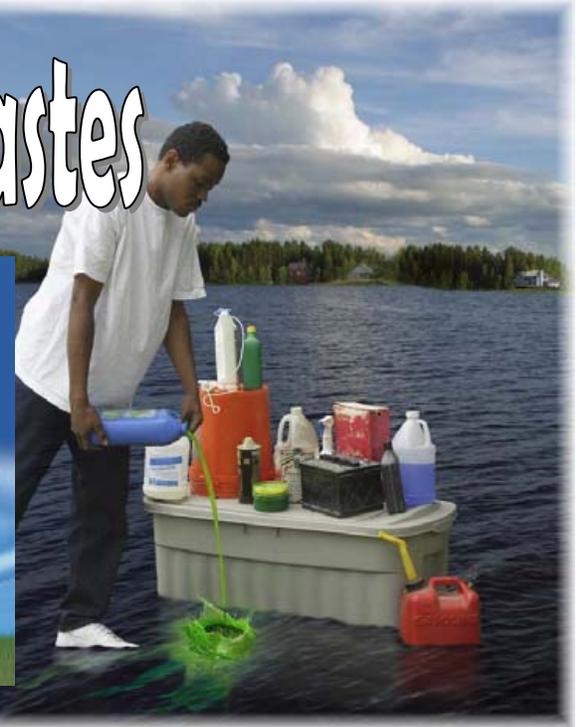
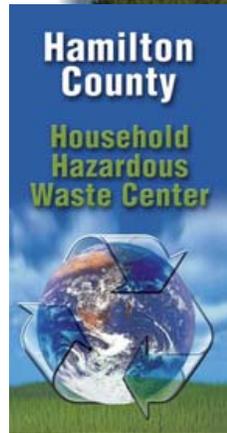


# Household Hazardous Wastes

## Fact Sheet

### WATER POLLUTION

Sources of water pollution like industrial wastes from factories have been greatly reduced in recent years. Now, more than 60% of water pollution comes from things like leaking oil from cars, excess fertilizer, and household chemicals. All these sources add up to a big pollution problem. So, believe it or not, the biggest source of water pollution today is not industry – it is actually households like yours. But each of us can do small things to help clean up our water. And it starts with realizing that *our sewers and storm systems are separate – what goes into storm drains flows directly into the environment, untreated.*



### WHAT'S THE PROBLEM WITH DUMPING CHEMICALS DOWN THE STORM DRAIN?

Did you know that many household products are dangerous to our kids, pets, and the environment? These materials get into our lakes and rivers if washed or dumped into a storm drain or roadside ditch. Not only is it harmful to dump these out on the ground, it is also illegal. Disposing of these hazardous wastes properly is free and helps protect our precious natural resources. So bring any of these hazardous wastes to the Hazardous Waste Center:

#### Plant and Yard Care Products

- \* Herbicides, Pesticides, Insecticides, Fertilizers

#### Motor and Vehicle Care Products

- \* Motor Oil, Antifreeze, Gasoline, Car Batteries

#### Home Repair Products

- \* Old Paint, Fluorescent Bulbs

#### Home Care Products

- \* Bleach, Cleaners, Pool Chemicals, Household Batteries

### FACTS AND FIGURES

- Americans generate 1.6 million tons of household hazardous waste annually.
- The average US home can have as much as 100 pounds of environmentally harmful products in the basement, garage, and other storage areas.
- A study by the Center for Environmental Policy at Imperial College found that disposing of HHW in regular landfills results in the presence of heavy metals and organic pollutants in the zones beneath landfill sites over a 20,000-year period. Arsenic, mercury, and chromium levels were found to exceed US-EPA drinking water standards. The pollution threat from improper HHW disposal is severe.

### WHAT YOU CAN DO

How can you dispose of hazardous wastes and help keep our waters clean?

- When painting, do not rinse brushes off in the lawn or dump extras into storm drains. Instead, rinse brushes and rollers off in a sink or tub, and drop your extra paint off at the household hazardous waste center for reuse.
- Carefully store and dispose of household cleaners, chemicals, oils, etc. Take any of the items listed above to the HHW.

Hamilton County Household Hazardous Waste Center  
1717 E. Pleasant St., Suite 200  
Noblesville, IN 46060  
317-776-4005

It is free for all Hamilton County residents. If you have questions on what is accepted, go to [www.co.hamilton.in.us](http://www.co.hamilton.in.us).



City of Noblesville  
**Clean  
Storm  
Water  
Program**

