



Have You Heard?

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Safely Dispose Of Household Cleaning Products

Thoughtlessly discarding an unused cleaning product is at odds with modern concern with our environment. Using household cleaning products until they are

gone is the most efficient way to answer the disposal questions. If you cannot use it, try to find someone who can. If this is not possible, proper disposal is the next choice.

To insure safe disposal, check

the label. Some cleaning products require special handling. If no instructions are given, it is safe to dispose of most cleaning products the same way they are used. However, any solvent based products should be saved for household hazardous waste collection. Solvent based means the product is not used with water for cleaning. Any cleaner stating on the label that it is flammable is probably solvent based.

Many floor care products, furniture cleaners and polishes, metal cleaners and polishes, spot removers, and oven cleaners are solvent based. Make sure that you check the labels on these products before disposing of them. Contact your local municipal government for local procedures regarding collec-

tion of hazardous household waste collection if you do not know what they are.

You will also find that some of these products state on the label that they are water soluble. This means they are used or rinsed with water for cleaning and may be poured down the drain. Water soluble products include all-purpose cleanser, bleaches, dishwashing and laundry products, toilet bowl cleaners and water-based metal cleaners and polishes. Run the water when discarding. Water-soluble aerosol products, such as spray starches and tub-and-tile cleaners, can also be discarded by spraying them down the drain with running water. Never mix

cleaning products, even during disposal, as certain combinations may release dangerous gases.

With down-the-drain disposal, these cleaning products will end up at a municipal sewage treatment plant or a household septic system, both of which are equipped to safely handle them. Water-soluble cleaning products are formulated to be treated in these systems and then safety released into the environment.

Solid cleaning products, such as soap bars, rinse agents, soap pads and towelettes, should be disposed of in the trash.

When in doubt about how to dispose of a product, call the toll-free number on the label.

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