



As we clean and prepare our homes for Passover, it is not uncommon to come across many items, other than *chametz*, that we would like to discard. Questions often arise regarding papers or publications that bear Hebrew letters and may be considered *shaimos*, religious items or texts, which require special disposal.

Therefore, we present the following guidelines established by our own *Av Beth Din*, HaRav Gedalia Dov Schwartz, shlit"á.

Shaimos Guidelines

In regard to disposal of items containing Hebrew script, etc. and *shaimos*, the following guidelines are recommended:

Any parts of *Kisvei Kodesh* such as *Tanach*, *Gemara*, and *siddurim*, etc. must have *geniza*, burial of religious items. This includes *tefillin*, *mezuzot*, rabbinic *sefarim*, and *mezuzah* covers.

It would be advisable that worksheets, etc. not be reproduced or written in *ksav ashuri* (printed Hebrew letters – not handwritten script) if possible and advisable that entire *p'sukim* not be reproduced. The worksheets then can also be recycled.

Jewish newspapers may be put into double plastic bags and then disposed of. This includes such publications as the Jewish Press and the Yated, etc.

In Jewish publications such as Likutei P'shatim and shul newsletters, only the *Divrei Torah* sections must have *geniza*. The social sections may be recycled.

Important note: Please do not bring your *shaimos* to the cRc office during the Passover season. As in past years, the cRc plans to coordinate a *shaimos* collection for the Chicago community during the summer. Details of that collection will be announced at that time.