

# STORMWATER

Tip of the Week Week 43 October 26, 2021

Hazardous waste is a waste with properties that make it potentially dangerous or harmful to human health or the environment. The scope of hazardous wastes is very large and diverse. Hazardous wastes can be liquids, solids, or contained gases. Household Hazardous waste can be a multitude of items you may not even think about.

The Environmental Protection Agency considers many leftover household products that can catch fire, react, or explode under certain circumstances, or that are corrosive or toxic as household hazardous waste. Products, such as paints, cleaners, oils, batteries, and pesticides can contain hazardous ingredients and require special care when you dispose of them.

## WHAT SHOULD I DO?

To avoid the potential risks associated with household hazardous wastes, it is important that people always monitor the use, storage, and disposal of products with potentially hazardous substances in their homes. Improper disposal of HHW can include pouring them down the drain, on the ground, into storm sewers, or in some cases putting them out with the regular trash.

The dangers of such disposal methods might not be immediately obvious, but improper disposal of these wastes can pollute the environment and pose a threat to human health. Certain types of HHW have the potential to cause physical injury to sanitation workers, contaminate septic tanks or wastewater treatment systems if poured down drains or toilets. They can also present hazards to children and pets if left around the house.

Always follow all instructions and label information provided on items for proper usage, storage, and disposal. You can call the DEP at 304-558-5938 for household hazardous waste questions and help. Plus call 1-800-642-3074 to report a spill. Learn more at: <https://www.epa.gov/hw/household-hazardous-waste-hhw>



## reduce the risk

DISPOSE OF HAZARDOUS WASTE PROPERLY



### SOME HAZARDOUS HOUSEHOLD ITEMS:

Medications  
Oil & Latex Paint  
Aerosol containers  
Cleaning materials  
Adhesives & glues  
Fire extinguishers  
Florescent Bulbs  
Most small electronics  
TVs & computers

### Pool chemicals

Motor oil  
Antifreeze  
Gasoline  
Solvents  
Batteries  
Bug spray  
Needles & syringes  
Propane  
Propane cylinders  
Smoke detectors

### Pesticides

Fertilizers  
Microwaves  
Cell phones