

What is a pesticide?

Herbicides, insecticides and fungicides are all pesticides designed to kill or repel a variety of plant and animals. Some pesticides are registered with the EPA, but that does not mean they don't have risks.

Healthy Lawn Care: Tips for a Pesticide – free Lawn

Select the proper grass for your lawn. Based on intended use and the amount of sunlight, cool-season grasses such as Kentucky bluegrass, fine fescues, and perennial ryegrass are best for Western New York. The best time to seed lawns are from August 15 to September 15.

OVERSEEDING: plant new seed in your existing lawn where the turf is thin to help control weeds. To do this, mow close, rake to loosen soil and ensure the seed and soil make contact, and then water.

MOW HIGH: Bad mowing is a common cause of insect and weed problems. Mow no shorter than 3 inches to prevent weeds from getting sun and water. And, don't let your lawn grow too tall. You don't want to cut more than 1/3 of the blade of grass to avoid stressing the plant.

LEAVE CLIPPINGS ON THE LAWN: They add essential nutrients to the soil and prevent the use of fertilizers, also it diverts grass clipping from the waste stream.

BE SMART ABOUT FERTILIZER AND pH: Many products are fertilizer and pesticides combined. Read labels carefully to avoid paying for products you do not want. Soil pH should be between 5.5 and 7.0 because beneficial organisms are more active in that range. Use lime to raise pH, if needed.

TOP DRESS WITH ORGANIC MATTER: Organic matter, such as compost, add water and nutrients to the soil.

WATER PROPERLY: Many people over-water. The average soil needs one inch of water per week, so water your lawn only when it is not raining enough. When watering, place a tuna can under the sprinkler to measure how much you are adding. Keeping in mind that laws may turn straw colored and go dormant during a dry spell, but will revive when it rains.



Green, Green, Grass: Feed the roots in the fall and you will have good grass in the spring.

Niagara County Refuse Disposal District Household Hazardous Waste Drop-off locations:

- 1785 New Road, Niagara Falls
- Route 93 Bypass, Lockport (County Landfill)
- 758 Erie Road, North Tonawanda



Niagara County Department of Public Works Division of Environmental/Solid Waste Management

59 Park Avenue
Lockport, New York 14094

(716) 439-7240

www.rethinkyourwaste.com

NIAGARA COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL COORDINATOR:

Dawn M. Timm

NIAGARA COUNTY

ENVIRONMENTAL / SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT
Division of: NIAGARA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

www.RETHINKYOURWASTE.com

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT GUIDE (includes tips for a pesticide free lawn!)

Prepared in accordance with the
Niagara County Environmental
Management Council



FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT
HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE AND
MANAGING HOUSEHOLD WASTE VISIT:
www.RETHINKYOURWASTE.com
or E-mail:
recycling@niagaracounty.com

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE PRODUCTS



WHAT IS IT?

Household Hazardous Waste or HHW is commonly identified by reading the product label. Anything that has a label with words such as: Warning, Caution, Danger or others like Flammable, Volatile, Toxic, Corrosive, Caustic, Reactive, and Poison are considered HHW.

WHAT IF ONLY A LITTLE IS LEFT OVER?

Always try to use up the substance for its intended purpose, if you can't, ask a neighbor or friend or donate locally to a community organization who can. When the container is empty, dispose in trash or recycle if steel or plastic.

HOW DO I STORE HHW?

Keep all hazardous products in original containers with lids securely fastened. Never mix, combine, or consolidate them.

I HAVE A LOT OF FLUID FROM AUTOMOTIVE MAINTENANCE. WHAT SHOULD I DO?

Never throw these products away with your regular trash. Call your local service station as they accept and properly recycle motor oil, brake and transmission fluids, antifreeze and car batteries.

HOW CAN I ELIMINATE OR REDUCE HHW?

When purchasing products, look for alternatives that include labeling such as "Environmentally Safe", "Biodegradable", "Non-toxic", and "Non-Corrosive". Also, avoid over-purchasing with the thought that it can be used later.

WHERE CAN I TAKE MY HHW?

The Niagara County Refuse Disposal District has set up three locations (see back) to bring SELECTED HHW materials. Appointments must be made by contacting 716-434-6568. This service is FREE for all district residents and \$19 for residents in Cambria, Newfane, Niagara, and Wilson. Acceptable materials are **highlighted in RED in the center panel.**

Note: The following materials will not be accepted: Antifreeze, Arsenic, Formaldehyde, Gasoline, Kerosene, Pesticides, Pool Chemicals, Smoke Detectors, Sulfuric Acid and Unknown Materials.

COMMON HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTES PRODUCTS

KITCHEN/BATHROOM

Disinfectants	Toilet Cleaners
Drain Cleaners	Bleach Cleaners
Floor Care Cleaners	Ammonia Based Cleaners
Oven Cleaners	

GARAGE/SHED

Fungicides	Insecticides
Herbicides	Fertilizer
Flea Spray	Roach and Ant Killers
Diesel Fuel	Rat and Mouse Poison
Fuel Oil	Gasoline
Kerosene	Gas/Oil Mixtures
Transmission Fluids	Antifreeze
Brake Fluids	Used Oils
Batteries	Insect Repellents
Fuel Additives	

WORKSHOP

Latex Paints	Enamel/Oil Based Paints
Rust Paints	Thinners and Turpentine
Furniture Strippers	Wood Preservatives
Stains/Finishes	Solvents
Paint Stripper	Adhesives, Glues and Cements
Varnish	

MISCELLANEOUS

Silver Polish	Photographic Chemicals
Rug/Upholstery Cleaner	Floor/Furniture Polish
Mothballs	Pool Chemicals
Abrasive Cleaners	Ammunition
Dry Cleaning Solvents	Fiber Glass Epoxy
Lighter Fluid	Septic Tank Cleaners
Floor Wax	Driveway Sealer
Fluorescent Light Bulbs	Mercury Containing Products



POPULAR ALTERNATIVES TO COMMON HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTES

CLEANING ALTERNATIVES:

- Instead of Ammonia based cleaners, use BAKING SODA on a damp sponge. For windows, use a solution of 2Tbsp. Of WHITE VINEGAR to 1 quart of water.
- For Carpet and Upholstery cleaners, try sprinkling DRY CORNSTARCH or BAKING SODA on the stains and then vacuuming it up. For tougher stains, blot with WHITE VINEGAR in soapy water.

HOME PRODUCTS:

- Replace single-use alkaline batteries with rechargeable batteries.
- Pool Chemicals: investigate using an ultraviolet light or Ozone light system.

HOME PESTICIDES:

- To repel ants use CHILI POWDER or TALCUM POWDER by sprinkling in places of entry.
- For Houseplant Insecticides try spraying plants weekly with lukewarm SOAPY WATER and rinse well.
- To protect clothes from Moths, use CEDAR CHIPS or CEDAR BALLS or LAVENDER FLOWERS.

GARDEN PESTICIDES:

- Avoid fungal growth by keeping areas clean and dry, don't overwater.
- To cut down on weeds, try hand weeding or using a hoe or clippers.

WORKSHOP:

- Instead of solvent based Glues, use GLUE STICKS or yellow WOOD GLUE.

DO YOU KNOW OF ANY OTHER ALTERNATIVES?

Let us know by e-mailing us at recycling@niagaracounty.com