

# Mid Michigan Waste Authority



## COMMUNITY connection

A monthly update from the Mid Michigan Waste Authority

September 2016

### Upcoming Events

**MMWA Executive Cmte Meeting**  
MMWA Office  
Thursday, Sept 22 @ 9:30 AM

### HSW program runs through September

Please encourage your residents to take advantage of MMWA's final month of household special waste collection for 2016. If your residents have paint or hazardous chemicals, now is the time to box up them up and bring them to one of our drop-off days. All events are held from 9 am to 1 pm at MMWA's Community Resource Recycling Center, 2063 S Miller Rd, Saginaw (btw Ederer and Swan Creek Rds).

Paint Wednesdays will be held on September 14 and 21. This is the day for all paint products, including paint cans, spray paint, varnish and stain.

The last Household Hazardous Waste event will be held on Tuesday, Sept 27. Residents may bring in their household chemicals and cleaners, like gasoline, oil, antifreeze, paint thinner, lead acid batteries, fluorescent bulbs, acids, aerosols, kerosene, mercury, smoke detectors and more.

Residents with questions should call (989) 781-9555 or visit [www.recyclemotion.org](http://www.recyclemotion.org) for more information.

**In August 2016, eight MMWA member communities had ZERO valid RCLs and eight communities had ONE.**

*A valid RCL is when a Waste Management collection worker returns to the address to provide collection service.*



### Slow down, stay safe around trash trucks

With school back in session, local law enforcement officials are reminding motorists to stop and wait for school buses as they pick up and drop off students.

That makes this an appropriate time to urge drivers to exercise that same same caution around trash and recycling trucks.

Michigan's Michigan's *Slow Down to Get Around* law requires drivers to treat garbage trucks or service vehicles on the road as if they were law enforcement vehicles. Motorists who injure or kill collection workers on or around sanitation trucks can face felony charges.

While getting stuck behind a trash truck can be frustrating, following these simple rules will prevent accidents and injuries:

**SLOW DOWN** when approaching a trash truck making its rounds. Stop, if necessary, to allow workers to get to the truck safely.

**LOOK** for workers before attempting to pass the truck. Most curbside materials in MMWA communities are collected with front-loading trucks, which means you will not see the collection worker from behind the truck.

**CHECK** for traffic approaching from the opposite direction before proceeding around the truck.

### MMWA holiday light recycling drive returns Nov 2016



In about two short months, area residents will start going through their boxes of holiday decorations and checking to see which strands of lights still work. To help reduce the number of broken and burned out lights that end up in the land-fill, MMWA will again coordinate a holiday light recycling drive. Last year we collected more than one ton of holiday lights!

It would be ideal if we could have collection bins in every community, but our ability to monitor, collect, and transport lights is limited by our small staff. Without a truck, getting the lights to our warehouse and then to Rifkin Scrap Iron and Metal Co. is a challenge.

Several townships have generously offered to have their DPW crews transport the lights to MMWA, which will help us effectively manage this popular project. We are still looking for communities interested in hosting a collection site, particularly in northwest Saginaw County. It is our goal to make it as convenient as possible for all residents to take part.

This year's project will run from mid-November to mid-January of 2017. Watch for more details once dates and drop-off locations are confirmed.



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