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 Rosh Beth Din, HaRav Gedalia Dov Schwartz.

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 and that entire p’sukim not be reproduced. Assuming these guidelines have been followed, these worksheets may then be disposed or recycled.

• Jewish newspapers may be put into double plastic bags and then disposed of. This includes such publications as the Jewish Press, 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:
As the cRc will not be collecting shaimos, please do not bring your shaimos to the cRc office during the Passover season.