



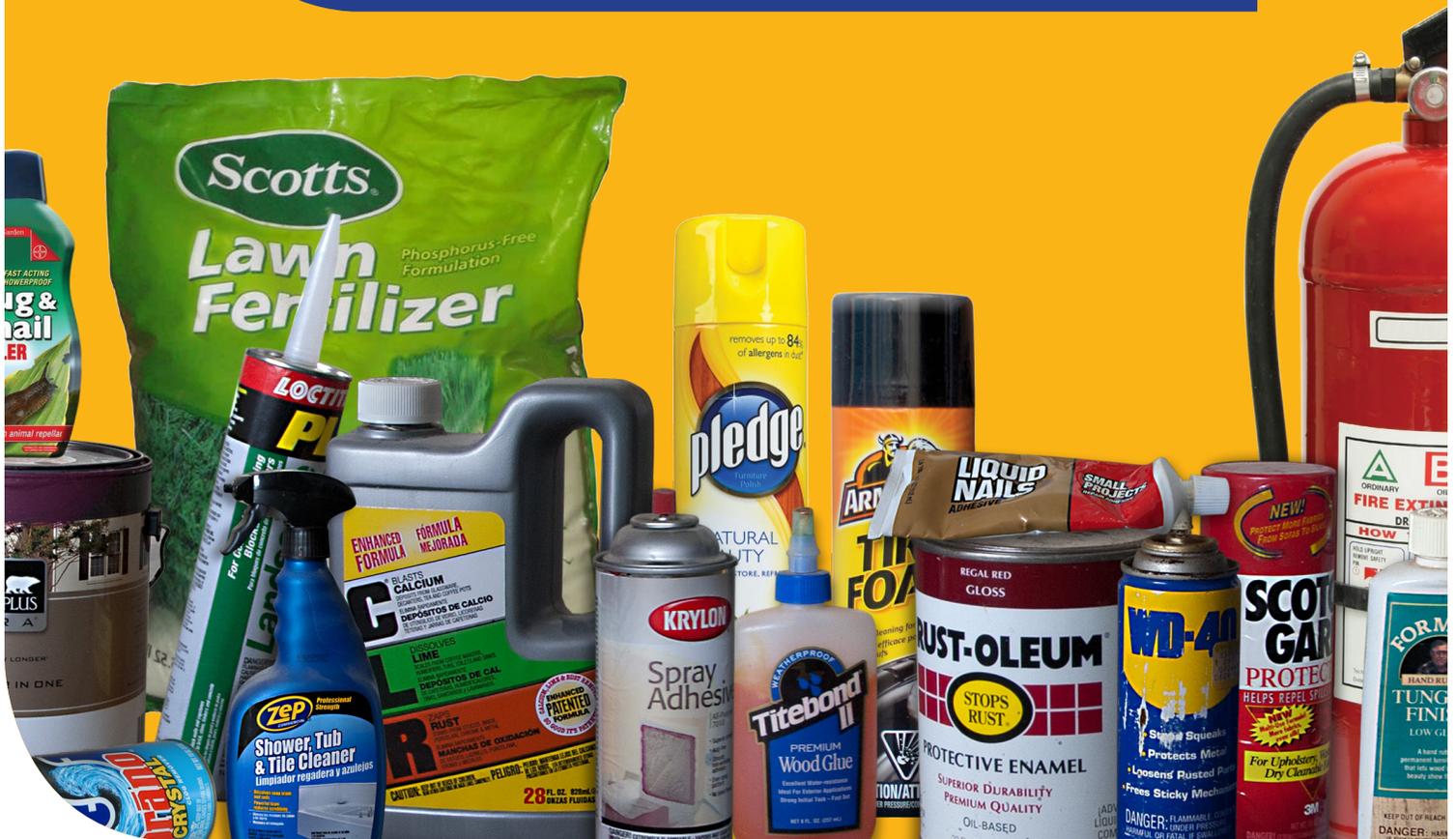
City of Tucson/Pima County

# HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE PROGRAM

ANNUAL REPORT – FISCAL YEAR 2013

## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS FOR FY 2013

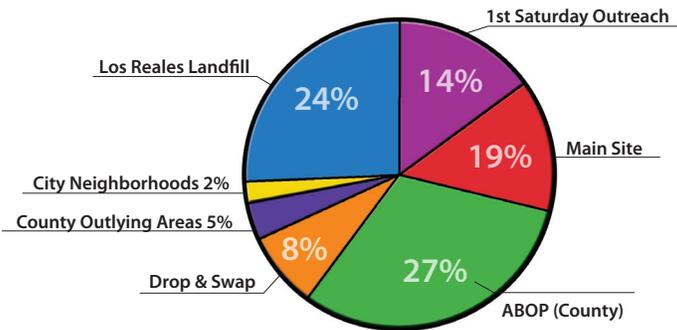
- Overall participation in 2013 was 33,301
- The Drop & Swap program returned 18,071 items to the community for reuse
- 22,635 gallons of latex paint were reused
- 48,886 pounds of waste were collected from small businesses through the Small Business Waste Assistance Program (SBWAP)
- Of the 488 tons collected, ninety-eight percent (98%) of the waste collected was recycled
- Program volunteers contributed over 2,221 service hours at collection and outreach events



## PROGRAM PARTICIPATION

Annual public participation in the Program is tracked in six different categories (listed in Figure 1) from zip code data collected at outreach sites and from estimates using total pounds at drop-off sites. Annually, all categories tend to fluctuate slightly due to operational changes that can affect participation. This year, in an effort to increase public participation and provide additional drop-off service days to the public, the Water Plant 2 collection site was moved to the 2nd Saturday. Monthly outreach collections are now offered on the 1st & 2nd Saturday of each month.

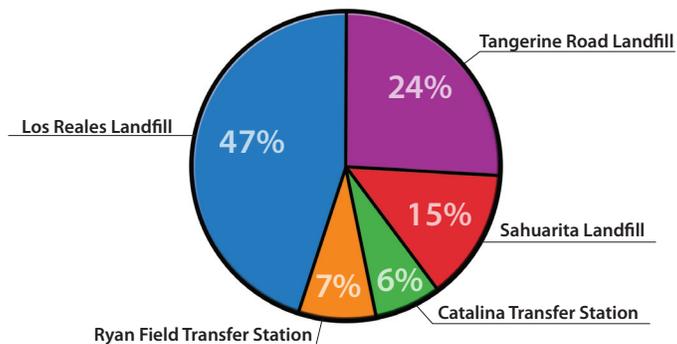
Figure 1. Participation distribution for FY 2013



## ANTI-FREEZE, BATTERIES, OIL AND PAINT (ABOP) COLLECTION STATIONS

ABOP participation is estimated based on total pounds collected at the ABOP drop-off sites. This year, full operational management of the City's Los Reales drop-off site was assumed by the HHW Program, and is now referred to as the HHW at Los Reales Landfill (HHW-LR) drop-off site. Total participation at HHW-LR is almost equal to that of the four County ABOPs.

Figure 2. FY 2013 Participation at the ABOP Stations



- 17,039 residents participated through one of the five ABOP stations;
- Almost half of the total ABOP participation is attributed to the Los Reales Landfill site;
- ABOP participation makes up 51% of program participation.

## DROP AND SWAP

Many of the materials dropped off at collection events are still useable products and redistribution of these products for their original intent saves money, natural resources, and time. Many of the items collected by the Program are still in good condition and the containers are often half-full to full. At the main collection site, useful products are available to residents at no cost, with the exception of latex paint.



Latex paint collected through the program is mixed and packaged in five gallon buckets. These are available for sale to the public at the Main Facility and the HHW-LR site during normal operating hours.

- ▶ 18,071 products were returned to the community for reuse, including 22,635 gallons of latex paint;
- ▶ The public saved an estimated \$210,000 in out-of-pocket expenses by using this service;
- ▶ An estimated \$48,000 in disposal expenses were avoided through redistribution.

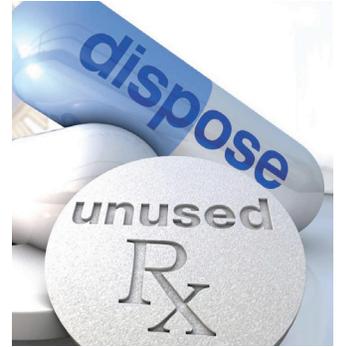
## SMALL BUSINESS WASTE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The SBWAP provides local businesses an option for disposing of hazardous materials generated at their business. Most new businesses registered through the SBWAP are referred through the Environmental Services customer service personnel. Any business that generates less than 220 pounds per month of regulated hazardous waste is eligible to dispose it through this service. Some materials can be accepted in larger quantities, including latex paints and used oil. New businesses are often guided in this process and provided the appropriate paperwork in order to register with the SBWAP.

- ▶ Total revenue this year was \$20,361;
- ▶ 34% of the participating businesses were newly registered with the SBWAP;
- ▶ Since the SBWAP was instituted in 1993, an estimated 735,000 pounds of hazardous waste have been collected from small businesses.

## WASTE STREAMS

Disposal of unused prescription and over-the-counter medications can negatively impact public health and the environment. Unused medications should not be flushed down the drains or toilets. Some chemicals found in medications are not completely removed in the wastewater treatment process and could end up in the environment. There are also dangers with unused medications getting into the wrong hands. Our national prescription drug abuse problem cannot be ignored. Every day, thousands of teenagers use a prescription drug to get high and thousands of people, including children, are seen in emergency rooms for unintentional overdoses of prescription and over-the-counter drugs.



This year, the program partnered with the Pima County Sheriff's Department to hold medication collection events at selected HHW drop-off sites. These events were highly successful and several hundred pounds of unused medications were collected for proper disposal. When special medications events are not available, residents may follow federal disposal guidelines and take their leftover medications out of their original container and throw them in the trash.

## EXPENSE/REVENUE SUMMARY

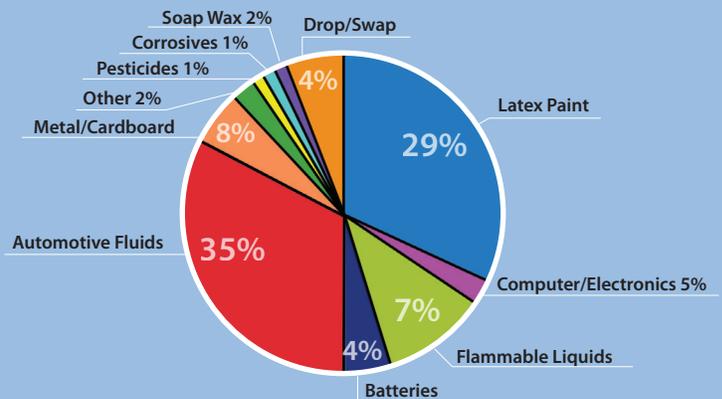
Maintaining long-term financial stability is always a Program goal. This year, City and budgets were affected by economic conditions. The Steering Committee and staff worked together to identify potential long-term solutions. Since latex paint is almost one third of the material accepted through the Program, one established goal focuses on the management of latex paint.

Currently, recycled latex paint is offered for sale to the public for \$10 per bucket for colored paint and \$15 per bucket for white paint. The nominal fee assessed helps to recover the costs associated with packaging the paint in new buckets with sealed lids. This paint is also available for graffiti abatement and purchased by neighborhood associations and community groups that actively remove graffiti from common area walls and concrete washes.

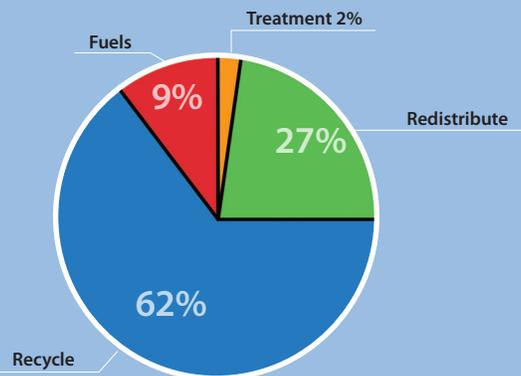
Additionally, fee based HHW collection events (Non-Standard HHW Collections) are now being offered to entities that may request additional services, including incorporated cities, businesses, and other organized residential communities. This year, a fee schedule for these events was established based on size of event and the first collection was held for Ventana Medical Systems, Inc. for its employees.

- ▶ Compared to last year, total Program expenses were up because of supply cost increases and increased equipment maintenance and replacement costs;
- ▶ Revenues of \$137,823 from the sale of scrap metal, lead-acid batteries, used oil and latex paint, SBWAP, and Non-Standard Collections helped offset total operational and disposal expenses;
- ▶ Total revenue generated this year from recycled latex paint was \$52,635.

**Figure 3. Materials diverted from the landfill and wastewater treatment plants**



**Ultimate fate of those diverted materials**



## COLLECTIONS

The Program maintains several convenient collection opportunities. Every Friday and Saturday, the main facility, located at 2440 W. Sweetwater Drive, is open to receive household hazardous materials from 8 a.m. to 12 noon. Residents from Sahuarita, Marana and Oro Valley are charged a \$5 fee to drop off HHW materials at the main site.

Monthly outreach collection sites are open on the first and second Saturday of every month (excluding holidays) from 8 a.m. to 12 noon. These outreach sites are located at:

- ▶ Eastside City Hall (1st Saturday)  
7575 E. Speedway Boulevard
- ▶ Tucson Water, Plant 2 (2nd Saturday)  
1102 W. Irvington Road

Antifreeze, Batteries, Oil, and Paint (ABOP) collection sites are available daily to residents during normal operating hours. ABOP Stations are located at:

- ▶ Los Reales, Sahuarita, & Tangerine Road Landfills
- ▶ Catalina & Ryan Field Transfer Stations

Non-Standard HHW Collections, fee based events, are offered to entities that may request additional services, including incorporated cities, businesses, and other organized residential communities. Additional information on this type of events, including the fee schedule, is posted on the website.

A pilot Home Pick-up Program was initiated this year by the City of Tucson Environmental Services Department. City residents wishing to have their HHW materials picked up at their door step may schedule service for a \$25 fee. Service may be scheduled through a Customer Service Representative (CSR) by calling (520) 791-3171.

In addition, the Small Business Waste Assistance Program (SBWAP) is available to assist qualified businesses at the main site. The SBWAP offers a safe and economical option for businesses to properly dispose of their hazardous wastes. The SBWAP is a fee-based cost-recovery program.

Other collections are periodically held in outlying communities and within City neighborhoods. The collection sites are staffed by a combination of volunteers and Program staff. When the main site is closed to the public, trained staff process the materials received by sorting and properly preparing the materials to be transported for recycling, reuse, redistribution, and safe treatment or disposal.



*Many thanks to all our volunteers!*



Volunteers have always been an integral part of the Program's success. Each month at outreach collection events, trained volunteers work in various capacities. Volunteers greet the public to gather basic information from residents dropping off materials. Other volunteers help the residents unload materials from their vehicles. Another set of volunteers help sort the materials by hazard class and pack the materials in shipping containers. Regardless of what job assignment each volunteer assumes, all volunteers are greatly appreciated for their hard work and public service!

**PROGRAM ORGANIZATION**

**CITY OF TUCSON**

Jonathan Rothschild..... Mayor

**COUNCIL**

Regina Romero .....Ward 1  
 Paul Cunningham .....Ward 2  
 Karin Uhlich, Vice Mayor.....Ward 3  
 Shirley C. Scott.....Ward 4  
 Richard Fimbres.....Ward 5  
 Steve Kozachik.....Ward 6

Richard Miranda..... City Manager

**PIMA COUNTY**

**Board of Supervisors**

Ally Miller ..... District 1  
 Ramón Valadez, Chairman..... District 2  
 Sharon Bronson..... District 3  
 Raymond J. Carroll..... District 4  
 Richard Elías ..... District 5

C.H. Huckelberry..... County Administrator

**STEERING COMMITTEE**

Ursula Kramer, Chair  
 Pima County Department of Environmental Quality

Brandy Kadous, Vice-Chair  
 Tucson Central Safety Services  
 Paul Kramkowski  
 Raytheon, Facility Management & Real Estate

Jeff Langejans  
 Tucson Fire Department

Erin Gibson  
 Pima County Sheriff's Department

Seth Ruskin  
 City/County Community Representative

Ann Marie Wolf  
 Sonora Environmental Research Institute, Inc.

**VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR**

Cat Schladweiler

**ADMINISTRATION**

The Household Hazardous Waste Program is administered by the City of Tucson Environmental Services Department.

**PROGRAM STAFF**

Francis LaSala, Environmental Manager  
 Frank Bonillas, Environmental Services Superintendent  
 Fernando Valencia, Environmental Services Supervisor  
 Don Campbell, Lead HHW Technician  
 Anthony Diaz, Lead HHW Technician  
 Angel Flores, HHW Technician  
 James Foley, HHW Technician  
 Eric Hart, HHW Technician

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Additional information about the Household Hazardous Waste Program is available on the following web sites and phone lines:

United States Environmental Protection Agency  
[www.epa.gov](http://www.epa.gov)

Arizona Department of Environmental Quality  
[www.azdeq.gov](http://www.azdeq.gov)

Pima County Department of Environmental Quality  
[www.deq.pima.gov](http://www.deq.pima.gov)

City of Tucson  
[www.tucsonaz.gov/hhw](http://www.tucsonaz.gov/hhw)

Tucson Clean & Beautiful and Recycling Information Line  
[www.tucsonaz.gov/tcb](http://www.tucsonaz.gov/tcb)  
 520-791-5000

Earth 911  
[www.earth911.com](http://www.earth911.com)  
 1-877-EARTH911

**ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES**

[www.tucsonaz.gov/esd](http://www.tucsonaz.gov/esd)  
 2440 West Sweetwater Drive  
 Tucson, AZ 85705-6921



