

## HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE

Almost every home contains hazardous products, or products that can harm human health or the environment if improperly handled. They are products used in cleaning, home improvements, automobile maintenance, lawn and garden care, hobbies, and a variety of other tasks.

When household hazardous waste is disposed of in the trash, it can contaminate landfills, and subsequently, our groundwater. When dumped onto the ground or poured into the storm sewer, household hazardous waste can contaminate surface water. In either case, water contamination results in higher water treatment costs and has a detrimental effect on the ecosystem.

Because of the dangers they pose, these products require special awareness, handling, and disposal. In order to protect health and environment, every consumer should know how to properly use, store, and dispose of hazardous household products. The Clean Water Clear Choice logo below is a link to a guide full of helpful hints and references to local recycling companies.



Harris County holds approximately ten (10) one-day drop-off events for Household Hazardous Waste throughout Harris County each year. The events are typically held during the spring and fall season, and are free to all residents of Harris County. Residents may bring household quantities of paint products, pesticides, fertilizers, motor oil, gasoline, pool chemicals, household cleaners, aerosols, batteries and automotive tires (5 per household) For more information call 713-290—3000, or link [here](#) for upcoming events

It is also important that people always monitor the use and storage of products with potentially hazardous substances in their homes.

- Use and store products containing hazardous substances carefully to prevent any accidents at home. Never store hazardous products in food containers; keep them in their original containers and never remove labels. Corroding containers, however, require special handling.
- When leftovers remain, never mix household hazardous waste with other products. Incompatible products might react, ignite, or explode, and contaminated HHW might become unrecyclable.
- Remember to follow any instructions for use and disposal provided on product labels.