

Convenient, Clean and Safe

There is no question about it, the convenience of today's household maintenance products make our lives a lot easier. They save us time and energy for a number of activities. You don't have to look hard for a product to help you get the job done right.

It is well known that cleanliness contributes to health by reducing the spread of disease. Killing germs and keeping our homes, yards and vehicles well maintained is serious business. It is important that we understand that the products we use, are made of the same chemicals that are used at the industrial level, and must be handled with care. The same health and safety rules that apply to industry, also apply at home. When these products have no more practical value in the home they become "Household Hazardous Waste" (HHW).



If you are cleaning: store or dispose of unwanted hazardous waste properly.

If you are moving: take your household products with you or dispose of unwanted hazardous waste properly.

If you are buying: request that unwanted hazardous products be disposed of properly and no hazardous products are left behind, especially in basements and outbuildings.

Almost 50% of the household hazardous waste brought to collection day events are from home buyers that had "inherited" unwanted hazardous products.

For more information contact:

Cleaning? Please Use Care When Handling Hazardous Household Materials



MICHIGAN STATE
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What is HHW?

Nearly every home and business possesses some products that contain hazardous materials. Some of these products include: cleaners, automotive fluids, beauty products, lawn and garden chemicals, adhesives, solvents, florescents, and hobby chemicals.

A material is considered hazardous if it contains products that are:

Toxic (chemicals that can injure or kill if swallowed, inhaled, or absorbed through the skin)

Flammable (chemicals that may explode or ignite, even when cool)

Corrosive (chemicals that can cause permanent tissue damage through contact)

Irritant (chemicals that can irritate or inflame the skin, eyes, nose, throat, or lungs)

Repeated or excessive contact with these materials can be harmful to human and animal health, and to the environment, especially our water and air.

Do's and Don'ts for handling hazardous household products

✓ Do buy only what you need



✓ Don't stockpile unused chemicals



✓ Do use them up or give them away

✓ Don't keep leaky and corroded containers

✓ Do take part in HHW collection days or take to a collection facility



✓ Do follow product label directions



✓ Don't pour them down drains

✓ Do recycle them at drop off sites

✓ Don't leave them behind when you move



✓ Do store them properly and out of the reach of children and pets

How do I know it is hazardous?

Look on the label for the words: Caution, Attention, Warning, Poison, Corrosive, Caustic, Volatile, Flammable, Explosive.

Some products that should be managed as hazardous waste and are accepted at HHW collections include:

- Pesticides•Herbicides•Cleaners polishes•Paint products•Solvents
- Automotive products•Hair color•Rechargeable batteries• Pool chemicals•Hobby chemicals•Florescent light bulbs•Mercury and mercury containing devices

Items that are not accepted at special collections that need special handling are:

- Automotive batteries•Latex Paints
- Used Motor oil•Radioactive Materials
- Explosives •Ammunition
- Pharmaceuticals•Business Wastes