



Help Keep Your Community Safe

Can you imagine a garbage-filled bonfire on your front lawn?



No s'mores and campfire songs here! Garbage and recycling trucks catch fire - and far too often! In this year alone, Waste Management has battled more than 150 truck fires company-wide. And you may be surprised to find out the main culprit: **Residents and business employees unwittingly putting highly flammable items in their trash cans.**

If you put anything flammable like batteries, paint thinners, gasoline, pool chemicals, lighter fluid, or other hazardous material in your trash, you are putting yourself, your community and our drivers at serious risk.

Many people think, "**it's just one little battery, what could it harm?**"

Imagine everyone on your street tossed in a few batteries with the weekly trash, the neighbors behind you put in several cans of old paint and paint thinner and four blocks away a person added pool cleaner and gasoline to the mix. With our compaction system to crush trash as we move through the day, those batteries have punctured and the containers those flammable liquids were in have smashed - and all those dangerous materials are now mingling together. *Whoosh*, the truck goes up in flames!

No one wants to put lives or property at risk. Let's keep our community safe by keeping our containers free of all hazardous materials.

As a reminder, these **items are NOT allowed** in your waste containers:

- Appliances
- Aerosol cans
- Asbestos
- Batteries (Auto or Small Device)
- Chemical Products (e.g., cleaners, pool chemicals)
- Construction Debris
- Electronics (e.g., TV, computers, radios)
- Flammables (e.g., gasoline, lighter fluid, propane)
- Fluorescent Lights/Tubes
- Hazardous Waste
- Herbicides/Pesticides
- Liquids of any kind
- Medical Waste
- Needles (e.g., syringes)
- Paint and Thinners
- Radioactive Materials
- Tires
- Any Types of Oil Including Oil Rags

Contact Waste Management at wmilmv@wm.com for proper disposal of these items or look up hazardous recycling center near you on your city's website.

Thank you!