hazardous products. More than two-thirds of the survey respondents indicated that they would like to see more collection of unused medications in the region. It should be noted that more and more Lakes Region communities have been participating in the National Prescription Drug Take-Back Days in April and October as well as year-round collections through local police departments.

We appreciate the efforts of the more than sixty volunteers and municipal staff whose assistance in publicizing and staffing the collection sites helps make these regional collections possible. While this year we had a number of new helpers, we also were able to recognize the sustained contributions of twenty-three individuals, each of whom has assisted with at least ten Lakes Region HHW collections and five individuals have been with us for twenty years or more!

The next Lakes Region Household Hazardous Waste Collections will be held July 26, 2014 and August 2, 2014. All residents and property owners in participating communities are encouraged to take this opportunity to safely dispose of your household hazardous products. For more information, check with your local coordinator or LRPC (<http://www.lakesrpc.org/serviceshhw.asp>) for details.