

How To Safely Handle, Store, & Dispose of HHW



- Never mix or consolidate partially full products.
- Keep products in their original containers with original labels.
- Secure all containers with lids.
- Use a permanent marker to clearly print the product or chemical on the container if no label or repackaged.



- Make sure if containers are outside, they are in an area that protects them from rain or snow accumulation.
- Keep storage area cool and dry.
- Store products upright.
- Keep out of reach of young children.
- Make sure that no containers have leaks.
- Keep all ignition sources such as matches away from storage area.



- Do not transport hazardous waste in a vehicle with children or pets.

HHW can be disposed of at the NWSWD Georgia Facility year-round by appointment. NWSWD also holds household hazardous waste collection events May-September in various district towns on a rotating basis.

How To Reduce HHW

Select the least toxic products available.

Choose the product with the least amount of toxic materials. Avoid products labeled "WARNING", "DANGER", "or "POISON"

Only purchase the amount that you need.




Know how much you need and buy accordingly. When possible buy a multi-purpose product that can be used for several tasks.

Share products with other community members. Find a neighbor or friend who can use excess products or purchase the material with someone who can also use it.

Treat messes as soon as they occur. Avoid the need for household hazardous products by preventing stains or clogs in the first place.

DIY alternative eco-friendly products. In many cases, the least toxic and best product for the job can be made at home. Check our website to learn how to make your own non-hazardous household products

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Household Hazardous Waste Guide



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What Is Household Hazardous Waste?

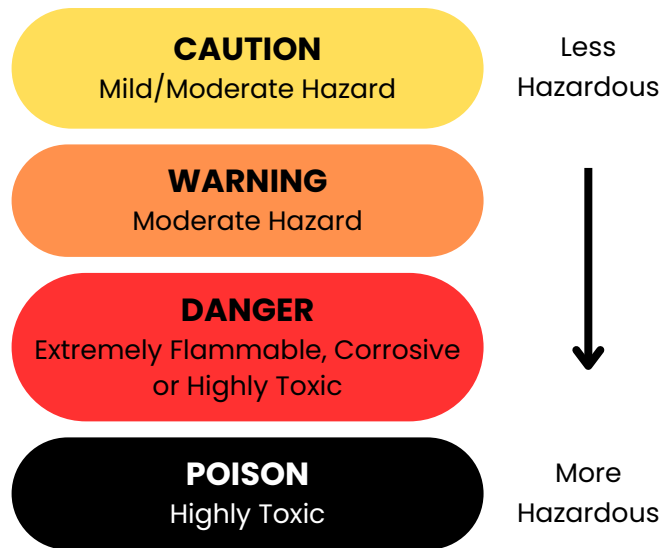
Household hazardous waste (HHW) is a term used to describe hazardous wastes entering the municipal waste stream. By definition, household hazardous products are consumer products that are toxic, corrosive, reactive, flammable, or explosive. When a potentially hazardous household product is discarded, it becomes household hazardous waste.

Examples of HHW

Automotive Supplies antifreeze autobody filler brake fluid gasoline grease motor oil oil filters transmission fluid wax	Health /Beauty Aids hair dyes nail polish/remover mercury thermometers
Cleaners ammonia chlorine bleach drain openers furniture polish oven cleaners rug/upholstery cleaners	Home Improvement Supplies glues paints & stains paint thinner roofing tar strippers & varnish
Garden Supplies fertilizers herbicides & pesticides poisons	Miscellaneous ballasts & capacitors batteries fire extinguishers flea powder/shampoo fluorescent bulbs propane cylinders mercury thermostats

How To Identify Hazardous Waste

Federal law requires labeling of hazardous products by using signal words. It is important to note that the absence of a signal word on a container label does not necessarily mean that the material is not hazardous or harmful. It may simply indicate that the hazard may be lower, but not absent.



Products may also include graphic symbols, or pictograms, on the labels to alert users of the presence of potentially hazardous chemicals.



Flammable



Corrosive



Toxic



Reactive

The Dangers Of Improper HHW Disposal

HHW is inappropriately disposed of in many different ways. These methods include flushing down the drain or toilet, tossing in the garbage, pouring down the storm drain or on the street, or dumping illegally. The dangers of improper disposal may not be immediately obvious, but certain types of HHW have the potential to threaten environmental and human health through water, soil, and air contamination.

Human Health Effects

- Skin, eye, ear irritation
- Poisoning
- Respiratory problems
- Chemical burns
- Rashes
- Nausea
- Birth defects
- Behavioral abnormalities
- Cancer
- Genetic mutations
- Kidney and heart failure
- Physical deformations

Environmental Effects

- Poison microorganisms
- Kill plants and wildlife
- Destroy terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems
- Surface water and soil contamination
- Mutate or cause reproductive complications in animals
- Cause wildfires