

# Household Hazardous Waste

## Best Management Practices for the Home Owner



### Why should you recycle your Household Hazardous Waste?

Did you know that when certain household chemicals are not used up properly, they become household hazardous waste? These products contain the same chemicals as strictly regulated industrial wastes. They also pose similar threats to the environment and our health. The quantity of waste from a single household may be small, but that quantity adds up fast considering the number of households in Northeast Wisconsin. For that reason, everyone should know the proper way to dispose of their household hazardous waste.

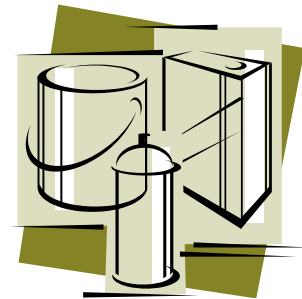
## What Can You Do?

Copied from <http://www.epa.gov/osw/conserves/materials/hhw.htm>

Consider reducing your purchase of products that contain hazardous ingredients. Learn about the use of alternative methods or products without hazardous ingredients for some common household needs.

To avoid the potential risks associated with household wastes, it is important that people always monitor the use, storage, and disposal of products with potentially hazardous substances in their homes. Below are some tips for individuals to follow in their own homes:

- Use and store products containing hazardous substances carefully to prevent any accidents at home.
- Never store hazardous products in food containers; keep them in their original containers and never remove labels.
- Corroding containers, however, require special handling. Call you local hazardous materials official or fire department
- When leftovers remain, never mix HHW with other products - Incompatible products might react, ignite, or explode and contaminated HHW might become unrecyclable.
- Remember to follow any instructions for use and disposal provided on product labels.



## What is a Household Hazardous Waste (HHW)

Products such as:

- Rodent baits
- Lead & Oil paints
- Batteries
- Pesticides
- Herbicides
- Solvents
- Gasoline
- Waste oil
- Anti-freeze

Or other products featuring words like:

- Caution
- Danger
- Warning
- Poison
- Flammable
- Corrosive
- Combustible

## How should you dispose of your HHW?

Call your local environmental, health or solid waste agency for instructions on proper use and disposal and to learn about local Household Hazardous Waste drop off programs or upcoming collection days.

NEVER pour any material, hazardous or otherwise down the storm drain or into the ditch. When it rains these materials mix with stormwater and end up in our lakes and rivers without treatment.

