

**City of Sault Ste. Marie  
Household Special Waste Depot**

**WDO Project No. HSW 01 06**

**FINAL REPORT**

**Introduction**

The City of Sault Ste. Marie has established a permanent facility that will accept, store and transfer household special waste products at 115 Industrial Park Crescent. The facility is designed to accept HSW material that is generated within the District of Algoma, primarily from within the City of Sault Ste. Marie.

The Household Special Waste Facility accepts materials that should not be disposed of in the regular waste stream due to the health and environmental hazards they may pose. This facility provides the residents with an opportunity to discard unwanted HSW in a controlled and regulated manner.

In general, the City's role is to accept and store a wide range of common household materials, which will periodically be removed by a contracted licensed waste hauler for proper disposal or recycling. The City also makes every effort to allow the materials to be recycled or reused locally, if at all possible.

**Methodology**

The following is a list of the key work tasks completed in association with this project:

- reviewed HHW management programs previously established in other municipalities
- identified and assessed candidate sites
- selected preferred site
- completed the development of the facility (ie. building layout and design)
- consulted with the public
- met with local Fire Department to review fire/spill safety issues
- constructed the building
- obtained a Certificate of Approval
- obtained a Waste Generator Number
- issued and awarded a waste disposal contract
- selected and trained staff
- completed community advertising; and
- opened the facility to the public on September 7, 2001



# WDO PROJECTS FINAL REPORT



Permanent HSW Depot – HSW 01 06

**Project Name:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Municipality/Organization:** The Corporation of the City of Sault Ste. Marie  
**Municipal Project Manager:** Patrick McAuley  
**Total Funding Provided by WDO:** \$115,000  
**Total Project Costs:** \$280,000

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

*Insert a two to three paragraph description of the project, summarizing the purpose, goals, actions taken, methodology and outcomes of the project.*

The purpose of this project is to establish for the City of Sault Ste. Marie and surrounding region a permanent household hazardous waste depot.

The goal of the project was to design, locate and build a facility that will provide this service, from April through October each calendar year.

The action taken to accomplish this included:

- a review of other HHW management programs previously established in other municipalities
- identification and assessment of candidate sites
- selection of preferred site
- the development of the facility (ie. building layout and design)
- public consultation
- meeting(s) with local Fire Department to review fire/spill safety issues
- the construction of the building
- obtaining a Certificate of Approval
- obtaining a Waste Generator Number
- issuing and awarding a waste disposal contract
- selecting and training staff
- completing community advertising
- opening the facility to the public on September 7, 2001

To-date we have had approximately 800 vehicles visit the site, which means that over 10,000 litres of household hazardous waste has been diverted from our landfill.

Also, a Waste Diversion Supervisor was hired on April 30, 2001 by the City of Sault Ste. Marie to ensure all the requirements of the HSW program are met, as well as oversee other municipal diversion efforts.

## Results

Overall, the HSW program has been well received by the community and surrounding area with over 800 visits during the first five (5) weeks of operation (ie. 10 operating days). Based on estimated lab pack volumes over 10,000 litres of household special waste has been diverted from our landfill.

The following list of materials is being accepted:

- Acid Corrosives;
- Base Corrosives;
- Flammables;
- Toxics;
- Reactives;
- Non-Hazardous;
- Used Motor Oil;
- Propane Tanks;
- Automobile Batteries; and
- Automobile Coolants.

The design of the facility has allowed us to provide an efficient service for our residents resulting in very satisfied customers.

The following photographs display the setup of the depot with each feature described below the photo:



East Side of HSW Building  
(Landscaping to be completed  
Spring 2002)



North Side of HSW Building



Northwest corner of HSW Building (Residents proceed from the north to the west side of the building under the canopy)



South side of HSW Building (Used Motor Oil and Anti-freeze tanks on concrete pad)



Propane Tank and Car Battery Storage Area (Southeast Corner of Site)



Flammable Storage Area (Southwest Corner of Site)



Through the process of establishing this facility it became very evident that there is no 'cookie cutter' model for providing this essential service to a community. It was also learned that collaboration with the local Fire Department and Ministry of the Environment was very critical.

### **Transferability To Other Regions/Municipalities in Ontario**

The facility established for the residents of Sault Ste. Marie is transferable to other communities in the province. We are serving a population of approximately 80,000. As the contractors for disposal service are based in southern and/or eastern Ontario, northern communities may largely learn from our experience. It will be particularly interesting to note whether the blend of material accepted at our facility is similar or distinct from Provincial trends and studies.

It is certainly very evident that if a HSW service is established and well advertised a community will be able to increase diversion from their landfill as well as avoid burying extremely hazardous materials.