

## WHAT IS HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE?

Household hazardous waste is any waste from the home, which is flammable, toxic, corrosive or reactive. Common examples include:

- Paints (not latex)
- Pesticides
- Automotive fluids
- Hobby chemicals
- Some cleaning products
- Thinners and strippers
- Batteries (not alkaline)
- Acids/Bases
- Mercury thermometers

## WHY ARE THESE WASTES A PROBLEM?

These products pose many dangers. First, you may be exposed to toxic substances during use. Second, the chemicals may contaminate our air or water supplies when improperly discarded down the drain or in the trash. Third, when tossed into the garbage, the wastes may injure sanitation workers or react on the truck or in a landfill.

## HOW SHOULD I HANDLE HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE?

Handle these wastes carefully to avoid injury to self or damage to the environment. Store wastes in original containers with labels intact. Keep them out of the reach of children and pets; and away from heat. Save wastes for a household hazardous waste collection program when available, or call your Town Hall, Department of Public Works, or CET.

## REDUCE THE NEED TO DISPOSE OF HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE

👍 **Use the least hazardous products available.** See inside chart for some suggestions. If you must purchase a hazardous product, buy the amount you can use up.

👍 **Read labels.** Make sure that the product will do what you want before you buy it. Follow instructions for safe use, storage and ventilation.

**Check the "signal word" on the product label. "Poison" and "Danger" are more toxic than "Caution" or "Warning".**

👍 **Don't use more of a product than the directions say to use.** Using an excessive amount of a product results in greater danger to you and the environment, not in performing a better job.

👍 **Give leftover products to someone who can use them.** Friends, neighbors, community groups or charities may be able to put leftovers to good use.

👍 **Recycle motor oil.** Some towns collect used motor oil (check with your Town or DPW), or keep your receipt and return used oil to your place of purchase.

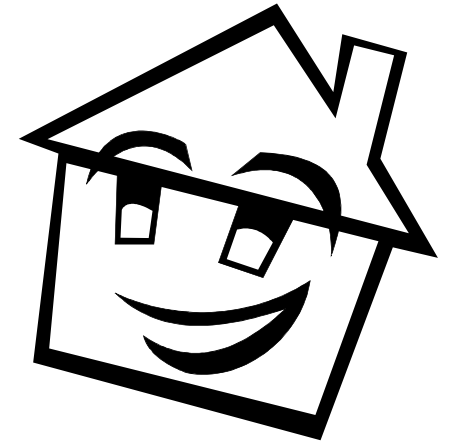
👍 **Avoid aerosols.** Aerosol cans containing propellant can be flammable and are explosive if crushed or incinerated. Breathing the propellant may be hazardous to human health.

## REDUCE YOUR USE OF HAZARDOUS PRODUCTS! HERE ARE SOME EXAMPLES:

Batteries (not alkaline)	Primer
Rug cleaners	Shellac
Floor polish	Strippers
Alcohol	Driveway sealer
Mothballs	Photographic chemicals
Spot removers	Motor oil
Toilet bowl cleaners	Gasoline
Drain opener	Antifreeze
Bleach	Brake fluid
Oven cleaner	Power steering fluid
Disinfectants	Carburetor cleaner
Acids/Bases	Car wax
Pool chemicals	Automobile batteries
Ammonia	Transmission fluid
Metal polish	Diesel fuel
Wood polish	Degreasers
Waxes	Auto body filler
Septic tank cleaners	Lighter fluid
Nail polish removers	Insecticides
Medications	Weed killer
Aerosols	Pesticides
Glues (non-water soluble)	Flea collars
Adhesives	Flea dips and soaps
Stains	Insect repellents
Lacquer	Wood preservatives
Artist paints	Herbicides
Thinners	Gas cylinders
Paint (not latex)	Kerosene
Varnishes	Cements
Linseed oil	

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Create a  
Healthy  
Home



Reduce Your  
Use of  
Household  
Hazardous  
Products

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