

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Household Hazardous Waste, Benefits and Costs**

Do you have some old pesticides or household cleaners you no longer want, but are not sure how to get rid of them? The Tehama County Solid Waste Management Agency (Agency) has your answer. The Agency operates two permanent Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facilities located at the Tehama County/Red Bluff Landfill, 19995 Plymire Rd. Red Bluff, and Corning Disposal, 3281 Hwy 99W, Corning. Both facilities are open on select Saturdays each month from 8:00am-12:00pm for residents. Residents can drop off 15 gallons or 125 pounds of Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) per trip free of charge.

While residents are not charged at the time of drop off, it does cost the Agency to dispose of HHW. For example, in the last six months we recycled 6400 pounds of alkaline batteries with a recycling cost of \$0.62 per pound for a total of \$3,968. Other than the common HHW such as household cleaners, pesticides, fertilizers, spray paints and other aerosols, batteries, fluorescent tubes and CFLs; we also collect sharps, needles, and lancets at eight kiosks located throughout the county. In the past year we have collected 3,876 gallons of sharps for a total disposal cost of \$4,896. Funds from landfill tipping fees pay for HHW disposal and recycling costs.

As you can see, these programs are not entirely free. In addition to disposal costs there are Agency personnel costs to keep these programs running smoothly and effectively for our county residents. The costs to maintain these much needed programs, however, are nothing compared to the long term costs associated with clean up and remediation of land and groundwater that has been contaminated. By keeping HHW out of our landfill through proper disposal, we are protecting the water that all of us depend on while conserving the natural environment for future generations.

If you would like more information about HHW, facility operating days, or information on any of our other programs, please visit [www.tehamacountylandfill.com](http://www.tehamacountylandfill.com) or call (530)-528-1103.