

## 'Detox your Home' from toxic household chemicals

South Gippsland and Bass Coast residents are being urged to dispose of toxic household chemicals at a special 'Detox your Home' event at the Koonwarra Transfer Station on Saturday 3 August from 9.00am – 1.00pm.

The household chemical collection program is a safe, free and easy-to-use service to help you dispose of common, highly toxic household chemicals without harming your health or the environment. The event is being run in partnership with Sustainability Victoria.

"Household chemicals can be dangerous," Geoff McKinnon Sustainability Coordinator, South Gippsland Shire Council, said.

"They can harm your family and your pets, add extra fuel to a house fire, release toxic fumes and pollute the environment for future generations, which is why residents should take advantage of the free Detox your Home service to safely dispose of unwanted items."

Mr. McKinnon warned residents against putting chemicals out with the regular rubbish collection where they could explode, ignite, leak or mix with other chemicals. He also cautioned against pouring them down the drain where they could pollute waterways, harm animals and vegetation or contaminate the drinking water supply.

"The good news is you can reduce the risk of poisoning, environmental pollution and fire hazards by dropping off unwanted chemicals at the Koonwarra Detox your Home event," Mr. McKinnon said.

"Do the right thing for your loved ones and your environment and Detox your Home. It's easy and it's free."

The Detox your Home event will be held at the Koonwarra Transfer Station, Koonwarra-Inverloch Road, Koonwarra.

For more information go to [www.sustainability.vic.gov.au/detoxyourhome](http://www.sustainability.vic.gov.au/detoxyourhome)  
Detox your Home is administered by Sustainability Victoria in partnership with local governments and is funded by the Victorian landfill levy. The products collected are recovered and diverted from landfill.

Residents can drop off the following items:

- Acids & alkalis
- Aerosols (dispose of empty cans in your household recycling bin)
- Anti-freeze
- Brake fluid
- Car body filler
- Car wax
- Cleaners - ammonia based
- Cooking oil
- Coolant
- Detergents, disinfectants & drain cleaners
- Fertiliser
- Fire extinguishers
- Floor-care products & waxes
- Fuels - petrol, diesel, kerosene, other
- Glues - water-based & solvents
- Herbicides & weed killers
- Insect spray/pesticides
- Nail polish & remover
- Oven cleaner
- Thinner, turps and paint stripper
- Pool chemicals
- Rat poison
- Solvents
- Transmission fluid
- Wood preservatives & finishes (oils & varnish)

The following items **are not** accepted:

- Ammunition or firearms
- Asbestos
- Car batteries
- Household batteries
- Chemicals used by businesses
- Farm chemicals
- Fluorescent lights
- Gas bottles
- Motor oil
- Paint

Less toxic items – household paint, batteries and fluorescent lights – can be disposed of throughout the year at a permanent drop-off site. For more information visit [www.sustainability.vic.gov.au/detoxyourhome](http://www.sustainability.vic.gov.au/detoxyourhome) or call 1300 363 744.

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