

To initiate this programme, a total of \$5,000 was spent to purchase composting and recycling bins. Transporting the material to a recycling depot costs approximately \$30,000 per year, however, an average of about \$3,500 per year in waste removal fees can be eliminated. The economic benefit of multi-material recycling cannot be fully quantified however, as resource depletion and environmental degradation costs are not part of conventional accounting principles.

The diversion of cans and glass from landfill through recycling offers clear environmental benefits. By recycling aluminum, not only are Canadians making the most of a non-renewable resource, but considerably less energy is required to produce new aluminum from discarded pop cans than from raw materials. Similarly, recycling glass saves oil and other raw materials. Immense savings of energy, water, and virgin materials are achieved through recycling. Finally, the nutrient-rich earth produced from the composting process is used at the Experimental Farm, thus reducing the need for artificial fertilizers.

#### 4.1.3 Hazardous Waste Disposal

The importance of safe and proper handling of hazardous materials is not underestimated at the House. In keeping with Greening the Hill's objectives and federal requirements for hazardous material handling and storage, \$14,000 has been invested since 1989 to upgrade the hazardous materials storage facility in the Wellington Building. Items temporarily stored in the facility include waste paints, solvents and oils. As no industrial/commercial hazardous waste disposal facility exists in Ottawa, the House spends \$2,500 yearly to ensure that hazardous waste generated at the House is safely disposed at an authorized site.

Figure 4: Costs to Upgrade Hazardous Waste Storage Facility

Upgrade of Hazardous Waste Storage Facility:	ACTUAL TO DATE
Phase I (1989)	
- House of Commons Costs .....	\$2,500
Phase II (1993)	
- House of Commons Costs .....	\$11,500
<b>Total Phase I and II .....</b>	<b>\$14,000</b>
Annual Removal Costs (\$2,500 per annum) .....	10,000
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$24,000</b>