



FOUNDED 1740

CONGREGATION MIKVEH ISRAEL
in The City of Philadelphia

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DISPOSING OF HAMETS BEFORE PASSOVER

Since it is a Torah injunction not to possess Hamets during the holiday of Passover, even a minute amount is forbidden during this holiday.

The simplest way to dispose of the Hamets is by consuming as much as possible of it before the holiday. Whatever is left should either be given to charity or be disposed of completely outside one's dwelling.

Because of extreme financial burden, *Hefsed Merubeh*, on Jewish traders (such as liquor stores, Hamets food stores, etc...), the Rabbis devised a procedure whereby Hamets is sold to a non-Jew. This transaction is a legally binding one whereby the non-Jew owns this Hamets. After the holiday, this same Hamets may be repurchased from the non-Jew if he or she so wishes. Historically, this method was not made for convenience purposes.

We are afforded the opportunity of two Mitsvot by doing one deed. By giving the remaining Hamets in your possession to the needy, you hereby rid your home of the Hamets and also help feed the poor. **This is a preferred method.**

For those who still need to sell their Hamets, Rabbi Gabbai will act as your agent. Please call the office to make arrangements or come to the Synagogue office. You may use the enclosed form for mailing.

Mo'adim Lesimha, Happy Passover.

Rabbi Albert E. Gabbai