

Household Hazardous Waste



Many products that we use every day, including those below, contain hazardous materials that can be dangerous to people and the environment.

- Acids/Alkalines
- Antifreeze
- Bleach
- Batteries
- Polishes/Cleaners
- Disinfectants
- Gas Cylinders
- Gasoline
- Kerosene
- Mercury
- Pesticides
- Herbicides
- Solvents/Paints
- Used Motor Oil
- Fluorescent Bulbs

ALTERNATIVES TO TOXIC SUBSTANCES

Drain cleaners

Pour boiling water down the drain. Use a plunger or a plumber's "snake."

Toilet bowl cleaner

Use toilet brush and baking soda, mild detergent or 1/2 cup bleach.

Paint remover/stripper

Heat guns may be used for removing many paints, but only in well-ventilated areas. Avoid using them for lead-based paints.

Window cleaner

Use a pump spray container filled with 2 tbsp. vinegar in 1 quart water or rub newspaper on the glass.

Oven cleaners

For baked-on grease, heat oven to 200 degrees; turn off, and leave 1/4 cup ammonia in a dish in the oven for several hours to loosen. Then scrub with baking soda. Save the ammonia to be used again.

Furniture polish

Melt 1 tbsp. Carnuba Wax into 2 cups mineral oil. For lemon oil polish: dissolve 1 tsp. lemon oil into 1 pint mineral oil.

Roach repellent

Cut hedge apples (Osage oranges) in half and place in the basement, in the cabinets or under the house. Mix equal parts baking soda and powdered sugar and sprinkle in the infested area.



WHAT TO DO

- Buy and use less hazardous substitutes whenever possible.
- Buy only what you need.
- Wear gloves and protective clothing to prevent skin contact.
- Handle the substance gently, especially if you don't know what it is.
- Follow directions carefully when using any hazardous products.
- Keep hazardous substances out of the reach of children and pets and away from heat sources or open flame.
- Always read labels before you buy a product to be sure it will meet your needs.
- Try to find someone else to use your unwanted material, but be sure you know what you have and inform them fully.
- Use non-aerosol products in reusable containers.

WHAT NOT TO DO

- Mix materials or wastes together.
- Dispose of large quantities of any toxic materials in a septic system.
- Bury or burn containers of leftover materials.
- Dispose of materials into the storm sewer.
- Breathe fumes from toxic materials.
- Touch mercury, throw it in the garbage or clean it up with a vacuum cleaner.
- Store hazardous products in food containers (use the original, labeled container).

Check with your local solid waste district for information about waste management options in your area.



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