

# The Grand Water & Sewer Service Agency Household Hazardous Waste Information and Best Practices Guide

This guide's purpose is to inform our users of potential contamination sources from everyday household items and pesticides, and how they can help prevent potential contamination of our groundwater drinking source.

## WHAT IS HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE?

Some hazardous products and chemicals such as cleaners, oils, and pesticides are used in the home every day. When discarded, these products are called **Household Hazardous Waste (HHW)**. HHW's are discarded materials and products that are ignitable, corrosive, reactive, toxic, or otherwise listed as hazardous by the EPA.

### EXAMPLES OF HHW:

Batteries, household cleaners, cosmetics, lightbulbs, polishes, fuel, medicines, motor oil, paints, thinners, pool chemicals, pesticides, ink, smoke detectors, etc..



Check the label for words that tell you the product needs special handling to help identify HHW's.

**Caution, Flammable, Combustible, Corrosive, Toxic, Danger, Explosive, Warning, Volatile, Poison**

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency estimates the average American household generates **20lbs** of HHW each year! Since chemicals found in these items can cause soil and groundwater contamination, generate hazardous emissions at landfills, and disrupt water treatment plants, it is important to dispose of them properly.



EPA

## PESTICIDES AND FERTILIZERS

Pesticides and fertilizers applied during plant, crop, lawn, and garden maintenance may leach into the ground water and cause contamination.

### Best Pesticide Practices

- Mix pesticides on impermeable surfaces (like concrete) to help contain spills.
- Mix only the amount you'll use.
- Clean up any spills according to manufacturers recommendations.
- Recycle unused pesticides in their original containers at household hazardous waste collection sites

### Best Fertilizer Practices

- Keep it stored in a locked, dry cabinet.
- Keep fertilizer and pesticide on separate shelves.
- Never store with combustibles.
- Calibrate your spreader and sprayer before application.

## Never apply pesticides or Fertilizers near a well!

Wells are conduits for ground water. Keep a safe distance and do your part to keep our drinking water safe!

### FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Division of Drinking Water, Source Protection Program: (801) 536-4200  
Department of Agriculture: (801) 538-7100  
Environmental Hotline: 800-458-0145



[www.GrandWater.org](http://www.GrandWater.org)