

HHW REPORTER

1ST QUARTER 2026

NEWS AND PARTICIPATION STATS FROM
THE HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE CENTER

1301 Lamont Avenue
Kalamazoo, MI 49048
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www.kalcounty.gov/hhw



2026 EXPECTED CLOSURES:

JUNE 19

(JUNETEENTH DAY)

JULY 3

(JULY 4TH OBSERVANCE)

AUGUST 3 - 8

(YOUTH FAIR)

SEPTEMBER 25

(STREET ROD NATIONALS)

NOVEMBER 3

(ELECTION DAY)

NOVEMBER 11

(VETERAN'S DAY)

NOVEMBER 26 – 27

(THANKSGIVING BREAK)

DECEMBER 24 – 25

(CHRISTMAS BREAK)

DECEMBER 31 – JANUARY 1

(NEW YEAR'S BREAK)

2026 SATURDAY

COLLECTIONS

MAY 9

JUNE 13

JULY 11

OCTOBER 10

NOVEMBER 14

DECEMBER 12

At the HHW Center We Celebrate Earth Day Every Day!

In 1970, the first national Earth Day was held on April 22 and marked a change of social indifference to environmental pollution. Environmental celebrations and rallies held at universities across the nation like the University of Michigan, helped raise awareness for needed environmental regulations and policies.

Care for the environment and the need for regulation arose in part from fires that were occurring such as the one on the Rouge River in southeast Michigan in 1969. The unregulated dumping of pollution from industries along the river was killing wildlife and waste oil could be seen floating on the surface and soaking the shoreline. When a worker accidentally dropped an acetylene torch, the river caught fire and burned for seven (7) hours.

Earth Day celebrations and public outcry put awareness into action when the government created the Environmental Protection Agency at the end of 1970. Later in 1972, they passed the Clean Water Act.

Year around, the HHW Center gives residents and small businesses a place to take unwanted chemicals like pesticides, used oil and gasoline. Broken, outdated electronics are recycled to give old tech new life. We work to protect our homes and groundwater from unwanted hazardous materials on Earth Day and every day!



KALAMAZOO
COUNTY GOVERNMENT
Health & Community Services Department

1ST QUARTER HHW CENTER PARTICIPATION

Municipality	January	February	March	1st Quarter Total
Alamo Township	8	9	15	32
Almena Township	4	6	9	19
Antwerp Township	2	8	11	21
Augusta Village	1	1	0	2
Barry County	27	9	5	41
Berrien County	2	5	11	18
Brady Township	14	13	15	42
Charleston Township	8	5	7	20
Climax Village	0	1	1	2
Comstock Township	33	55	75	163
Cooper Township	19	34	44	97
Galesburg City	2	1	3	6
Kalamazoo City	106	130	168	404
Kalamazoo Township	37	65	67	169
Oshtemo Township	47	58	79	184
Parchment City	3	8	11	22
Pavilion Township	17	20	25	62
Portage City	104	144	174	422
Prairie Ronde Township	3	5	3	11
Richland Township	36	41	44	121
Richland Village	0	4	7	11
Ross Township	11	19	19	49
Schoolcraft Township	3	12	13	28
Schoolcraft Village	3	1	2	6
St. Joseph County	12	6	5	23
Texas Township	48	57	55	160
Vicksburg Village	2	7	3	12
Wakeshma Township	3	5	2	10
Subtotal	555	729	873	2157
Regular HHW Paying Customers	22	44	69	135
Electronics Paying Customers	7	15	5	27
Grand Total	584	788	947	2319
Clean Sweep Customers	0	0	5	5

1ST QUARTER RECYCLING COST SHARE

BILLING PERIOD 1/1/2026 - 3/31/2026				OPERATIONAL COST
CHEMICAL DISPOSAL COSTS	\$16,549.56			
ELECTRONICS RECYCLING	\$0.00			
TOTAL BILLING	\$16,549.56			OPERATIONAL COST
MUNICIPALITY	EQUIVALENTS	PERCENT	DISPOSAL	
Alamo Township	32	1.48%	\$245.52	\$ 656.25
Almena Township	19	0.88%	\$145.78	\$ 741.00
Antwerp Township	21	0.97%	\$161.12	\$ 819.00
Augusta Village	2	0.09%	\$15.34	\$ 82.50
Barry County	41	1.90%	\$314.57	\$ 1,599.00
Berrien County	18	0.83%	\$138.10	\$ 702.00
Brady Township	42	1.95%	\$322.24	\$ 798.75
Charleston Township	20	0.93%	\$153.45	\$ 472.50
Climax Village	2	0.09%	\$15.34	\$ 67.50
Comstock Township	163	7.56%	\$1,250.62	\$ 3,840.00
Cooper Township	97	4.50%	\$744.23	\$ 1,357.50
Galesburg City	6	0.28%	\$46.03	\$ 101.25
Kalamazoo City	404	18.73%	\$3,099.69	\$ 8,238.75
Kalamazoo Township	169	7.83%	\$1,296.65	\$ 3,225.00
Oshtemo Township	184	8.53%	\$1,411.74	\$ 3,468.75
Parchment City	22	1.02%	\$168.79	\$ 307.50
Pavilion Township	62	2.87%	\$475.69	\$ 1,466.25
Portage City	422	19.56%	\$3,237.79	\$ 9,393.75
Prairie Ronde Township	11	0.51%	\$84.40	\$ 431.25
Richland Township	121	5.61%	\$928.37	\$ 2,077.50
Richland Village	11	0.51%	\$84.40	\$ 258.75
Ross Township	49	2.27%	\$375.95	\$ 907.50
Schoolcraft Township	28	1.30%	\$214.83	\$ 783.75
Schoolcraft Village	6	0.28%	\$46.03	\$ 157.50
St. Joseph County	23	1.07%	\$176.47	\$ 897.00
Texas Township	160	7.42%	\$1,227.60	\$ 3,172.50
Vicksburg Village	12	0.56%	\$92.07	\$ 352.50
Wakeshma Township	10	0.46%	\$76.72	\$ 101.25
TOTAL	2,157	100%	\$16,549.56	\$ 46,476.75
Total Municipality Cost 1st Quarter (Disposal plus Operational)				\$ 63,026.31
Total Kalamazoo County Cost 1st Quarter				\$ 151,028.93

* THIS IS NOT A BILL - INVOICE WILL BE MAILED OUT AT A LATER DATE *

Staffing Updates

In November 2025, Mike Walsh filled a vacancy at the HHW Center (pictured far left below). He has an extensive background in chemistry and has been a great addition to our team! Also pictured in the back row: Jennifer Kosak, Cindy Foster and Shane Peterson. In the front row (left to right): Ron Buell, Teresa Harwood and Andy Gray. We are all trained in Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response for the types of hazardous materials we expect to see at the HHW Center. However, we are always prepared for anything that might show up at our doorstep!

1ST QUARTER COLLECTIONS 2026

ITEM(S)	POUNDS
ELECTRONICS FROM HOMEOWNERS	41,153
ELECTRONICS FROM PAYING CUSTOMERS	1,069
CHEMICAL WASTE FROM HOMEOWNERS *	17,790
CHEMICAL WASTE FROM PAYING CUSTOMERS *	5,894
ANTIFREEZE	3,500
COPPER WIRE	864
FIRE EXTINGUISHERS	0
OIL FILTERS	560
PESTICIDES	2,612
RECHARGEABLE BATTERIES	3,438
SCRAP METAL	742
USED MOTOR OIL	9,400
TOTAL POUNDS COLLECTED	87,022

* acids, aerosols, ammunition, bases, batteries (alkaline & lithium), cleaners, flammable liquids, flares, fluorescent bulbs, mercury, oil-based paint, organic peroxides, oxidizers, PCB ballasts, poisons/toxics, 1-lb propane cylinders

