

Improper disposal of household chemicals can contaminate groundwater



"WMU hosts its own HHW to promote a healthy environment and prepare students for future home ownership. HHW bins are placed at the entrees of the dorms during student move out. Information is provided about hazardous items that should be disposed of property."





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# What is it?

Waste from a household is hazardous if it has at least one of four characteristics:



TOXIC
IGNITABLE
CORROSIVE
REACTIVE



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"Many local municipalities offer free or reduced cost household Hazardous Waste (HHW) drop-off locations to their residence." Check out protectyourwater.net and click on your municipality for more information.

- To see if a material is a HHW, look for words such as 'warning,' 'caution,' 'flammable,'
   'toxic,' 'poison,' 'corrosive,' 'oxidizer,' etc. on the labels.
- If you have leftover, unwanted household materials that are hazardous, it is best to routinely take them to a local HHW collection if one is available.
- Never pour HHW into a storm drain or down a drain in your home.
- If a collection is not available, contact your trash hauler to see if there are special instructions for safely disposing of the material in the regular trash.





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# REDUCE HHW

Check the label before you buy - If you see a cautionary notice, understand that this material will become a household hazardous waste if not used up properly.





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