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CITY OF JEFFERSON
 Department of Community Development
 320 East McCarty Street
 Jefferson City, MO 65101



Household Chemical Waste Disposal

CITIZEN INFORMATION SERIES



For More Information:
www.jeffcitymo.org/CD

573.634.6410

PLEASE
 PLACE
 STAMP
 HERE



Household Chemical Waste

Household Chemical Waste exists in almost every home. Common products, like those used for cleaning, home improvement projects, vehicle maintenance, lawn and garden maintenance, etc. contain hazardous chemicals which can be dangerous to our health and the environment. In order to protect ourselves and our surroundings, we must know how to use, store and dispose of these products properly.

Products such as paint, paint thinner, pesticides, fertilizers, gasoline, antifreeze, motor oil, brake fluid, furniture polish, oven cleaner, drain cleaner and adhesives, to name just a few, have common characteristics. These products are all hazardous because they contain chemicals which are:

- Flammable
- Toxic
- Corrosive
- Explosive / Reactive

Although these products are usually safe when they are used according to the labeled directions, they can become dangerous if people are unaware of them, or if they forget that they are handling hazardous products.

At the point in time when hazardous household products are no longer wanted or usable, they then become household hazardous wastes. As a percentage of total household waste, only a small portion would constitute household chemical waste, but that small portion can cause a lot of harm to people, pets and the environment if improperly disposed of. There have been instances when household chemical wastes have injured sanitation haulers from fumes, splashing chemicals, fires in the trucks and even explosions.

When these products are improperly placed in landfills, they can potentially leach into surface water and ground water, which is the source of our drinking water. Household chemical waste should **never** be disposed of down storm sewer drains or placed in drainage ditches, because they are direct pathways to nearby surface water. Any household chemical waste that is dumped or poured on the ground is only a rain storm away from entering surface water or groundwater, and can be residually stored in the ground for a very long time, during which time they slowly release into our water sources. Household chemical waste should also not be dumped into the sanitary sewer system. Bacteria in sewage treatment plants can be killed by household chemical waste, which could ultimately result in the release of raw sewage and chemicals into waterways.

Household Chemical Waste Disposal

Every second and fourth Friday of each month, the household chemical waste trailer will be open for people to bring their waste, by appointment only. Please see the City website for a list of items that are not accepted. To make an appointment, call (573) 634-6410.

Another option, which is periodically available, is to take advantage of regional household chemical waste collection events. These events are sponsored by the Mid-Missouri Solid Waste District, and are advertised in advance on the City website, as well as in local newspapers.



Citizen Information Brochures
may be obtained from the
Department of Community Development
320 E. McCarty St., Jefferson City MO 65101
Office hours are 8 am - 5 pm, Mon - Fri.
573.634.6410
www.jeffcitymo.org/CD