

REDUCE STORM WATER POLLUTION



HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE (HHW)

The EPA considers leftover household products labeled as flammable, toxic, corrosive as household hazardous waste. Products, such as paints, cleaners, oils, batteries, and pesticides can contain hazardous ingredients and require special care when you dispose of them.

To avoid the potential risks associated with household hazardous wastes, it is important that people always monitor the use, storage, and disposal of products with potentially hazardous substances in their homes. Improper disposal of HHW can include pouring them down the drain, on the ground, into storm sewers, or in some cases putting them out with the regular trash.

The dangers of such disposal methods might not be immediately obvious, but improper disposal of these wastes can pollute the environment and pose a threat to human health. Certain types of HHW have the potential to cause physical injury to sanitation workers, contaminate septic tanks or wastewater treatment systems if poured down drains or toilets

For more information on stormwater or to report any pollution in our streets or storm drains, please call the Stormwater Hotline:

(210)342-3991

This tip is based on information from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and was adapted by



515 Busby Drive, San Antonio, TX 78209

TIPS FOR STORING AND MANAGING HHW IN YOUR OWN HOME:

- *A Buy only what you need to do the job. Buying chemicals in bulk may not be saving you money if you do not use all of them.*
- *Keep products in their original container and make sure labels are readable. This ensures you know which products you have and so do the workers who accept and sort your HHW.*
- *Consider shopping for environmentally friendly, natural products or search online for simple recipes you can use to create your own household products that do not contain hazardous materials.*