

CLEAN WATER BEGINS AT HOME



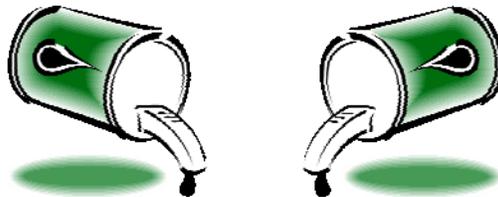
HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS MATERIALS - USE, STORAGE & DISPOSAL

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

You'd be amazed how many hazardous materials we have on hand at home. Oil-based paints and stains, paint thinner, gasoline, charcoal starter fluid, cleaners, waxes, pesticides, fingernail polish remover, and wood preservatives are just a few. When these items are spill on the ground or into a storm drain, they can go directly into streams, lakes, or wetlands harming fish and wildlife. They also infiltrate into the ground and contaminate drinking water supplies. Similarly, contamination occurs from pouring hazardous products down a sink or toilet into a septic system or piped to a municipal sewer system. Many compounds will "pass through" the wastewater treatment plant and may contaminate receiving waters or harm the biological process used at the treatment plant, reducing overall treatment efficiency. Here are some ways to help keep these materials out of our soils, sediments and waters:

- Dispose of hazardous materials and their containers properly. Never dump products labeled as "poisonous", "corrosive", "caustic", "flammable", "inflammable", "volatile", "explosive", "danger", "warning", "caution", or "dangerous" outdoors, into a storm drain, sinks, toilets or drains.
- Store hazardous materials containers under cover and off the ground. Keep them out of the weather to avoid rusting, freezing, cracking, etc.
- Hazardous materials should be stored out of children's' reach in clearly labeled, unbreakable containers. Don't store in food and beverage containers.
- Keep appropriate spill cleanup materials on hand. Kitty litter is good for many oil-based spills.
- Ground cloths and drip pans should be used under any work outdoors which involves hazardous materials, such as oil-based paints, stains, rust removers, masonry cleaners, and others bearing label warnings, such as those outlined above.
- Latex paint (not accepted in liquid form at the landfill) may be taken to a household hazardous waste site for recycling; or you can leave the can uncovered in a protected place until dry, then put it in the garbage. To quickly dry unused paint, just pour kitty litter in the can to absorb it. Once paint is dry, leave the lid off when you place it in the garbage.
- Use less toxic products whenever possible. Contact the Washington Toxics Coalition at www.watoxics.org or (206) 632-1545 for information on alternatives.
- Move activities involving a hazardous material indoors (with proper ventilation) out of the weather, if possible.
- Follow manufacturers' directions when using all materials. Over-applying yard chemicals, for instance, can wash compounds into receiving water bodies. Never apply pesticides when rain is expected.
- When hazardous materials are in use, place the container inside a tub or bucket to minimize spills.
- Only buy as much as you need for the project and safely dispose of leftovers (in original containers with labels to identify the material). Use the free hazardous waste facilities or collection events for disposal.

For more information call (360) 342-5070 or check out our website at www.cityofbg.org



HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTES AND DISPOSAL METHODS



Recycle it



Pour small amounts
down drain*



Take it to a hazardous
waste collection facility



Put it in the
trash

Kitchen

Aerosol cans (empty)

Aluminum cleaners

Ammonia based cleaners

Bug sprays

Drain cleaners

Floor care products

Furniture polish

Metal polish with solvent

Window cleaner

Oven cleaner (lye based)

Garage

Antifreeze

Autobody repair products

Battery (lead, acid)

Brake fluid

Car wax solvent

Diesel fuel

Fuel oil

Gasoline

Kerosene

Metal polish with solvent

Motor Oil

Other oil

Transmission fluid

Windshield washer solution

Garden fertilizer

Fungicide

Herbicide

Insecticide

Weed killer

Bathroom

Alcohol based lotions (aftershave, per-
fumes)

Bathroom cleaners

Depilatories

Disinfectants

Permanent lotions, hair relaxers

Medicine (expired)

Nail polish/remover (solidified)

Toilet, tub and tile cleaners

Workshop

Paintbrush cleaner w/solvent

Paintbrush cleaner w/ TSP

Aerosol cans (empty)

Glue (solvent based)

Glue (water-based)

Paint: latex (dried)

Paint: latex (wet)

Paint: oil based, auto, model

Paint thinner or stripper

Primer

Rust removed (w/phosphoric acid)

Turpentine or varnish

Wood preservative

Miscellaneous

Artist's paints

Cleaning solvents

Fiberglass epoxy

Gum cleaning solvents

Car wax solvent

Lighter fluid

Household batteries

Moth balls

Photographic chemicals
(mixed and property diluted)

Shoe polish

*Don't pour chemicals down the drain if you are connected to a septic system.