

Introduction

This report highlights overall participation in the October 21, 2023 Household Hazardous Waste Collection. This collection was funded by municipal assessments, participant donations, and a grant received by the Rockingham Planning Commission from the NH Dept. of Environmental Services.

2023 Collection Overview

The October 21, 2023 HHW collection event was held at the Exeter Public Works Garage from 8:00AM-12:00PM. Residents from East Kingston, Epping, Exeter, Newfields, Seabrook, South Hampton, and Stratham could participate in the event.

2023 Total Participation

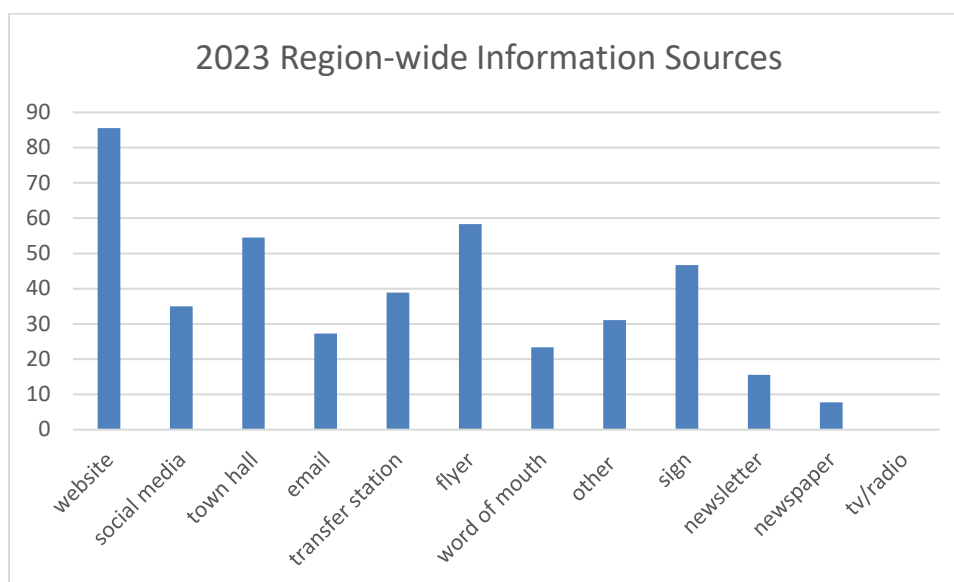
In 2023, a total of 389 households participated in the HHW collection region-wide. This was up slightly from the 2022 total of 367 and the 2021 total of 333 households. The table below shows the number of households that participated in the collection event from each municipality and the percentage that represented of the total participants. For comparison, it also highlights the population of each municipality and its percentage of the total population. Most municipalities saw participation rates that were consistent with their populations.

Municipality	Households Participating	% of Participation	Population*	% of Region-wide Population
East Kingston	23	6%	2,469	5%
Epping	35	9%	7,511	17%
Exeter	132	34%	16,263	36%
Newfields	27	7%	1,776	4%
Seabrook	23	6%	8,448	19%
South Hampton	16	4%	897	2%
Stratham	132	34%	7,836	17%
Region-wide	367		45,200	

**NH Office of Planning and Development 2022 Population Estimates*

Information Sources

Region-wide, websites provided the largest source of information to participants; 22% reported learning about the collection through a website. Websites were also the most widely used source of information in 2022, 2021, 2019 and 2018. Several entities have websites that list the HHW collection event, including Rockingham Planning Commission, NH Dept. of Environmental Services, and each participating municipality. 15% of participants learned about the event from a flier, 14% through their Town Hall, 12% from a sign, and 10% at their transfer station. Only 9% reported learning about the collection from social media, which was a drop from 14% in 2021.



Materials Collected

The October 21, 2023 HHW collection manifested a total of 24,047 pounds of waste. Of this, 15,972 pounds were ignitable; 0 pounds were reactive; 1,400 pounds were toxic; and 725 pounds were corrosive. There was also 5,950 pounds of non-hazardous waste and universal waste collected.

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
Total waste collected (lbs)	24,047	16,122	23,242	27,496	10,860	23,039
Ignitable (lbs)	15,972	9,066	14,280	10,530	8,160	17,877
Reactive (lbs)	0	0	10	0	0	1
Toxic (lbs)	1,400	75	6,800	4,000	2,400	2,281

Corrosive (lbs)	725	106	2,152	1,706	300	976
Number of households	389	367	333	613	433	448
Waste per household (lbs)	61.8	43.9	69.8	44.9	25.1	51.4

The composition of waste collected through the October 21, 2023 HHW event, as reported on participant surveys, is shown below. The top 5 types of items collected in 2023 were the same as in 2022 and 2021. Oil-based paint, solvents, and thinners were the most common items received; 48% of participants brought these items to the 2023 collection event. Household cleaners were the next most common item collected (39%), followed by pesticides (33%), antifreeze and other automotive liquids (31%), used motor oil (30%), gas/diesel/kerosene (28%), and fluorescent bulbs (27%).

