## Items to Bring

Oven cleaners, drain cleaners, toilet bowl cleaners
Oil-based Paint (not latex/water-based paint**)
Varnishes, Stains, Paint Strippers, paint thinner
Wood Preservatives
Flammable Liquids, Lighter Fluid, Fire Starters
Degreasers, Solvents, Non-empty Aerosol Cans
Cleaning Supplies, Ammonia Cleaners
Rug & Upholstery Cleansers
Spot Removers for Clothes, Spray Starch, Chlorine Bleach, softeners, Brighteners/Whiteners
Pesticides, Herbicides, Fungicides, Insecticides
Fertilizers, Flea/tick Powder, No-pest Strips
Furniture, Floor & Metal Polishes, Car Wax
Cosmetics, Moth balls/flakes
Waste Fuels (kerosene, gasoline), Brake Fluid
Transmission Fluid, Carburetor Cleaner
Photography Chemicals, Chemistry Set Chemicals
Swimming Pool Chemicals
20 lb. Propane Tanks (from Barbecue Grills)
Fluorescent Bulbs

## Items NOT to Bring

Waste Oil, Vehicle Batteries (*)
Latex or Water-based Paints (**)
Radioactive materials
Ammunition, Explosives, Fire Works
Empty Aerosol Cans, Tires
Smoke Detectors, Asbestos
Industrial/Commercial Wastes
Infectious and Biological wastes, Syringes
Electronics (old computers, etc.)

**(*) NOTE:** Torrington has a drop-off site at the Water Pollution Control Facility, Bogue Road, for recycling of **Waste Oil and Vehicle Batteries.** Monday through Friday 7 am - 2 pm

**(**) NOTE:** Latex or Water-based paints can be opened to allow the paint to dry. Residue and paint cans can be thrown in the garbage.

## Preparation of Items

In order to make your trip to **Torrington's** Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day as quick and easy as possible here are some things you should do to prepare your items:

1. Keep items in their original container.
2. Organize similar items together in a box(es). This will allow workers to review your items more quickly to ensure proper disposal.
3. Place items in boxes, pad with newspaper. This will help prevent possible spillage in your car/truck and will enable workers to remove materials quicker.
4. Pack your car and drive directly to the site.

**Never Mix Chemicals/Never Smoke**
While handling hazardous materials.

**No containers over 5 gallons in size** will be accepted without special town permission prior to the event.

**No vehicles will be allowed access to the Collection Day without pre-registering by October 14, 2011.**

To pre-register for the Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day, call the Torrington City Hall, 860-489-2232, Monday through Friday, between 9 am and 3 pm.

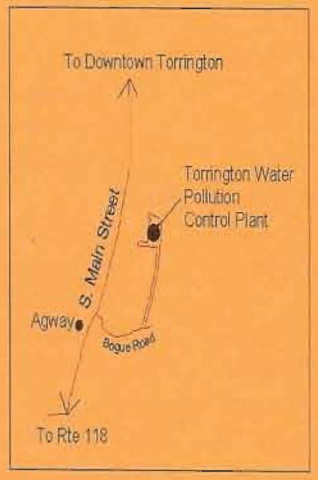
**If You Have Questions or Need Information Call...860-489-2232**

# City of Torrington

## Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day

Saturday
October 15, 2011
9 am - 2 pm
(rain or shine)

Torrington Water Pollution Control Facility




Pre-registration Required
Call 860-489-2232

## What is Household Hazardous Waste?

Many items we use and discard with our trash are actually similar to Environmental Protection Agency regulated hazardous wastes generated by business and industry to make the products we buy and use. Products which are corrosive (acids and alkalines), flammable, reactive, or toxic (poisonous) are used in our homes, cars, and lawns/gardens. Some examples are:

### Our Homes

**Kitchen**

| | |
|---|---|
| Oven cleaners | Floor-care products |
| Drain cleaner | Soaps/cleaners |

**Bathroom**

| | |
|---|---|
| Toilet cleaner | Aerosol deodorant |
| Cosmetics | Nail polish remover |
| Hair color | |

**Laundry Products**

| | |
|---|---|
| Detergents | Chlorine bleach |
| Spot removers | Softeners |
| Spray starch | Brighteners/whiteners |

**General Household**

| | |
|---|---|
| Pool chemicals | Paint/stain/varnish |
| Paint strippers | Turpentine/paint thinner |
| Glue | Wood preservatives |
| Furniture polish | Ammonia cleaners |
| Air fresheners | Moth balls and flakes |
| Metal cleaners | |

### Our Cars

| | |
|---|---|
| Gasoline | Solvents/degreasers |
| Antifreeze | |
| Brake/transmissions fluid | |

### Our Lawns/Gardens

| | |
|---|---|
| Insecticides/pesticides | Fertilizers/weed killers |
| Herbicides/fungicides | Flea/tick powder |

## Why is Household Hazardous Waste a Problem?

There may be both short and long term consequences from improper management of Household Hazardous Waste. Problems can occur:

**In Our Homes:**

Accidental burns, poisoning, even death if not used, stored or disposed properly.

Fires or explosions which could injure or kill family, relatives, friends and firefighters.

**In the Water We Drink:**

Septic systems and sewage treatment plants are not designed to filter out all hazardous materials. Pouring Household Hazardous Waste down the drain may lead to contaminated ground water or surface water. This may affect the water you drink or lead to contamination of our rivers, lakes and Long Island Sound.

**In the Air We Breathe:**

Most of our municipal solid waste (trash) is burned, which means that if it contains hazardous materials, it may end up in the air we breathe. The ash residue sent to a landfill can contaminate ground water or evaporate, again, into our air.

**In Water Where We Fish & Play:**

After water is treated in a waste water or sewage treatment plant it is released into our rivers and other public waters. Hazardous materials in these waters may lead to death for fish populations and can result in less than inviting water for us to fish, swim or boat.

## What Can I Do About Household Hazardous Waste?

YOU can make a difference

**Eliminate/decrease usage**

We need to think about products that we bring into our homes and determine whether we can do without them or cut back on their usage. Remember the things that we contaminate may be our own!

**Buy what you need! Use what your buy!**

For example, only buy the amount of paint needed for a job. When painting use all of the paint, even if it means painting part of an area a second or third time. It will provide an even better, longer lasting finish and will eliminate storing old paint.

**Use Non-Toxic Alternatives**

There are more and more products coming into the market that are non-toxic. In some cases substitutes may require a little more "elbow grease", but are well worth the effort to protect your health and environment. Some examples are:

- Use plumber's helper/snake to clear drains.
- Baking soda makes a good scouring powder, silver polisher, and air freshener.
- Use lemon oil and beeswax as furniture polish.
- Use vinegar and water to clean windows.

**Give to Neighbors/Friends/Relatives**

Any items that we cannot use could be given away to save money and disposal.

**Dispose Properly**

**Take to a Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day.**