



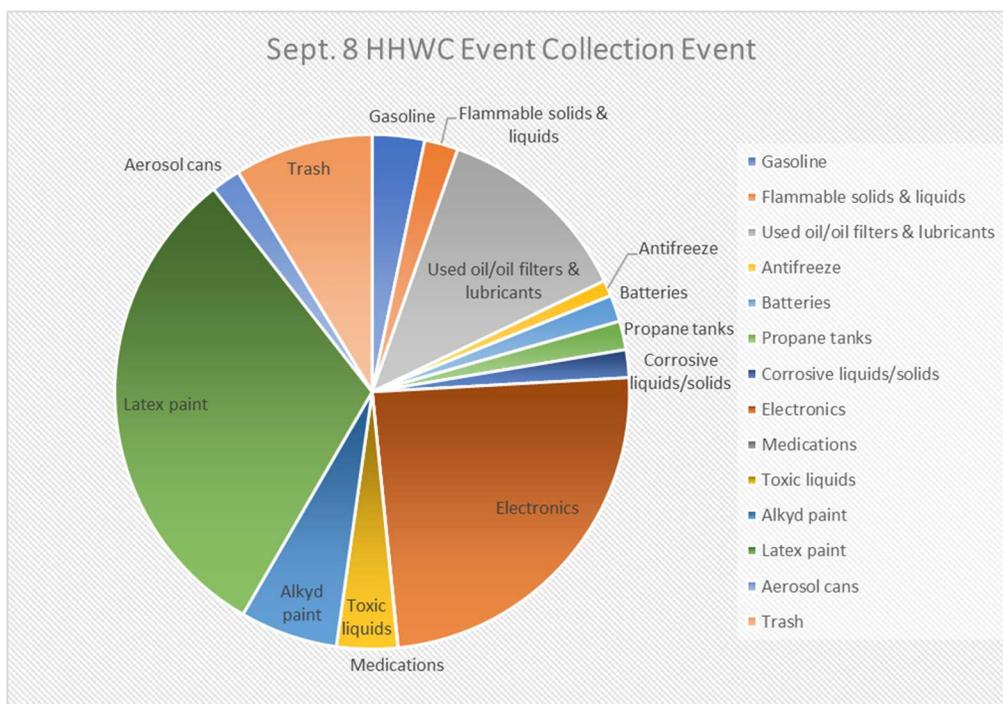
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By: Lynda Bell, Executive Director, Keep Nassau Beautiful

Nassau County, FL. Sept. 8, 2018. **Largest Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event on Record**

Keep Nassau Beautiful and Nassau County Solid Waste Department sponsored the fall Household Hazardous Waste Collection (HHWC) event on September 8. Prior to 2018, HHWC events have occurred annually in Nassau County during the month of April. Due to population growth and increased demand a second event was added in 2018. For the first time the event was held at the site of the NE FL Fairgrounds in Callahan. The event attracted residents from all areas of Nassau County. In addition to collection of hazardous waste, residents also supported Barnabas Food Pantry during the event with donations of canned goods.

The data has been tabulated and Nassau County's fall event was the largest on record. Nine volunteers from Keep Nassau Beautiful (KNB) provided greater than 90 hours of time to assist residents in unloading and properly disposing of more than 46,800 pounds, or 23 tons, of hazardous waste. The top three items collected include latex paint, used oil, and electronics.

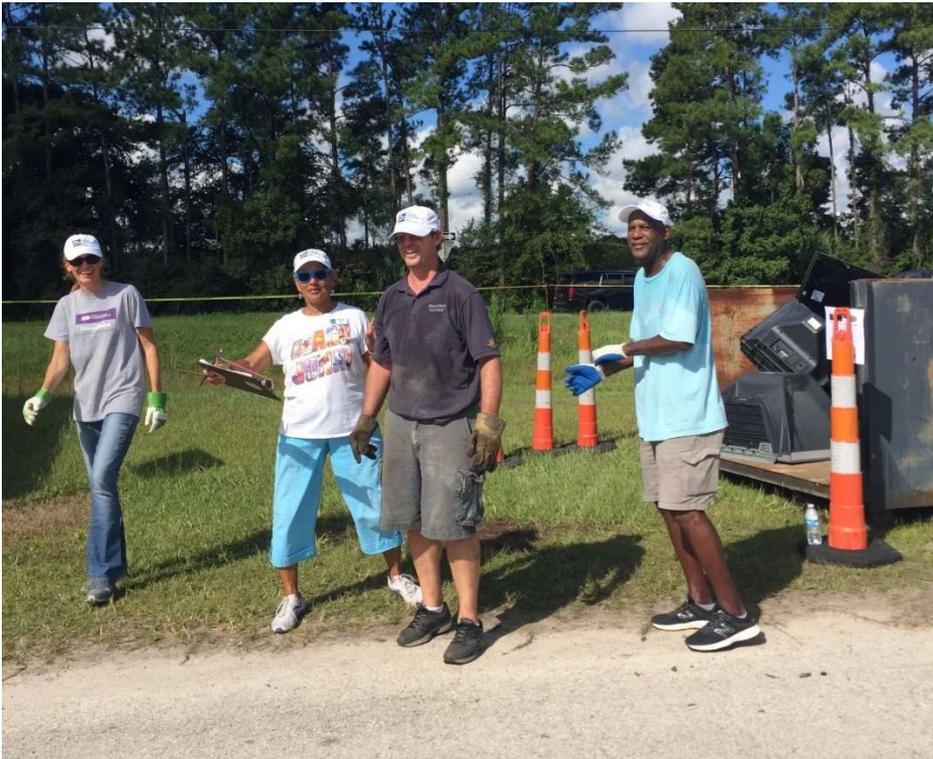


Lynda Bell, Executive Director for KNB, said, “Year after year one of the most popular items for disposal during the HHWC event is latex paint. During our September event, a record amount of 14,540 pounds was collected. Many residents don’t know they can dispose of latex paint throughout the year by following a few easy steps.” The steps include the purchase of any brand of cat litter. Add the cat litter to the latex paint can. Leave the lid off and give the mixture time to dry out and solidify. Once the mixture has solidified, the can and solidified mixture may be disposed of during regular trash collection. In the solidified form, the mixture of cat litter and latex paint is not considered hazardous waste.

Residents also brought to the event over the counter and prescription medications. Prescription medications could not be accepted during the HHWC event. A separate event, Prescription Drug Take Back Day, is scheduled on October 27 for residents to dispose of prescription drugs. Email or call Rachel Stokes for more information on the Prescription Drug Take Back Day, rachelstokes@nacdac.com or 277-3699.

The Nassau County Solid Waste Department Tire Amnesty Day was also held on September 8. While Nassau County residents may dispose of up to 4 tires per household per year, Tire Amnesty Day provides an additional opportunity to properly dispose of up to 10 tires per household with no fee for disposal. This year’s Tire Amnesty Day resulted in 8.79 tons of waste tires being collected during the 4-hour event from households in Nassau County. Visit the Nassau County website for more information, <http://www.nassaucountyfl.com/368/Convenience-Recycling-Center>.

We appreciate Nassau County residents, Keep Nassau Beautiful volunteers, Nassau County Solid Waste Department, Recycling E-Scrap, U.S. Ecology, Barnabas Food Pantry, Nassau County Sherriff’s Department, and the NE FL Fairgrounds Association for their participation in the collection and responsible disposal of household hazardous waste. The next Nassau County Household Hazardous Waste Collection event is currently scheduled for Saturday, March 30, 2019. Visit the Keep Nassau Beautiful website for details, knb@keepnassaubeautiful.org.



Keep Nassau Beautiful volunteers assist residents with electronics. More than 11,000 pounds were properly disposed or recycled.



Keep Nassau Beautiful volunteers and U.S. Ecology associates assist Nassau County residents in the proper disposal of Household Hazardous Waste.



Keep Nassau Beautiful, Inc. (KNB) is a volunteer-based community action and education organization that works thru concerned citizens and partnerships with government, businesses, and education institutions. Its mission is to remove litter, promote recycling, and encourage sustainability of a clean, green and beautiful Nassau County. It is an affiliate of Keep America Beautiful (KAB) and Keep Florida Beautiful (KFB) and maintains a “Good Standing” certification. KNB is a not for profit, 501 (c) 3 corporation; incorporated in the state of Florida. It is governed by a Board of Directors, with an Executive Director managing business and day-to-day administration.