IDENTFIYING HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE

There are many factors that can contribute to a waste being considered household hazardous waste. For example, toxicity, environmental hazards, flammability, reactivity, and corrosivity are all characteristics of products that can classify them as hazardous waste in Georgia. Unfortunately, there is no master list of household hazardous products for residents to check to determine if the products under their shelves are household hazardous waste.

Therefore, we must use common sense and look for warning labels on products to make our best judgment whether or not any product is household hazardous waste. Please err on the side of caution. If you suspect a product of being hazardous, treat it that way.

Warning labels on products can give us important clues that a product may be hazardous. Common warnings associated with HHW include: **DANGER, CAUTION, WARNING, FLAMMABLE, POISON, REACTIVE, CORROSIVE, HARMFUL WHEN SWALLOWED, OR EXPLOSIVE.** Products such as these can greatly affect the City of Cornelia's treatment process at the Water Pollution Control Plant and can also limit the life expectancy of your septic tank systems or require your system to have maintenance more frequently. If you need help determining if a product in your house is a harmful waste and cannot be disposed of down the drain e-mail the City of Cornelia at wpcp@corneliageorgia.org or call the Water Pollution Control Plant at 706 778-6461

LIST OF A FEW OF THE MOST COMMON ITEMS

Brake Fluid
Paint: Oil, Water, and Latex Based
Paint Thinner, Deck Stains, Varnish, Lacquer, Shellac, and Water Repellants
Motor Oil, Transmission Fluids
Antifreeze
Gasoline/Kerosene
Fats, Oils, Grease, and Fryer Oil
Chlorinated or Solvent Based Cleaners or Degreasers (Bleach, Simply Green, Formula 409, and others containing glycol ethers)
Flammable Polishes
Pesticides
Herbicides
Fungicides
Algaecides
Oxidizers: Tree Stump Removers, Fertilizers
Pharmaceuticals
Pool Chemicals
Ammonia Based Cleaners
Sharp Needles or Medical Waste