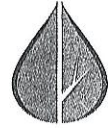


Osceola-Lake Conservation District
138 W Upton, Suite 2
Reed City, MI 49677
(231) 465-8012
E-mail: mark.sweppenheiser@macd.org
www.osceolalakecd.org



OSCEOLA-LAKE
CONSERVATION
DISTRICT

February 17th, 2023

Dear Peacock Township,

PLEASE READ, we have significant changes occurring in 2023 to the HHW Program. First, the Osceola-Lake Conservation District wishes to thank you for your financial support for our 2022 Collection Day. The collection was a huge success, resulting in the safe disposal of 37,434 pounds of hazardous materials from 631 households. The cost for this one-day event was \$30,111.58, but thanks to the support from the community, we were able to offset the costs of disposal.

The contractor we have used the past 20 years for this event, Drug and Laboratory Disposal, is no longer able to offer their services for these events. This required our HHW Committee to look for other contractors and there just aren't many options. Many other conservation districts have gone through the same search the last few years. ERG is one of the few companies offering these services, they are based out of Livonia, MI.

We will be paying significantly more for a contract with ERG. In fact, costs will include transportation fees, a minimum of 10,000 lbs. of waste, and an increase in the cost per pound. Applying ERG costs to our 2022 collection numbers, would have increased waste costs from \$30K to \$64K. These costs are not sustainable for this program.

In the past, we have held a collection in Osceola and Lake counties annually. The biggest change, starting this year, is that we need to alternate between the counties annually. This year, the event will be held in Osceola County, but all Lake County residents can use the program. Next year, we will hold the collection in Lake County and all Osceola County residents will be able to utilize the program. We need all our partners in this program to continue to contribute annually. The district has administered this program for 20 years, but we are unable to financially fund this program alone. This program takes the entire community to make happen. There aren't any alternatives for our residents to dispose of this waste. We are simply asking for everyone to maintain their contribution level at this time, but would appreciate any increase that you're able to provide.

Finally, we also have changed the collection date to Thursday, August 3rd from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. A weekday collection will save us money, we would pay more for the set-up on a weekend. We have been forced to make tough decisions, but the community needs this program to continue to be sustainable into the future. Thank you for your continued support:

Very Sincerely,

Mark Sweppenheiser,

On Behalf of the Household Hazardous Waste Committee

Osceola Road Comm. - South
4737 Makwa DR.
Hersey MI 49639