

**GLOW Region Solid Waste Management Committee
2021 Household Hazardous Waste Collection Program
Final Report Executive Summary**

GLOW began to offer collection of hazardous chemicals when it held its Farm Pesticide Amnesty Collection Program in 1995. This led to the realization that residents needed a way to dispose of household hazardous wastes. The first household program was held in 1996. Household collections were held each year thereafter until 1999 when a second farm pesticide collection was held. Household collections resumed in 2000 and have been held each year since then. 2018 represents the twenty second year. Traditionally two collections have been held each year. Due to financial constraints, single collections began in 2004 and have continued since that time. Funding for these programs has been via grants awarded by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the N.Y.S. Department of Environmental Conservation, along with funds from GLOW's administrative budget.

In January of 2022 GLOW will apply to DEC for a grant and reimbursement for funding for a single collection that was held on September 18, 2021. The grants are now for single collections held the calendar year before the application is submitted. The application, reimbursement request and associated documentation showing proof of payment are submitted together through the State's Grants Gateway system in January of the year following the collection. A 50% contribution by GLOW for eligible expenses is required. Reimbursable expenses for the program totaled \$26,597.39 resulting in an anticipated reimbursement to GLOW of \$13,298.70.

GLOW issued a RFP in January of 2020 for the program. Two (2) proposals were received. The RFP requested pricing for collection, recycling and/or disposal of household chemicals, cleaning products, insecticides, oil based paint, resins and adhesives, and other hazardous materials. After careful analysis and discussion, Environmental Enterprises, Inc. (EEI) of Cincinnati, Ohio was chosen as the primary vendor. EEI had been the chosen contractor since 2005 and GLOW was satisfied with the performance and pricing. In the contract that GLOW signed with EEI there are provisions for extending the contract for two one year (2021 and 2022) periods with pricing to be renegotiated each year. GLOW chose to exercise the first year option for the 2021 program. Pricing was solicited to provide additional collection services. HTI Recycling was chosen to collect tires. Waste Management was chosen to provide a roll off for solid waste. For the fourth year GLOW held a separate collection for electronics. This collection was held the following Saturday at the same location. In 2020 GLOW stopped accepting pharmaceutical waste (i.e. outdated, unwanted prescription and over the counter drugs) due to the fact that most police agencies and many pharmacies now accept them.

GLOW's experience and track record with past collections has proven invaluable and has led to fine-tuning of the program. Recent program costs and vendor efficiencies led to GLOW's decision to accept up to 480 appointments in at recent collections. Three hundred thirty five (335) residents attended. The program is run in an extremely economical manner and as efficiently as possible. Total costs for the 2021 program were within budget.

The program was promoted extensively throughout the counties. Advertisements were placed in local newspapers, pennysavers, a local radio and a press release was issued. In addition, laminated posters, a poster suitable for copying, and copies of press releases (for municipal newsletters) were sent to all 73 municipalities and their transfer stations. GLOW also sent postcards to 396 residents that were placed on a notification list that is maintained in between programs.

Steps were taken to keep program costs down. These steps included: not accepting latex paints and stains and empty aerosol cans and other empty containers (which can be placed in the regular trash) and encouraging residents to take uncontaminated containers back. In addition, Ed Arnold Recycling accepted vehicle batteries, propane tanks and propane canisters at no charge to GLOW.

Once again, a system of appointments was established for residents who wanted to participate. Thirty-five appointments were taken for each 15-minute interval. Four hundred eighty (480) spots were available. GLOW once

again planned to overbook to account for “no shows”. A total of 381 appointments were taken. Residents made appointments by telephone and GLOW’s new online system and were sent or emailed a registration packet two to two and a half weeks prior to the collection. The packet included a brochure that had safety information, packaging and transportation information, a list of acceptable and unacceptable materials and the order of stations. Also included were maps to and of the site. There were eight (9) drive ins. Total attendance was 335.

The event was held on Saturday, September 18 at the Wyoming County’s Highway Department on Route 19 in the hamlet of Rock Glen. The site was chosen because it is large enough to conduct the event and located on a main thoroughfare. Residents began arriving at 8:00 a.m. The collection started at 8:30 a.m. Vehicles were unloaded as fast and efficiently as possible. Without exception residents waited no more than 15-20 minutes.

The volume of material taken out of the waste stream was impressive. Residents disposed of: 321 tires, 113 vehicle batteries, 695 lbs. oil filters, 274 propane canisters and 37 - 20-pound propane tanks. Also collected were 6,583 lbs. of paint, 1,999 lbs. of pesticides, 1,488 lbs. of aerosols, 1,570 lbs. of resins & adhesives and 990 lbs. of fluorescent bulbs.

Exit survey results were consistent with other recent programs. The vast majority of residents rated the events as 4 or 5 (on a scale of 1 to 5, with 5 the highest) and said that they appreciated the opportunity to dispose of hazardous materials. They often commented on how courteous staff and volunteers were and how well organized the event was. Most found out about the program through local newspaper and penny saver advertising and just under half had not participated in previous year’s events.

Total program costs were \$28,238.94. Of that amount \$23,004.39 was for disposal of materials and \$5,235.09 was for advertising, printing, postage, supplies, and refreshments. Eligible expenses amount to \$26,597.39 of which GLOW will be reimbursed \$13,298.70. Program costs amount to \$82.02 per participant, an increase of \$1.12 per participant from 2020.

For more information on this program or a copy of the full report contact Peggy Grayson, Recycling Administrator at (585) 815-7906, (585) 344-2580 extension 5463 or 800/836-1154.