

# Household HazWaste: Reduction as your first choice

Reduce the amount of potentially hazardous products in your home and eliminate what you throw away by following these easy steps:

## 1. Before you buy:

- Read the labels and be aware of what they mean.
- Look for these words on labels; they tell you what products may need special handling or disposal:

Caution	Flammable
Warning	Combustible
Danger	Explosive
Poison	Volatile
Toxic	Corrosive

- Select a product best suited for the job.
- Buy only what you can use entirely.



## 2. After you buy:

- Read precautions and follow directions for safe use.
- Use recommended amounts; more is not necessarily better.
- Store properly and keep in original container.
- Use the child-resistant closures and keep them on tightly.
- Share what you can't use with friends or neighbors.
- Recycle/dispose of empty container properly.

If you have old household products that you may consider hazardous or still have some product left over after following the preceding directions, use the information on the back side of this sheet for disposal advice.

# Household HazWaste Management Guide



= Recycle



= Flush with lots of water in sanitary sewer (not septic system or storm drain)



= Dispose of dried solids in the trash



= Save for household hazwaste collection



= Exchange for reuse (if your community has a waste exchange program)

Household Items		Home Improvement		Yard & Garden		Automotive	
Artist and hobby paint	<b>C</b>	Adhesives, glues w/solvents***	<b>C</b>	Driveway sealer	<b>C</b> <b>X</b>	Antifreeze	<b>C</b>
Cleaner w/ ammonia*	<b>U</b>	Concrete cleaner (acid)	<b>C</b> <b>X</b>	Empty containers		Auto batteries	
Cleaner w/ bleach*	<b>U</b>	Furniture stripper	<b>C</b>	Fertilizer w/weed killer	<b>C</b>	Brake fluid	<b>C</b>
Disinfectants**	<b>U</b>	Glaze, spackle		Fertilizer (no weed killer)	<b>X</b>	Carburetor cleaner	<b>C</b>
Drain and toilet cleaners**	<b>U</b>	Glue (water based)		Insect or bug killer	<b>C</b>	Degreasers	<b>C</b>
Floor/wax stripper***	<b>C</b>	Latex paint	<b>X</b>	Lighter fluid	<b>C</b>	Gasoline, fuels	<b>C</b>
Household batteries**	<b>C</b>	Oil-based paint	<b>C</b> <b>X</b>	Pool chemicals	<b>C</b>	Transmission fluid	<b>C</b>
Metal cleaners	<b>C</b>	Paint remover	<b>C</b>	Rat/rodent poison	<b>C</b>	Used motor oil	
Mothballs	<b>C</b>	Paint thinner	<b>C</b> <b>X</b>	Weed killer	<b>C</b>	Windshield washer	<b>U</b>
Oven cleaners**	<b>C</b>	Putty, grout, caulk					
Polish & spot removers**	<b>C</b>	Stain, varnish, lacquer	<b>C</b>				
Polish w/ solvents***	<b>C</b>	Turpentine	<b>C</b> <b>X</b>				
Thermometers (mercury)	<b>C</b>	Wood preservatives	<b>C</b>				

\* Never mix products containing ammonia with those containing bleach.

\*\* Some, but not all, of these products need to be saved for collection. Read labels and call your local official for disposal advise.

\*\*\* Solvent-containing products have the words “Flammable”, “Combustible” or “contains petroleum distillates” on the labels. Also, products with acetone, xylene, and methylene chloride should be saved for collection.



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Adapted from Waukesha County's *HHW Disposal Guide* by the Wisconsin Waste Reduction Coalition