



# NEWS RELEASE

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## **Local Partners Help Keep Lincoln Homes Hazard-Free**

In 2010, the Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) program at the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department (LLCHD) helped 2,287 Lancaster County residents safely dispose of 69,383 pounds of household hazardous waste, keeping it out of the landfill.

The waste included over 12,000 pounds of fuels, 4482 pounds of aerosols, approximately 2,000 pounds of corrosive liquids, and nearly 18,000 pounds of pesticides, among a variety of other hazardous substances. Some materials collected are safely recycled; others are transported to a specially-regulated incinerator.

The HHW program at LLCHD, which began in 1986, has been enhanced by collaboration with a number of community business or institutional partners, who have hosted and contributed to the collections: Pfizer, Inc. has hosted HHW collections for 13 years, and Veyance Technologies (formerly Goodyear) has sponsored collections since 2001. Other local partners have included Nebraska Wesleyan University (15 years) Union College (eight years), Lincoln Industries (four years), WalMart (two years), and Arnold Heights Neighborhood Association (one year).

HHW program staff is grateful to these partners, who have provided technical staff, traffic control at entrances and exits, and event promotion, as well as to the large number of community volunteers who have assisted at collections. The program is funded with a combination of the refuse hauler Occupation Tax, Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality Waste Reduction and Recycling Incentive Grant, and participant donations received at the collections.

The HHW staff reminds residents purchasing potentially hazardous household chemicals to buy only what they need; use and store the product safely and according to directions; use all the product or pass it on; and bring excess products to HHW collections.

Watch for the 2011 HHW Collection schedule in your spring water bills, call 442-8021, or check the city website: [www.lincoln.ne.gov](http://www.lincoln.ne.gov), keyword: household (click "2011 HHW Collection schedule").