

SAFETY TIPS FOR HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

Many household and automotive products are poisonous. Children, seniors, and pets are at most risk, but people of all ages can be poisoned!

What is a Poison?

It's anything that can cause injury, illness or death if you:

- eat it
- drink it
- breath it
- get it on your skin or in your eyes

Symptoms of poisoning include:

- upset stomach or nausea
- dizziness or unconsciousness
- burning sensation in mouth and throat area
- convulsions
- sweating

In the event of poisoning, please call the Poison Control Center at 800-876-4766.



Remember:

- Always read labels prior to purchase.
- Always keep materials out of reach of children and pets, and away from excessive heat and cold.
- Always follow directions and use in well-ventilated areas.
- Always keep household hazardous materials stored in original containers.
- Always store materials properly.
- Always keep containers standing upright.
- Always make sure containers do not leak.
- Always make sure that containers dumped into the garbage are empty.

Caution:

- Never mix any household hazardous products (dangerous fumes may result).
- Never smoke or eat when handling chemical products.
- Never dispose of hazardous waste in the trash, down the drain, down the storm drain, into the ground or on the street. All of these methods may result in health and/or environmental problems.
- Never store corrosives, flammable materials and poisons together. Separate these containers.
- Never repackage chemical products in containers that are normally used for food products or soft drinks.

CONTACT NUMBERS AND LOCATIONS FOR FREE USED OIL DISPOSAL

Used Motor Oil Recycling Centers in Your Neighborhood

Auto Zone
1900 Lakewood Blvd. • 562-498-0605

Auto Zone
2594 Santa Fe • 562-492-6860

Auto Zone
240 W. Anaheim • 562-432-2751

Bob's Chevron #1
700 Redondo Ave. • 562-433-5897

Bob's Chevron #2
3405 Lakewood Blvd. • 562-429-3929

Good Earth Recycling
2005 Bixby Road • 562-490-0072

Jiffy Lube
525 E. Pacific Coast Hwy. • 562-591-5379

Jiffy Lube
5630 E. 7th St. • 562-494-7076

Stu's A&E Transmission Exchange
5531 Cherry Ave. • 562-422-6575

Timmons VW & Subaru
3940 Cherry Ave. • 562-595-4601

Top's Auto Repair
5438 Long Beach Blvd. • 562-422-8969

Pep Boys
4645 E. Pacific Coast Hwy. • 562-985-0778

The preceding list has been compiled for your convenience only. It is not intended as a recommendation or endorsement by the Department of Health and Human Services.

PROGRAM SERVICES

The City of Long Beach Department of Health and Human Services regulates the storage and disposal of hazardous materials through enforcement, education, and emergency response services to businesses and the public. Hazardous materials range from industrial chemicals to common household products such as motor oil and paint. Safe management and proper disposal of these materials are essential to prevent human exposure and environmental contamination.

In partnership with the Fire Department, the Hazardous Materials Division also provides 24-hour citywide chemical emergency response. Responsibilities at the scene of a chemical emergency include ensuring the safety of the public, preventing environmental contamination, and overseeing proper handling and clean up of chemical spills.

SERVICE NUMBERS

Department of Health & Human Services
Hazardous Materials Division
562-570-4131

Hazardous Waste Round-up
562-570-2876

Illegal Dumping into Storm Drains
562-570-3867

Clean LA
888-253-2652

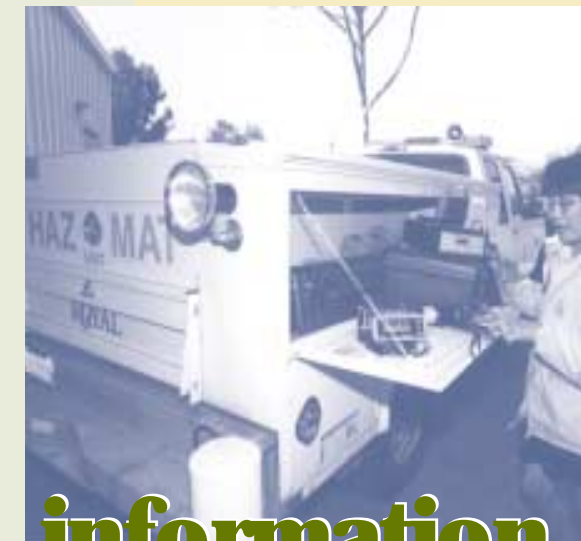
Poison Control Center
800-876-4766

Website

For more information,
visit us on the web at
www.ci.long-beach.ca.us/health
or at
www.ci.long-beach.ca.us/irb

This information is available in an alternative format by request to Michael Johnson at (562) 570-4012.

Department of Health & Human Services
BUREAU OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH



information guide

Hazardous Materials Division



Working Together
To Serve

2525 Grand Avenue • Long Beach, CA 90815

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS SYMBOLS

To determine if a product is hazardous, check packaging for the following symbols:



Toxic
Toxic materials are poisonous and can cause acute or long term illness.

Flammable
Flammable materials ignite and burn easily.



Corrosive
Corrosive materials, such as acid can burn the eyes and skin or eat away containers.

Reactive
Reactive materials can explode as the result of being exposed to heat, water, air or even a strong impact.



The following words on a label will indicate how hazardous a product is:

- **DANGER or POISON**
Extremely hazardous. The product can poison, cause serious damage to skin or eyes, or easily cause a fire.
- **WARNING or CAUTION**
Moderately hazardous.
- **NO WARNING**
Least hazardous.

PROPER DISPOSAL OF COMMON HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

Antifreeze

Hazard: Most antifreeze contains ethylene glycol and nitrites and is poisonous and flammable. The sweet smell of antifreeze attracts pets, especially dogs. If you drain your old antifreeze onto the ground, children or pets may become exposed, leading to adverse health conditions or possibly death.

Disposal: Do not pour antifreeze down the sink or onto the ground. Take it to a household hazardous waste collection site.

Motor Oil

Hazard: Used motor oil contains petroleum and metals from your engine and is both poisonous and flammable. Over 20 million gallons of used motor oil is improperly disposed of each year. Oil dumped into a storm drain ends up in local waterways, damaging water quality, endangering fish and other wildlife.

Disposal: Recycle used motor oil. Refer to the Contact Numbers list for the location nearest you.

Car Batteries

Hazard: Motor vehicle batteries contain about 18 pounds of lead and about one gallon of corrosive lead-contaminated sulfuric acid. When these batteries are dumped onto the ground or in the trash, they may pollute streams, rivers and ground water with toxic chemicals.

Disposal: Recycle your used batteries by taking them to a retailer who sells new batteries, such as auto parts stores and service stations.

CAR WASHING

Hazard: When you wash your car or car engine at home, soap, scum and oily grit run along the curb. They flow into the nearest storm drain and directly into streams, rivers and the ocean. The pollution causes algae blooms and harms water quality and fish life.

Alternative: Take your car to a commercial car wash where the water gets treated and recycled.



GASOLINE/SMALL ENGINE FUEL

Hazard: During winter storage, the gas in lawnmowers, boats or other small engines can become unusable, requiring disposal. Water may condense in the fuel line, or gas may "break down" and clog the fuel system.

Alternatives: One option is to drain the gas tank before long periods of storage. A better solution is to add a fuel treatment to your small engine gasoline. The additive will not only prevent your gas from breaking down, but will also keep your fuel system clean and help your equipment operate better. You can get a fuel additive at any small engine shop. Additives for boats can be found at your local boat engine shop.

Disposal: If the fuel is bad, don't burn it, pour it into a drain or place in trash. Take it to a household hazardous waste collection site.

Call Hazardous Waste Round-up at (562) 570-2876 for a location near you.



HOUSEHOLD CLEANERS

Oven Cleaners

Hazard: Most commercial oven cleaners contain lye and are corrosive to skin and eyes.

Alternatives: Use Easy Off Non-Caustic Formula which does not contain lye or use SOS scouring pads, soap and water with a copper scrubber and lots of elbow grease!

Disinfectants

Hazard: Some disinfectants contain chemicals that are dangerous to inhale and may be flammable. However, germs may also pose a health hazard, especially on kitchen surfaces.

Alternative: Use separate cutting boards for meat products and vegetables. Wash cutting boards in the dishwasher or wash with hot water and soap and air dry.

Drain Cleaners

Hazard: Chemical drain cleaners are extremely dangerous products that can cause chemical burns to skin and permanent eye damage.

Alternative: Use a plunger, snake or hose-end bladder.

OIL-BASED PAINTS AND SOLVENTS / LATEX PAINT

Hazard: Petroleum-based solvents (such as acetone, toluene, xylene, mineral spirits, methyl ethyl ketone and methylene chloride) are among the most hazardous products found in the home. Exposure can lead to a range of short-term and long-term health problems, such as lung and throat irritation, liver and kidney damage and cancer.



Alternatives:

- **Paints and stains:** Use water-based (latex or acrylic) paints and stains. They are less hazardous because water replaces most of the oil-based solvents. They also dry much faster and can be cleaned up with soap and water.
- **Paint strippers:** Water-based strippers are good options.

Disposal: Use in its entirety or give away leftover paint. Take oil-based paint and stain, paint containing lead, and cans of latex paint to a household hazardous waste collection site.

In Case of a Chemical Spill

- Read the label for safety precautions.
- Keep the area well ventilated.
- Extinguish any open flame or heat source.
- Keep children and pets out of the area.
- Wear protective gloves and clothing.
- Contain the spill to keep it from spreading and cover it with cat litter, sand or soil to absorb the liquid. Do not use water to dilute.
- Sweep or scoop the materials up and put into a strong plastic bag. Use double bags to be extra safe.
- Scrub the area with water and be careful not to wash toxic materials into storm drains or sewers.
- After scrubbing area, absorb remaining liquid and dispose of it.
- Dispose of all contaminated absorbent and liquids properly.
- Take any chemical residue, contaminated absorbent, or liquid by-product to a household hazardous waste collection site.

