

Household Hazardous Waste

CLEANING & MAINTENANCE PRODUCT DISPOSAL

Common household cleaning & maintenance products containing hazardous substances include:

•Kitchen & bathroom surface cleaner • Oven cleaners • Drain openers • Disinfectants • Bleach • Carpet deodorizers • Polishes & Waxes • Air fresheners • Ammonia • Adhesives •

Some of these products can be:

Corrosive: can destroy metal and burn skin;

Flammable: can easily catch fire when ignited;

Reactive: may react violently by bubbling, foaming, or releasing heat when exposed to air or water;

Toxic: can harm or kill living organisms.

What to do with Leftover Cleaning & Maintenance Products

- Save them for future use, or give them to someone who can use them.
- Some chemicals, such as tub and tile cleaners, are diluted with water during use. You can dispose of small amounts by flushing them down the drain with plenty of water.
- Never** mix cleaning or maintenance products together, **never** pour them on the ground, or into storm drains or streams.
- Save leftover materials for a household hazardous waste collection program.

**Always read the label for safety precautions,
even if you are familiar with the product.**

**Remember improper disposal of these products
can harm the environment.**



ALWAYS CONSULT THE PRODUCT LABEL

Labels provide information about proper use and alert you if the product is potentially hazardous.

Look for:

- ✓ Signal words -
DANGER, POISON, WARNING or CAUTION.
- ✓ Statements of hazards -
“Flammable,” “Vapor harmful,” “Harmful or fatal if swallowed.”
- ✓ Precautionary statements -
“Keep out of reach of children,” “Use only in well-ventilated areas,” “Do not mix with chlorine-type bleaches or other chemicals.”

Store Household Hazardous Waste Properly and Safely Before Disposal

- G** Keep the product in its original container with the label intact.
- G** Place leaking containers in larger, leak-proof containers clearly labeled with the contents.
- G** Store products out of reach of children and pets, away from heat, and away from the house, if possible.
- G** Store liquid flammables in their original containers or UL-approved metal safety cans, available from hardware stores.
- G** Reduce disposal problems by using smaller amounts of hazardous substances, or by substituting less hazardous substances where possible.

FOR MORE INFORMATION on household hazardous waste, contact:

NYS Department of Environmental Conservation
Division of Solid & Hazardous Materials
Bureau of Waste Reduction & Recycling
625 Broadway, Albany, NY 12233-7253
Tel: (518) 402-8704

Note: The information on this card applies only to home-generated wastes. Businesses and organizations must comply with all applicable state and federal hazardous waste regulations.