

There are a variety of hazardous materials routinely used in and around our homes including chemical cleaners, pesticides, paints, solvents, lighter fluid, gasoline, antifreeze, brake fluid and other automotive products, wood preservatives and even batteries from our electronic equipment.

Best Management Practices (BMPs) are required by King County Code 9.12. If the BMPs included here are not enough to prevent contamination of stormwater, you will be required to take additional measures.

Improper disposal and failure to keep hazardous products from rainwater contact may cause surface and groundwater pollution. With so many hazardous compounds present in thousands of households in King County, the cumulative adverse effects of poor usage, storage and disposal practices are potentially severe to our environmental health.

Required BMPs:

- Store all hazardous materials inside a building or shed or under cover. Do not expose hazardous materials to rainwater.
- Use products only as specified on labeling directions.
- Dispose of and recycle hazardous wastes through the Household Hazardous Waste Program or other recycling programs or businesses, or carefully follow disposal directions on containers of chemicals. There are three fixed hazardous waste collection sites for household hazardous waste in Seattle and King County. In addition, the Wastemobile travels to different areas of King County throughout the year. See govlink.org/hazwaste/house or call the Household Hazards Line at 206-296-4692 for more information.
- Never discharge or dump hazardous chemicals into storm drainage systems or on to the ground.

Tips:

- Reuse and recycle as much as possible. The King County Industrial Materials Exchange (IMEX) is a good resource for finding uses for your left over materials. Call IMEX at 206-296-4899 or send an e-mail to imex@kingcounty.gov. Consult the IMEX Web site for more information, at <http://www.govlink.org/hazwaste/business/imex>.
- Use the least toxic product available. See <http://www.govlink.org/hazwaste/house/alternatives> for information on finding alternatives to hazardous household products.

For more information or assistance contact the King County Stormwater Services at 206-477-4811 and visit kingcounty.gov/stormwater.