

# Household Hazardous Wastes?

Many products you use in your home and yard contain hazardous materials. Improper disposal of these products can cause fires, injuries to people and animals, and groundwater contamination. This guide will help you identify hazardous products in your home. **Keep your home safe by disposing of hazardous products properly.**

Key: ▲ Take to a hazardous waste collection site / ■ Place in trash / ● Pour down drain (\*NOT if connected to a SEPTIC system)

*\*SEPTIC SYSTEMS may be adversely affected by large quantities of these materials. Items should be taken to a hazardous waste collection site.*

Garage and Workshop			
Acetone	▲		
Adhesive, solvent-based	▲		
Antifreeze	▲		
Artist's paints and media	▲		
Autobody repair products	▲		
Battery acid	▲		
Brake fluid	▲		
Car batteries	▲		
Car wax, solvent-based	▲		
Concrete cleaner	▲		
Contact cement	▲		
Driveway sealer	▲		
Fiberglass epoxy	▲		
Flares / Fusees	▲		
Gasoline and other fuels	▲		
Glue, solvent-based	▲		
Glue, water-based		■	
Joint compound		■	
Lighter fluid	▲		
Motor oil	▲		
Oil filters	▲		
Other oils	▲		
Paint, all types	▲		
Paint cans, empty		■	
Paint thinner	▲		
Paint stripper	▲		
Parts cleaner, degreaser	▲		
Photographic chemicals	▲		
Roof/foundation coating	▲		
Rust remover			●
Shellac	▲		
Stain	▲		
Transmission fluid	▲		
Turpentine	▲		
Varnish	▲		
Windshield washer solution	▲		
Wood filler	▲		
Wood preservative	▲		

Kitchen and Bathroom			
Alcohol-based lotions (perfume, aftershave)	▲		
Bleach			●
Cleaners, ammonia-based			●
Cleaners, solvent-based	▲		
Cosmetics		■	
Disinfectants			●
Drain cleaner			●
Floor care products	▲		
Hair remover	▲		
Medical sharps	▲		
Medicine		■	
Nail polish	▲		
Nail polish remover	▲		
Oven cleaner	▲		
Permanent wave solution			●
Skin cream		■	
Toilet bowl cleaner			●
Tub and tile cleaner			●
Window cleaner	▲		

Home and Garden			
Aerosol cans, empty		■	
Aerosol cans, full	▲		
Ammunition	▲		
Batteries, alkaline		■	
Batteries, button	▲		
Charcoal lighter fluid	▲		
Dry cleaning solvent	▲		
Fertilizer		■	
Fertilizer with weed killer	▲		
Fireworks	▲		
Fluorescent compact bulbs	▲		
Fluorescent tubes	▲		
Fungicide	▲		
Furniture polish	▲		
Insect killer (insecticide)	▲		
Insect spray, repellent	▲		
Light ballasts	▲		
Mercury compounds	▲		
Mercury, thermometers	▲		
Mercury, thermostats	▲		
Metal polish, solvent-based	▲		
Mothballs	▲		
Pesticide	▲		
Pool chemicals	▲		
Rat poison	▲		
Rechargeable batteries	▲		
Shoe polish	▲		
Spot remover	▲		
Stump remover	▲		
Weed killer (herbicide)	▲		

## Think Before You Buy!

- Switch to safer substitutes. For a brochure on alternatives to hazardous products, call your county office.
- Read the label. Make sure the product will do what you want before purchasing. Follow label directions for safe use, storage and disposal.
- Purchase only the amount you need and use up what you buy.
- Avoid aerosols by choosing pump sprays.
- Select water-based over solvent-based products when available.
- Before buying paint, check out your regional Product Exchange. It's free!

## Proper Disposal

- Give leftover products to someone who will use them for their intended purpose.
- Never pour oil, antifreeze or other hazardous materials on the ground, into storm sewers or down the drain.
- Destroy medicines (add water, salt, etc), seal with tape and conceal before placing in trash.
- Car batteries can be returned to stores that sell them. Stores must accept batteries back for recycling.
- TVs, computers, and other electronic waste must be recycled.



Questions? Call Cook County Solid Waste (218) 387-3630

Sponsored by: The Western Lake Superior Sanitary District

