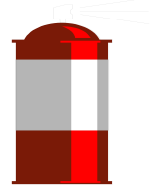




TOXIC SUBSTANCES AND HAZARDOUS WASTE IN MY HOME?!



Yes, your home!!

If you have motor oil, unused pesticides, old paint or household cleaners, **you have hazardous waste**. Many household, car and garden products contain chemicals which are toxic (poisonous) and/or caustic (causing burns) to people, plants and animals. Household hazardous waste is simply any material from the home that threatens our well-being because chemicals that are poisonous in small quantities can often accumulate in the environment. So, the continuous release of small amounts of toxic substances can, with time, create a big problem. The consequences can include:

1. Injury to animals, plants, or people, or contamination of foodstuffs.
2. Dramatic cost increases for sewage treatment if toxicants are in high concentration in the waste stream.
3. Huge costs of cleaning up our waters once polluted.

No longer can we take the attitude "Out of sight, Out of mind" toward these products. For example, motor oil poured down the storm drain goes directly into our marine waters and it takes only a few quarts of oil to contaminate a million gallons of water.

With just a little bit of effort, you can reduce the threats from hazardous waste. Just follow the suggestions which are given below.

Yes, but one household doesn't contribute that much, does it?

You are right, one household alone usually does not generate enough hazardous waste to cause a concern. However, when you consider all households collectively, there is reason for concern. Individually, each household consumes minimal amounts of such items as toilet bowl cleaner, liquid household cleaner and motor oil. Yet in a Borough of 1000 there are several gallons used each year. When you look at it that way, it is easy to see that the contribution households make to the total pollution problem could be significant.

WHAT HAZARDOUS WASTE DO I HAVE?

Many household products contain chemical compounds that are priority pollutants according to the Federal Government. Some of these include:

Household Cleaners	Motor Oils
Antifreeze	Floor Wax
Wood Preservatives	Old Medications
Disinfectants	Solvents
Pesticides	Paints

These potentially harmful products may be in *your* home:

BEDROOM

Disinfectants
Moth Balls

UTILITY ROOM

Washing Soap
Bleach
Laundry Soap
Spot Remover

BATHROOM

Toilet Bowl Cleaner
Outdated Medicine
Floor Cleaner

KITCHEN

Liquid Detergent
Oven Cleaner
Window Cleaner
Floor Wax

LIVING ROOM

Furniture Polish

GARAGE

Paints
Paint Thinner
Motor Oil
Anti Freeze
Pesticides
Wood Preservatives

HOW SHOULD I DISPOSE OF MY HAZARDOUS WASTE?

There are two ways to prevent problems from occurring when dealing with hazardous substances. The first is to use and dispose of them correctly and the second is to eliminate them altogether. That is, to use products other than those with toxic chemicals. Listed below are some general tips and recommendations for proper use and disposal of these products, and some suggested alternatives.

GENERAL TIPS

Use

Be aware of the uses and dangers of products. If directions are unclear, contact the manufacturer or dealer before using.

Keep unused products in their original containers. Then you'll have directions to follow and a list of contents for reference in case of accidental poisonings. Store in a safe place.

Do not overuse a product; twice as much does not mean twice the results. Follow directions.

Never mix different products; explosive or poisonous chemical reactions may occur.

Buy only what you need. If you don't buy an excess, you won't have to get rid of it.

Disposal

Never dispose of products containing harmful chemicals down the drain unless you know they can be treated. Many toxic substances disturb septic tanks or pass right through the municipal treatment system into marine waters. If you are unsure, call the Borough at the number shown on the last page.

For proper disposal of certain toxic substances (particularly hazardous pesticides), contact the Borough (see last page). They will answer questions on proper disposal, and on approved or designated landfills if appropriate.

Take excess amounts of products containing toxicants to chemical reprocessing companies, if available.

Find a friend, neighbor or business (e.g. nursery) who can use up excess products instead of having to throw them away.

PESTICIDES (AND HERBICIDES)

Use remaining pesticide according to directions

Give extra amounts to a neighbor

Wrap **empty** container in newspaper, discard in garbage can.

Take remaining pesticide to a collection site (Call the Borough - See last page for Phone Number)

Do not dump into sewers, storm drains, or septic tanks. Be careful not to over water after use. The pesticide or fertilizer can run off with the excess water into a nearby stream or storm drain.

PESTICIDES RESTRICTED FOR HOUSEHOLD USE

If you have any of the following restricted or questionable pesticides, **DO NOT USE THESE PRODUCTS!!** Call the Borough for specific handling information (See last page).

DDT	DBCP	MIREX
ALDRIN	HEPTACHLOR	SILVEX
DIELDRIN	LINDANE	2,4,5-T
CHOLRDANE	KETONE	TOXAPHENE

NON-TOXIC ALTERNATIVE PESTICIDE TO USE:

Indoor Insect Spray

Screens on window and doors

Promptly remove discarded food and use covered containers

Keep Kitty Litter box clean and isolated

Flypaper

Outdoor Pesticides

Import predators, e.g. ladybugs, ground beetle, lacewings, preying mantis and spiders.

Set traps; e.g. use wet newspaper, stones, flat boards, lettuce, spinach leaves, grapefruit rind. Place on ground during the evening to act as hiding place. In the morning destroy the pests collected at the traps.

Specifically for aphids - mixture of bar soap and water or old dishwater in a spray bottle and spray on aphids.

Call the Borough for further information (see last page).

HOUSEHOLD PRODUCTS

Cleaning Products

Use remaining cleaning products according to directions.

Give extra amount to a neighbor

If container held a liquid, rinse three times pouring rinse water down the drain.

Wrap container in newspaper, discard in garbage can for disposal at a designated landfill.

Old Medicine

Wrap container in newspaper, discard in garbage can for disposal at a designated landfill.

Some pharmacies will take old medications. Call your local pharmacy and ask.

If you have a septic tank, do not dump antibiotics or large quantities of medication down the drain or toilet.

NON-TOXIC ALTERNATIVE - HOUSEHOLD PRODUCTS

All Purpose Cleaner

Clean spill/dirty areas immediately.

Detergent and Water mixture.

Disinfectants and Deodorizers

Open Window.

Open box of baking soda.

1 tsp. bleach mixed with 1 gallon of water.

Drain Cleaner

Plunger or mechanical snake.

Prevent clogged drain by pouring water down drain periodically.

1/2 cup baking soda followed by 2 cups boiling water.

Oven Cleaner

Sprinkle salt or baking soda on spills when they are warm and scrub.

Line bottom with foil (check warranty on oven about the use of foil).

Scouring Powder

Soap and water.

Steel wool or soft bleach

Toilet Bowl Cleaner

Clean regularly with any general household cleaner.

Small amount of bleach.

PAINT PRODUCTS

Paints

Paints contain substances (e.g. solvents and pigments) that are hazardous when inhaled or ingested.

Use remaining paint according to directions.

Give unused portion to a neighbor to use.

Open container out of doors letting unused portion evaporate away from children and pets. Wrap dried paint and can in newspaper, discard in a garbage can.

If container has liquid paint, mix in a cup of kitty litter and allow to dry, wrap can and paint in newspaper and take to a designated collection site (Call Borough - see last page).

Solvents

A solvent is a liquid that dissolves another substance. Many are harmful to humans if ingested, inhaled or absorbed through the skin. Examples; paint removers, furniture refinishers and liquid sandpaper. These products are fire hazards and must be handled with caution.

Use remaining solvent according to directions.

Reuse paint remover by allowing paint particles to settle, pour off usable portion, pour paint particles onto newspaper and discard in garbage can.

If amount of solvent is small (1 quart), use wide-mouthed container and let evaporate out of doors, away from children and pets.

Wrap empty containers in newspaper, discard in garbage can.

Wood Preservatives

Preservatives contain products which are highly toxic to humans, fish and wildlife through exposure to skin, ingestion and inhalation.

Use remaining preservatives according to directions, e.g. paint an old fence post or the base of the house.

Surface should be inaccessible to livestock, children or pets.

Use a wide-mouthed container and let product evaporate out of doors away from children and pets.

Creosote evaporates slowly, take to a designated collection site (call Borough - see last page).

Wrap containers in newspaper, discard in garbage can.

Wrap can containing liquid preservative in newspaper and take to designated collection site (call Borough - see last page).

Do not rinse or reuse container.

AUTO PRODUCTS

Dumping antifreeze, oil, gasoline or brake and transmission fluid into the sewers, storm drains or any body of water is illegal under Federal and many State Laws.

Antifreeze

Antifreeze is poisonous to humans, pets, fish and wildlife if ingested. Pets and children like it's sweet taste and it can be fatal to them if ingested.

SPECIAL CAUTIONS SHOULD BE TAKEN TO AVOID LEAVING PUDDLES ON DRIVEWAYS.

Collect antifreeze and dilute with water. Pour over sandy soil surface away from trees, stormdrains, vegetable gardens and wells.

Rinse container three times, pouring rinse water on sandy soil surface.

Wrap container in newspaper and discard in garbage can.

Motor Oil

Drain used oil into plastic leak proof container with tight fitting lid.

Take to participating service station for recycling, if available. Call the Borough for location of recyclers in your area (see last page).

Wrap empty oil cans in newspaper, discard in garbage can.

Gasoline

Gasoline can be an explosion hazard.

Drain used gasoline into plastic leak proof container with a tight fitting lid.

Take to participating service station for recycling, if available. Be sure to tell attendant the gasoline is tainted. Call the Borough for location of recyclers in your area (see last page).

WHAT DO I DO WHEN I SPILL SOME HAZARDOUS MATERIAL???

These are general instructions to follow in case of a spill. They do not apply in all cases. For specific spills read the label or call your physician.

Spills on ground

Read label and follow the directions.

Keep area well ventilated.

Keep children and pets away.

Contain and cover the spill with absorbent material (kitty litter, disposable diapers, sawdust).

Sweep and scoop absorbed material and container into a plastic bag.

Wash area down with soap and water using old rags, deposit rags into the plastic bag.

Rinse area well

Seal bag and wrap in newspaper and discard in garbage can.

For large spills - contact the Fire Department (772-3355).

Spill on Body

Read label and follow the directions.

Eyes

Immediately flush eyes 15-20 minutes with lukewarm water poured from a pitcher.

Skin

In the shower, wash area with water (do not use soap - do not scrub).
Change clothes immediately.
Wash clothes separately.

Ingestion

If swallowed, **Call your Physician Immediately.**

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND HELP YOU CAN CONTACT:

Borough:

Any questions regarding proper disposal of toxic wastes and hazardous substances may be addressed to the following departments (They will have or find answers to your questions):

Petersburg Borough - Sanitation Department
P.O. Box 329
Petersburg, Alaska 99833
(907)772-4430

Petersburg Borough - Wastewater Utility
P.O. Box 329
Petersburg, Alaska 99833
(907)772-3787 (any extension)