



Niagara County
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MEDIA RELEASE

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**COUNTY LEADERS BRING HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION TO
FALLS
SITE ACCEPTS COMMON HOUSEHOLD CHEMICALS**

Niagara Falls—Niagara Falls residents no longer have to live with hazardous household chemicals accumulated from past home projects, thanks to a new service provided by Niagara County.

With Saturday morning's official unveiling of the Niagara County Refuse Disposal District's Household Hazardous Waste Collection Site - Niagara Falls, a facility collocated with the Niagara Falls Department of Public Works Garage at 1785 New Road, residents of Niagara Falls and surrounding communities can now dispose of common household chemicals, like old paints, stains, solvents, and chemical cleaners, instead of keeping these hazardous materials in their homes.

"We felt it was important to provide this service to our communities because we want a healthier environment for our kids and safer households for our families," said Legislator John D. Ceretto, R-Lewiston, who chairs the Niagara County Legislature's ad hoc Refuse Disposal District Committee. "We understand the importance of properly disposing of these chemicals, and we understand the importance of protecting our environment here in this beautiful county."

Ceretto said he and Refuse District Director Rick Pope had made the decision to launch the service in Niagara Falls because he felt it offered a good test-bed for the service, but that they planned to launch additional collection sites in Lockport and North Tonawanda in the near future.

Despite plans to just officially open the site on Saturday, officials found more than 20 cars lined up shortly before the 11 a.m. press conference hoping to dispose of old paint and various toxins including turpentine and janitorial cleaning products. Ceretto directed Pope and landfill workers to collect the materials and return them to the County Landfill in Lockport for processing.

"We knew there was a need for this service here in Niagara Falls, but that was really surprised us," Ceretto noted. "We're really glad we could help."

Joining Ceretto at Saturday's press conference announcing were Sen. George D. Maziarz, R-Newfane, whose office provided significant state support for the household hazardous waste collection initiative, and County Legislator Vincent M. Sandonato, R-LaSalle, a member of the Refuse Disposal District Committee who worked on the final phase of siting and opening the facility with Ceretto.

Mayor Paul Dyster, D-Niagara Falls, also was in attendance, thanking county leaders for providing city residents with the refuse disposal service.

The county's Refuse District will collect the materials on an as-needed basis by appointment at the collection site. Appointments can be made by calling (716) 434-6568.