

# HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTES

**Household Hazardous Wastes (HHW)** are products used in your home, workplace and places of leisure and recreation. They can be flammable, corrosive, explosive or toxic, and harmful to you and the environment if they are not handled properly. Household hazardous wastes are materials like household cleaners, paints, batteries, solvents, oil, pesticides, fertilizers, mercury items, and aerosol cans.





## REDUCE YOUR USE!

Avoid disposal of household hazardous waste.

- Purchase only what you need
- Share leftover materials
- Choose environmentally friendly alternatives
- Visit **www.lesstoxicguide.ca** for environmentally friendly products

## CHOOSE LESS HARMFUL PRODUCTS

- Choose products low in phosphates, chlorine, dyes and perfumes.
- Water-based (acrylic/latex) paints contain less toxic solvents and thinners.
- Pull weeds by hand or spray with natural chemicals.

## HHW STORAGE

All hazardous materials should be clearly labeled and stored in secure containers away from children and pets. Hazardous materials should never be stored in food containers and they should never be poured down the drain or thrown into your household garbage. Manufacturers' labels provide additional information about storage, transportation, and proper disposal.

## HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTES SHOULD BE BROUGHT TO AN HHW COLLECTION SITE

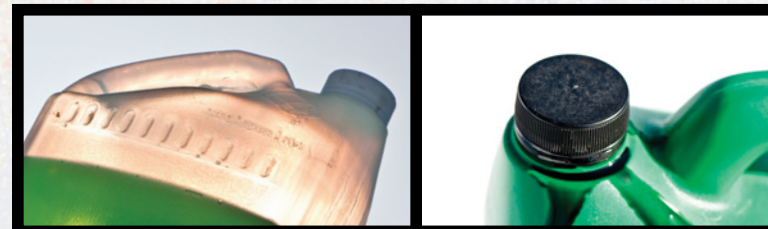


## PAINTS, STAINS, AND ADHESIVES

### KEEP FROM FREEZING FOR RE-USE!

Newer paint (oil & acrylic/latex), stains, and some adhesives contain less toxic materials and therefore have a greater re-use potential if they have not been frozen or exposed to air for extended periods of time.

Older oil-based paints and marine paints contain greater amounts of heavy metals and solvents which are toxic to humans, animals, and the environment. Paints, stains, and adhesives should be brought to a HHW collection event for disposal.



## SOLVENTS, FUEL, OIL AND ANTIFREEZE

### KEEP SEPARATE AND LABEL YOUR CONTAINER!

Solvents, fuel, oil, and antifreeze contain toxic materials and should be kept in secure containers away from children and pets. Used oil can be recycled or used for heat recovery in local approved burners. Flammable liquids must be stored in clearly marked, secure containers away from sparks and flames and brought to a HHW collection event for disposal.





## BATTERIES

USE RECHARGEABLE BATTERIES - SAVE MONEY!

### Lead Acid Batteries Greater than 1kg

Lead acid batteries greater than 1kg (usually found in boats and automobiles) should be disposed of at an approved community facility, or brought to a HHW collection event for disposal.

### Rechargeable Batteries

Most rechargeable batteries, like those found in cellular phones, radios, portable tools, computers, and other electronic equipment contain toxic substances and should be disposed of through a HHW collection event or through the Rechargeable Battery Recycling Corporation (RBRC). Call 1-800-8-BATTERY or visit [www.rbrc.org](http://www.rbrc.org) for more information. If you can't find a RBRC recycling box in your community, consider starting your own!

### Disposable Batteries

Disposable alkaline batteries (sizes AAA – D and 9 volt) produced in North America no longer contain toxic substances, like mercury, and they are recyclable. Button cell batteries found in watches contain small amounts of mercury.

Alkaline and rechargeable batteries should be segregated and brought to a HHW collection event for disposal.

## PESTICIDES

Pesticides, including insect repellents, herbicides, and wood preservatives are toxic and should be stored in secure containers to minimize human and animal exposure.

## FERTILIZERS

Fertilizers are considered to have a low level of toxicity, but have the potential to react with other compounds and should always be kept away from flammable materials. Pesticides and fertilizers should be brought to a community HHW collection event for disposal.



## EXPIRED MEDICATION

KEEP OUT OF THE SEWERS AND SEPTIC TANKS!

Unwanted or expired medication should be returned to the point of purchase wherever possible. Medication may also be stored in a secure container, labeled and brought to an HHW collection event for disposal.



## MERCURY

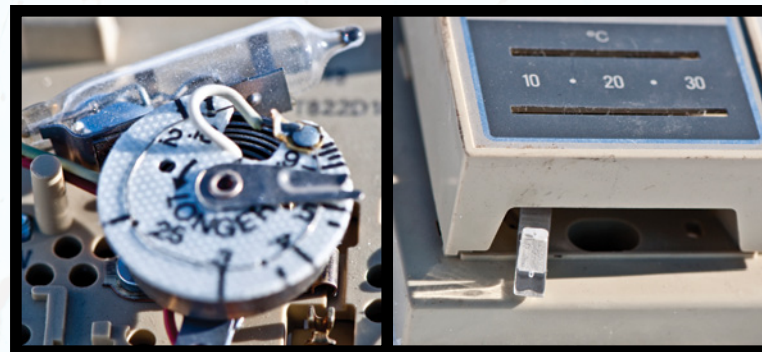
### Fluorescent Bulbs

Fluorescent Bulbs save energy but contain small amounts of Mercury

### Thermostats and Thermometers

Thermostats and thermometers contain high amounts of mercury.

Mercury containing items should be brought to a HHW collection event or a community bulb collection facility for disposal.







## PROPANE TANKS AND AEROSOL CANS

Propane tanks and aerosol cans are potential explosion hazards and are dangerous to disposal facility operators as well as the public. Check your community listings for an appropriate place to dispose of propane tanks. Aerosol cans should be stored in a secure location and brought to a HHW collection event for disposal.



## HOUSEHOLD CLEANERS

MIXING HOUSEHOLD CLEANERS CAN PRODUCE TOXIC GASES

Many household cleaners contain low amounts of toxic, synthetic chemicals, and other compounds. They should be stored in a secure container, away from children and pets, and should never be mixed. Unwanted household cleaners should be brought to a HHW collection event for disposal.

Another good resource for cleaner alternatives can be found at [www.turi.org](http://www.turi.org).



## REMEMBER

Household Hazardous Waste should always be kept out of reach of children and pets, and receive proper storage, transportation, and disposal.

## MATERIALS ACCEPTED AT HHW COLLECTION EVENTS AND COLLECTION SITES

Abrasive cleaners	Kerosene
Acetone	Laundry stain removers
Aerosol paints & sprays	Laundry starch
Air fresheners (aerosol)	Lighter fluid
All-purpose cleaners (solvent based)	Liquid cleaners
Ammonia	Lye
Ant/wasp spray	Mildew removers
Antifreeze	Muriatic acid
Autobody filler	Nail polish & remover
Barbecue starters	Oven cleaners
Batteries (alkaline, lead acid, rechargeable)	Paint
Bleach	Pharmaceuticals
Brake fluid	Photographic chemicals
Butane refills	Power steering fluid
Car waxes & polishes	Propane gas cylinder
Carbon tetrachloride	Rubbing alcohol
Contact cement	Septic tank degreaser
Degreasers (petroleum based)	Shoe polish
Disinfectants	Silver & brass polish
Drain cleaners	Solvents, (turpentine, varnish, lacquers)
Fertilizers	Spot removers
Floor wax strippers	Thermostats
Fluorescent light bulbs	Thermometers
Fuel	Toilet cleaners
Fuel additives	Transmission fluid
Grease	Tub & tile cleaners
Hair sprays (aerosol)	Used oil
Insecticides	Weed killers
	Windshield washer fluid
	Wood preservatives



## WHERE DOES HHW GO WHEN IT'S COLLECTED?

Hazardous waste that cannot be managed locally is transported in secure containers to hazardous waste treatment facilities.

## HAZARDOUS WASTES **NOT** ACCEPTED AT HHW COLLECTION EVENTS

- ⚠ No waste from businesses, industries or institutions
- ⚠ No explosives
- ⚠ No infectious materials
- ⚠ No radioactive waste
- ⚠ No ammunition

\*Special arrangements may be made if you call in advance.  
Please call (867) 920-8044.

## PROTECT OUR ENVIRONMENT AND KEEP HAZARDOUS WASTE OUT OF OUR SEWERS AND LANDFILLS!



Northwest Territories Environment and Natural Resources

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