

# Household Hazardous Waste

## WHAT IS IT?



Household hazardous waste, or HHW, are products around your home that contain volatile chemicals, such as chloride.



Examples of HHW include motor oil, oil-based paint, car batteries, gasoline and pesticides.



Any bottle in your house that says “warning”, “danger” or “caution” is hazardous and should be disposed of properly.

## WHAT IS THE PROBLEM?

- If household cleaners and HHW are not disposed of correctly, they may end up in stormwater and our local rivers.
- Many sewer treatment plants are not able to treat HHW so chemicals that are dumped down the sink can end up untreated in our rivers.
- HHW that ends up in a landfill can put toxic materials into the soil and groundwater.



## WHAT CAN I DO?

- Read the labels of your household cleaners and chemicals to find out how to properly dispose of them.
- Find a collection site near you by contacting your local landfill or public works department.



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# E-Waste

## WHAT IS E-WASTE?

E-Waste is short for Electronic Waste. Examples of E-Waste are radios, televisions, computers, batteries and cell phones.

## WHAT IS THE PROBLEM?

- ◆ E-Waste contains toxic metals, also known as “heavy metals”, such as nickel, lead, and mercury.
- ◆ These metals are harmful to the environment and can cause human health problems, such as cancer, kidney disease, nausea and softening of bones.
- ◆ It only takes a small amount of these materials to pollute an area’s soil or water.



Enrique Dans

## WHAT CAN I DO?

- ◆ Donate old electronics or recycle them.
- ◆ Change your habits: use a plunger instead of chemical drain cleaners, use sandpaper instead of paint strippers, use water-based paint instead of oil-based.
- ◆ Check with your local government to find collection sites or collection events in your area.
- ◆ Learn more about alternatives to hazardous products at [earth911.com](http://earth911.com).



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