

April 10, 2014  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



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## **Spring Cleaning? Put Your Toxic Waste in its Place!**

*Unincorporated San Diego County Residents Urged to use Ramona's HHW Collection Facility*

**San Diego County, Calif.** – Spring has arrived! It's the season when many San Diegans clear their homes and garages of excess clutter. As spring-cleaning projects get underway, the County of San Diego and I Love A Clean San Diego would like to remind unincorporated County residents to use the County's no-cost Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facility in Ramona to safely dispose of unwanted household chemicals. Many chemicals used in the home can be hazardous to people, pets, and the environment, and should never be thrown in the trash or dumped down a drain.

What is considered household hazardous waste? Left-over products labeled with "Caution, Warning, Danger, Poison, Toxic, Flammable or Corrosive" are considered hazardous. These include common household items like furniture polish, disinfectants, aerosols, pesticides, fertilizers, automotive fluids, latex and oil based paint, lighter fluid, and pool chemicals. Residents can reduce the amount of household hazardous waste they produce and protect their families' health by choosing less toxic products, and buying only the amount they need.

### **Got hazardous waste? Not to worry, disposal of unwanted cleaning products and other chemicals is free and easy!**

The Ramona Household Hazardous Waste facility is located at the Ramona Disposal Services transfer station located at 324 Maple Street, Ramona, CA 92065. The Ramona facility is open on the first and third Saturday of each month by appointment only. The facility cannot accept ammunition, medications, explosive or radioactive material, large appliances or tires. Residents are required to bring proof of residency, such as a driver's license or utility bill, which shows they live in the unincorporated area of San Diego County. Not an unincorporated resident or looking for something closer? [WasteFreeSD.org](http://WasteFreeSD.org) can refer you to the closest collection facility based on your zip code.

**Just need to get rid of latex or oil based paint?** Recycle leftover paint with PaintCare, an industry sponsored paint stewardship program established to promote the reuse, recycling and proper disposal of unused architectural paint. PaintCare allows residents to drop off unused product at selected paint retail stores. To find the nearest location, call 1-877-R-1-EARTH (1-877-713-2784) or visit [Paintcare.org](http://Paintcare.org).

To make an appointment to drop off waste, or for more information about recycling and waste disposal, call the County of San Diego's bilingual hotline, managed by I Love A Clean San Diego, at 1-877-R-1-EARTH (1-877-713-2784) or visit the one-stop recycling and disposal resource, [WasteFreeSD.org](http://WasteFreeSD.org).

*Celebrating its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary, I Love A Clean San Diego (ILACSD) is the go-to organization for programs that enhance and conserve San Diego County's environment. Through recycling, education and cleanups of the region's most beloved areas, ILACSD provides pollution prevention programs that pave the way for a cleaner and healthier San Diego right now, and for future generations.*

*For more information, visit [www.cleansd.org](http://www.cleansd.org).*

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