



HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE



GREEN CERTIFICATIONS



Products with qualities that make them less hazardous and more environmentally friendly are often labelled with a green certification. Familiarize yourself with green certifications at ecolabelindex.com



GOOD TO KNOW



These common household items are hazardous.

Antifreeze

There are two main types of antifreeze. Antifreeze made with ethylene glycol is highly toxic to humans and animals. The propylene glycol version, while still toxic, is much less so. Choose this version when possible.

Fertilizer

Fertilizers escape into the environment, disrupting natural ecosystems. Use less by applying it more precisely. Or try organic alternatives. Cottonseed meal, bone meal, and greensand are just a few of the options available.

Gasoline

Gasoline is harmful to the environment and can present a risk of fire. Consider alternatives to limit use of gasoline such as public transportation or switching to a green vehicle.

Insect Repellent

Repellent can be toxic to pollinators, animals and humans when ingested. Look for natural active ingredients like picaridin or oil of lemon eucalyptus. Avoid DEET, cyfluthrin, permethrin and pyrethroids when possible.

Motor Oil

Motor oil frequently spills and makes its way into waterways, disrupting aquatic ecosystems. Fix all leaks to keep oil out of the environment. Ask about recycled motor oil options to reduce the amount of oil being used.

Oil-Based Paint

Pigments and petroleum products in oil-based paints can be dangerous to people and the planet. Look for options with low levels of Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs). Buy only what you need, so there are no leftovers.



HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE

May include:

- acids
- fertilizers
- fire extinguishers
- kerosene
- oil-based paint
- motor oil
- fungicides
- paint stripper
- varnish

Household hazardous waste (HHW) may be corrosive, toxic or at risk of explosion or fire if not disposed of properly.



REDUCE

Consider ways to reduce HHW in your home.

All Purpose Cleaner	In this order, add 3 cups water, 1/2 cup white vinegar, 10 drops essential oil (optional), and 2 teaspoons baking soda to a bottle. Mix gently to avoid fizzy overflow. Spray on surfaces and wipe with clean cloth.
Drain Cleaner	Use a plunger or plumber's snake.
Floor Cleaner	Combine 1 cup water, 1/2 cup unscented Castile soap, 25 drops pine essential oil and 15 drops cypress essential oil. Add 2 tablespoons floor cleaner to 1 gallon of hot water. Mix well and mop.
Furniture Polish	Mix one teaspoon of lemon juice in one pint of mineral or vegetable oil and wipe furniture.
Glass Cleaner	Mix one tablespoon of vinegar or lemon juice in one quart of water. Spray on and use newspaper to dry.
Mothballs	Use cedar chips, lavender flowers, rosemary, mints or white peppercorns.
Rug Deodorizer	Liberally sprinkle carpets with baking soda. Wait at least 15 minutes and vacuum. Repeat if necessary.
Scouring Scrub	Combine 2 parts borax, 1 part baking soda and 1 part salt. Use on hard surfaces like stovetops and counters.
Silver Polish	Boil two to three inches of water in a shallow pan with one teaspoon of salt, one teaspoon of baking soda and a sheet of aluminum foil. Totally submerge silver and boil for two to three more minutes. Wipe away tarnish and repeat if necessary.
Toilet Bowl Cleaner	Combine 1/4 cup, borax, 1/4 cup baking soda and 1 cup vinegar. Add all ingredients to toilet bowl and gently mix with toilet brush. Let sit for at least 30 minutes before scrubbing.



PROPERLY DISPOSE



Permanent Collection Sites:

Naperville Household Hazardous Waste Facility

156 Fort Hill Dr, Naperville, IL 60540
(630) 420-6095

Hours of operation:

- Saturdays and Sundays 9am-2pm
- Excluding holidays

Rockford Household Hazardous Waste Site

3333 Kishwaukee, Rockford, IL 61109
(815) 637-1343

Hours of operation:

- Saturdays 8am-4pm
- Sundays 12-4pm
- Closed when a major holiday falls on the weekend

These locations are available to all Illinois residents.

We suggest calling beforehand to confirm the location's hours and accepted materials.

You can also search for HHW drop off sites at earth911.com

City of Chicago Household Chemicals & Computer Recycling Facility*

1150 N. North Branch St, Chicago, IL 60642
(312)744-3060

Hours of operation:

- Tuesdays 7am-12pm
- Thursdays 2pm-7pm
- The first Saturday of each month 8am-3pm

*Residents can also take home still-useful items that others have dropped off