

Alternatives to Household Hazardous Waste

AVOID

REDUCE

RECYCLE

DISPOSE



This flip book is intended to serve as a guide for alternatives to household hazardous waste products. These product recipes aim to replace the more toxic products available for purchase and provide cost-efficient, effective alternatives for your household needs.



Annual household hazardous waste collection events are organized by the Lakes Region Planning Commission, with financial support from participating communities, and the NH Department of Environmental Services



AVOID REDUCE RECYCLE DISPOSE

FOR THE GARAGE

FOR THE WORKBENCH

FOR THE YARD AND GARDEN

FOR THE HOUSE

What is HHW?

HHW stands for Household Hazardous Waste. This includes products that say “Danger”, “Warning”, “Poison”, or “Caution” on the label. These products are potentially hazardous to the water supply because most treatment plants and leach fields are incapable of processing their chemicals.

What does Avoid, Reduce, Recycle, Dispose mean?

Avoid: Hazardous products such as oil-based paints, pesticides, and polishes should be avoided if at all possible. Use substitutes like the ones listed in this guide.

Reduce: If hazardous products must be used, reduce their consumption. For instance, measuring a room before buying paint can reduce the amount of wasted paint.

Recycle: If unused hazardous product still remains, try swapping or giving it to a neighbor.

Dispose: As a last resort, properly dispose of household hazardous waste at a collection event. The Lakes Region Planning Commission hosts safe HHW events annually. For more information please call (603) 279-8171.



AVOID REDUCE RECYCLE DISPOSE

FOR THE GARAGE

FOR THE WORKBENCH

FOR THE YARD AND GARDEN

FOR THE HOUSE

For the Garage:

Motor Oil Removal: Pour a thick layer of unused kitty litter over the puddle, wait 24 hours, and sweep up with a broom. Scrub clean with a solution of detergent and hot water. Also works on transmission fluid leaks and for cleaning driveways.



Windshield Wiper Fluid: If you need to leave your car outside overnight in the winter, mix 3 parts vinegar to 1 part water and coat the windows. This mixture will leave your windows ice and frost-free.*

Battery Corrosion: Use a baking soda and water paste to clean away corrosion; after reconnecting the clamps to the terminals, wipe them with petroleum jelly to prevent future corrosion.*



Bumper Rust Remover: Briskly rub the rust spots on your bumpers with a piece of crumpled aluminum foil dipped in carbonated cola drink.

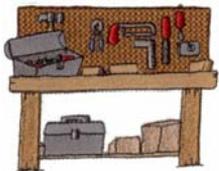
FOR THE GARAGE

FOR THE WORKBENCH

FOR THE YARD AND GARDEN

FOR THE HOUSE

For the Workbench:



Paint Odors: Add 2 teaspoons of vanilla extract per quart of paint. Leave overnight. Or, place a large cut onion into a big pan of cold water. Paint odors will quickly absorb into the onion.

Paint remover: On glass, apply a hot vinegar solution, then wipe away. To eliminate window scraping, apply a thin layer of petroleum jelly around the corner of the window pane before scraping.

Woodwork Scratches: Mix 1 teaspoon of instant coffee with 2 teaspoons water. Apply to the scratch with a cotton ball.

Wood furniture polish: Use lemon oil, olive oil, or beeswax. Shake well, and apply to furniture using a clean, dry, lint-free cloth in the direction of the grain.

Rust Preventative: For outdoor machinery, coat surfaces with a generous layer of petroleum jelly. For tools, store a piece of chalk or charcoal in the toolbox to soak up any moisture.



FOR THE WORKBENCH

FOR THE YARD AND GARDEN

FOR THE HOUSE



For the Yard and Garden:

Garden Insect Spray: In a blender, grind together 4 fresh hot chili peppers, 4 onions and 2 whole garlic bulbs. Place them in a pot, cover vegetables with water. Let stand 24 hours. Strain with cheesecloth, save liquid. Add water to strained liquid to make 1 gallon. Use as insect spray in garden. Will discourage four-footed nibblers as well as bugs. Soapsuds are also a fantastic insecticide. Spray them on liberally.

Mosquito Repellent: In a 20-gallon hose-end sprayer, mix 1 cup of lemon-scented ammonia and 1 cup of plant shampoo or lemon-scented dishwashing soap, filling the balance of the sprayer with warm water. Spray the infested area 3 times a week in the early morning or late evening. Thoroughly soak any places where mosquitoes tend to gather.

Weed Killer: Pour salted boiling water, on the unwanted plants. Take care to not pour any on plants that you want to keep.



FOR THE YARD AND GARDEN

FOR THE HOUSE

For the House:



Carpet/Rug Cleaner: Mix 1/2 cup dish detergent with 1 pint warm water with electric mixer until stiff foam forms. Apply with damp sponge in 4 ft by 4 ft sections. Rinse with 1 cup white vinegar and 1 gallon lukewarm water.

Toilet Bowl: Pour can of carbonated cola in toilet bowl, let sit for one hour, then brush and flush clean.

All Purpose Cleaner: Mix 2 Tablespoons baking soda with 1 pint warm water in a spray bottle. To cut grease, add a squeeze of lemon juice or a splash of vinegar.

Grease-Clogged Drain Cleaner: Pour 1 cup salt and 1 cup baking soda down the drain, followed by a kettleful of boiling water.

Glass Cleaner: Combine 2 Tbsp of white vinegar or lemon juice with 3 cups of water; store in spray bottle, use as needed. To rub, use a natural linen towel or other soft cloth, a clean, damp chamois cloth, a squeegee, or a crumpled newspaper. To avoid streaks, never wash windows while the sun is shining on them; they will dry too quickly.*

Silver and Gold Polish: Shine with non-gel toothpaste.

Recipe Sources

Recipes marked with an asterisk (*) were taken from:

- *Alternative Garage Cleaners:*

http://www.co.clark.wa.us/recycle/documents/Safer_Garage.pdf

All other recipes came from:

- *Alternative Cleaning Methods Pamphlet:*

<http://www.swancc.org/pdfs/HCW/acm-web.pdf>

Other Useful Resources

- *Lakes Region Planning Commission HHW Information:*

http://www.lakesrpc.org/services_hhw.asp

- *NH Department of Environmental Services HHW Information:*

<http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/waste/hwcb/index.htm>

- *EPA HHW Information:*

<http://www.epa.gov/waste/consERVE/materials/hhw.htm>



The Lakes Region Planning Commission guarantees neither the effectiveness nor the safety of these recipes. The user should always test alternative recipes on a small section of material in case discoloration or damage occur.

