

Hazardous materials can be found in almost all households. Some jobs around the house require using products containing hazardous substances. There are many instances, however, when we can choose a nonhazardous or less hazardous alternative product to do the same job.

- Learn about alternatives to household items containing hazardous substances. In some cases, products that you have around the house can be used to do the same job as products with hazardous components (*see information inside this brochure*).
- If you do need to use products with hazardous components, use only the amounts needed. Leftover materials can be shared with neighbors, or, in the case of used motor oil, recycled at a participating service station or retailer. Never put leftover products with hazardous components in food or beverage containers.
- For products containing hazardous components, read and follow all directions on product labels. Make sure the containers are always labelled properly and stored safely away from children and pets.

Credit for the information contained in this brochure goes to Sierra Magazine, published by the Sierra Club and the federal EPA.

## **IMPORTANT NOTE REGARDING DISPOSAL**

None of the hazardous materials listed inside this brochure should be placed in your ordinary garbage for disposal. Nearly all of them can be brought to the Town of Oyster Bay S.T.O.P. Program. To obtain a current S.T.O.P. Program schedule, which lists what can and cannot be accepted please call the Sanitation Department at (516) 677-5848.

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**JOSEPH SALADINO**



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Town Supervisor  
**JOSEPH SALADINO**

# **CHOOSING LESS HAZARDOUS PRODUCTS**

## **To Use In Your Household**



**Sanitation Department**  
**(516) 677-5848**

**[www.OysterBayTown.com](http://www.OysterBayTown.com)**

# HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE REFERENCE CHART

SUBSTANCE	PROBLEM	ALTERNATIVES
PESTICIDES & HERBICIDES	Rodent Bait	Cats; traps; chopped bay leaves and cucumber skins
	Insect Repellent	Poisonous; one teaspoonful may be lethal to an adult Screens; protective clothing; creams or lotions are occasionally effective
	Garden Herbicides, Insecticides, Fungicides, etc.	Poisonous; can persist in the environment; especially hazardous around food plants Strong hosing or hand picking; keep garden clean; use "natural" insecticides such as pyrethrins or predators such as ladybugs
HOME & PERSONAL PRODUCTS	Drain Cleaners	Poisonous; can cause serious burns; may contain carcinogens Boiling water; plunger; metal snake
	Oven Cleaners	Poisonous; can cause serious burns; may contain carcinogens; spray cans most dangerous Salt; quarter cup of ammonia overnight
	Toilet Cleaners	Poisonous; can cause serious burns; one teaspoonful may be lethal to an adult Mild detergent or small amounts of bleach
	Spot Removers	Poisonous; most are solvent-based; may be carcinogenic Immediate cold water and detergent; rubbing alcohol or a little acetone
	Silver Polishes	Poisonous; may contain carcinogens; one ounce may be lethal to an adult Soak silver in water with baking soda, salt and small piece of aluminum foil
	Furniture Polishes	Include various poisonous solvents; one ounce may be lethal to an adult Mineral oil with lemon oil ( <i>but this may strip finish</i> ) or Carnauba wax
	Cleaners & Powder Cleaners	Strong oxidizers; poisonous; can cause burns Baking soda and mild detergent; elbow grease
	Window Cleaners	Contain harmful chemical compounds and sometimes carcinogens; may cause birth defects Vinegar and water
	Mothballs	Contain poisonous chemical compounds Cedar chips; newspapers; wrap wool clothing in plastic bags during warm seasons
	Bleach & Liquid Cleaners	Contain strong oxidizers; can cause burns Use powder, not liquid bleach
	Dyes	Poisonous, especially to kids; don't use cooking utensils when dyeing; may be carcinogenic Use vegetable dyes such as onion skins, teas, marigolds
	AUTOMOTIVE & PAINT PRODUCTS	Motor Oil, Brake & Transmission Fluid
Antifreeze		Sweet-tasting, poisonous, may be lethal; don't leave puddles where kids, pets can get to them None
Car Batteries		Contain lead and are highly acidic ( <i>can produce serious burns</i> ) None
Paints		Contain solvents and other poisonous chemical compounds None; use water-based ( <i>latex</i> ) paint if possible; avoid aerosol sprays
Lacquer, Varnish, Thinner & Stripper		Poisonous; solvent-based; some are flammable and carcinogenic None, except for stripper; sand off old finish in well-ventilated area

