

If you are getting the shed or garage ready for winter, you may find items needing disposal or special storage. Here is a guide to help when you have questions...

1) Can someone else use it? If so:

- Find a home for it by checking out the “Turning Trash into Treasure” guide that is available at [recycle.ewashtenaw.org](http://recycle.ewashtenaw.org) (or by calling 734.222.6874).

2) If its useful life is over, is it recyclable? If so:

- To find out which materials are accepted by the recycling services in your community, go to the “Washtenaw County Recycling Guide” which is available at [recycle.ewashtenaw.org](http://recycle.ewashtenaw.org).

3) Is it something that shouldn't be thrown in the trash or regular recycling? If so:

- The Washtenaw County Drop-off Station at 2950 Ellsworth, takes a very wide range of materials. For hours and specifics on what is accepted, go to [recycleannarbor.org](http://recycleannarbor.org) or call 734.971.7400.
- With the exception of automotive fluids such as oil and antifreeze, the Drop-off Station doesn't take poisonous liquids (such as paints and gas) or solids (such as garden chemicals). These can be brought to the County's Household Hazardous Waste Collection Site at 705 N. Zeeb Road, from 9 to noon Saturdays through December 3<sup>rd</sup>, closed the Thanksgiving Day weekend. A list of what is accepted is on the “Home Toxics Reduction Program” page at [recycle.ewashtenaw.org](http://recycle.ewashtenaw.org), or call 734.222.3950.
- If the container is empty or the contents are dried up, don't bring it to these drop-off services. Instead, put it in with your regular trash (or recycle it if possible—some things such as aerosol cans are hazardous when full, but recyclable when empty).

4) Is it something that you plan to use again? If so, store it properly:

- Don't keep water-based paints where temperatures will freeze. Extend the life of latex paint by storing the can upside down, to create an airtight seal.
- Before winter storage of two-cycle fuels from boats, lawn trimmers, etc., stabilize with an additive (purchased at the local hardware store). Then put the fuel storage container, along with any other flammable products, in a well-ventilated area away from water heaters, light switches, pilot lights, and motors (gasoline can be ignited from a single spark!).
- Reuse if possible. For instance, old gas can be reused next spring if diluted to a ratio of at least four parts fresh to one part old.
- Lawn care products such as fertilizers, herbicides, and insecticides are not damaged by the thaw-freeze cycle, but should be kept locked up, for poison prevention.

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