
Retail Sales Permit for Household Hazardous Materials

Iowa Waste Reduction Center / University of Northern Iowa
319-273-8905 or 1-800-422-3109

IAC 144 (455F)

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Do these regulations apply to my operation?

If your facility sells any household hazardous material, in any amount, it must obtain a Household Hazardous Material (HHM) permit. Household hazardous materials include any brand, grade or volume of the following products:

- **Motor oils and motor oil additives**, such as transmission fluid, engine lubricants;
- **Motor oil filters**;
- **Gasoline and diesel fuel additives**;
- **Degreasers**;
- **Waxes and polishes** (excluding nail polish) such as car and floor wax, furniture and shoe polish, spray dust cleaners and furniture stains,;
- **Solvents**, such as mineral spirits, turpentine, alcohols (excluding water);
- **Paints** (excluding latex-based paints);
- **Lacquers**;
- **Thinners** (excluding water);
- **Caustic household cleaners**, such as drain, toilet bowl and oven cleaners, rust remover, silver/chrome cleaner;
- **Petroleum-based spot and stain removers**;
- **Petroleum-based fertilizers**;
- **Pesticides**, such as yard/garden sprays, roach powder, flea/tick products for pets, fly tape, moth balls, fungicide, insecticide, etc.; and
- **Color cathode ray tubes (CRTs)**.

Household hazardous materials do not include the following:

- Laundry detergents;
- Soaps;
- Dishwashing compounds;
- Chlorine bleach;
- Personal care products and soaps;
- Cosmetics,
- Animal or human medications; or
- Pharmaceuticals.

If your business conducts oil changes, but does not sell motor oil over the counter, you must still obtain an HHM permit if you include the number of quarts of oil used in your bill. If you bill the service simply as an oil change, you do not need to acquire an HHM permit.

General Requirements

- Affix a label on or near the display area of household hazardous materials;
 - All labels must be in locations where consumers can easily see them.
 - The labels should be at least 7/8-inch x 7/8-inch in size and be printed with the HHM program symbol in black on fluorescent yellow background.



- Display/provide information on the proper use and disposal of household hazardous materials.
 - Information signs should be at least 8 ½ x 11-inches and must contain a copy of the symbol of at least 2-inches in size.
- Bulletins, booklets and labels are available free from the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR).
 - Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Wallace State Office Building
Des Moines, IA 50319
(515) 281-5859
- To obtain an HHM permit, complete the required application form and send it with the payment to the Iowa Department of Revenue and Finance.
 - Iowa Department of Revenue and Finance
PO Box 10465
Des Moines, IA 50306-0465
- The annual fee is \$25, and should be made payable to the Treasurer, State of Iowa. The permit is valid from July 1 – June 30. The permit fee is not prorated.

What are the benefits of obtaining an HHM permit?

Informing consumers of the characteristics of and proper disposal methods for household hazardous materials increases the likelihood that these products will be used and disposed of properly. Proper disposal of such products by consumers means cleaner water for Iowans.