



# **A Householders Guide to Hazardous Waste Prevention**



This information is prepared by the Regional Waste Management Office (RWMO) for Limerick, Clare, and Kerry. Since 2006 the RWMO in partnership with the region's local authorities has been involved in a waste prevention project which includes the prevention of household hazardous waste. This project is funded by the Environmental Protection Agency.

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We use household hazardous products every day in cleaning, decorating our homes, improving our gardens, car maintenance and even in personal grooming and hygiene. Check any Irish shed, garage, bathroom or kitchen and you will find a wide range of household products bearing hazardous symbols. Everyday examples include oil-based paint, weed killers, bleach or other cleaning products and nail varnish to name just a few. If these products are not properly used, stored, and disposed of, they can present a hazard to our health and our environment.

Reducing and preventing hazardous waste particularly from households, farms and small businesses is a key component of our regional waste management plan.

This booklet is designed to raise awareness about every day hazardous products, there are tips and advice about the use and correct disposal of these products and we have included some eco-friendly, cost effective alternatives to some of the products that are commercially available.



**“Hazardous waste is any material discarded by a household, farm or small business which is difficult to dispose of or which puts human health or the environment at risk because of its chemical or biological nature”.** *EPA 2009*

Many people are relatively unaware of the hazardous nature of products they purchase even though the packaging will carry warnings and hazardous symbols along side the description of how to use the product correctly.

Physical properties include being flammable, explosive or oxidising and these symbols are used on cleaning



**TOXIC**



**IRRITANT**



**CORROSIVE**

products, paints or oils. Other products may be more hazardous to human health and may have properties that are carcinogenic, mutagenic, toxic, corrosive, harmful, irritant or infectious and these are the symbols most commonly seen on labels:



Other products will have properties that are hazardous to the environment and can damage the ozone layer, water courses or contaminate soil if used or disposed of incorrectly. Such products will have labels bearing the following symbol:



**FLAMMABLE**



**OXIDISING**



**EXPLOSIVE**

Hazardous waste even in very small quantities can wreak environmental damage or cause threats to public health.



**DANGEROUS  
FOR THE  
ENVIRONMENT**

Environmental awareness about all types of waste, hazardous and non-hazardous has improved greatly in recent years and most of us would never dream of disposing of hazardous waste incorrectly by burning it, discharging it to sewers or water courses or illegally dumping it – all of which has of course happened in the past.



*Examples of Household Hazardous Waste deposited in Recycling Centres in the Limerick Clare Kerry Region.*

## WASTE IN THE LIMERICK CLARE KERRY REGION:

Ireland is well served with private companies that collect and treat hazardous waste on behalf of larger companies and organisations. However the disposal of hazardous waste can remain a problem for small businesses, farmers and householders. Luckily in this region we have a network of 14 household waste recycling centres and a full list of hazardous materials accepted at these centres is included at the back of the booklet.

The most common types of hazardous waste presented at Civic Amenity Centres in this Region are:

Type of Household Hazardous Waste	This is what it looks like
Farm Fence Batteries	
Household Batteries	
Lead Acid Batteries	
Cooking & engine oil	
Oil filters	
Paints & Lacquers, paint strippers & cleaners	
Fluorescent tubes, lamps & light	
Household Aerosols	
Waste Electrical Equipment	

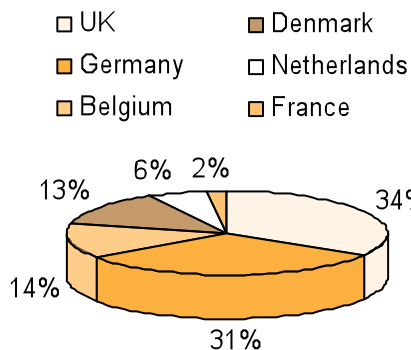


Although Civic Amenity Centres provide a solution for the safe disposal of hazardous waste from households, farmers and small businesses generated in this Region, the EPA's second National Hazardous Waste Management Plan (NHWMP) 2008-2012 estimates that over 29,000 tonnes of hazardous waste was unreported in Ireland in 2006.

The environment can be better protected if hazardous wastes are removed from the waste stream and treated separately by re-use, recycling, recovery and disposal. However we should also be aware that after collection almost 50% of Ireland's household hazardous waste is exported to Europe where it is then recycled, landfilled or incinerated. A key component of the EPA's NHWMP is to see Ireland become more self-sufficient in handling hazardous waste rather than relying on exporting it for treatment.



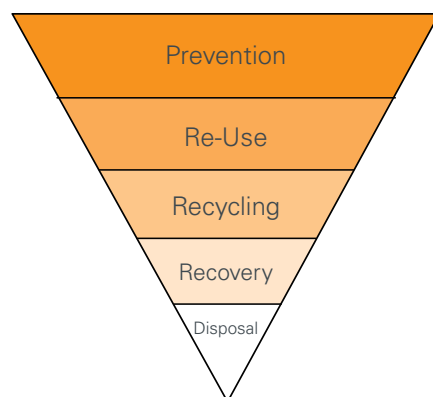
### Destination of Hazardous Waste Exported



Source: EPA National Hazardous Waste Plan 2008-2012

So what can be done to reverse trends in hazardous waste creation?

A starting point is Waste Prevention, after all the best waste is waste that is never created:



EU Waste Prevention Hierarchy

Once created, waste has to be treated and although recycling and energy recovery is infinitely better than disposal in landfill, in the case of hazardous waste we also have to remember that more than half of it is exported for treatment, which adds to the environmental cost.

### SO WHAT CAN WE DO?

Preventing hazardous waste in an industrial context can be a challenge where the manufacturing process relies on hazardous components but what about at home, for small businesses and for farmers? Are there alternatives to hazardous wastes or are there ways to use products better so they have less of an impact on the environment?

### SHOPPING HABITS & THE POWER OF ADVERTISING:

By nature we are creatures of habit sticking with the same products we have purchased and used before and we can be brand loyal. Alternatively we might feel powerless to make changes about the products we use, for example we might want to carry out house or garden improvements which will involve purchasing paints or lacquers, which carry hazardous symbols, but there isn't an alternative to paint or is there?

Not exactly but all producers of common household hazardous products such as paints, cleaning products, garden products, medicines and personal hygiene products are making great strides to reduce the impact of their product on

the environment. The next section of this booklet looks at every day products, their environmental impacts and cost effective alternatives.





# PAINTS



Leading paint manufacturers have begun to label their paints in relation to the amount of VOCs (Volatile Organic Compounds) they contain, this is partly driven by marketing and a desire to position themselves favourably towards consumer's environmental concerns. The EU are also driving this agenda with an EU Directive on reducing emissions from this industry which has been gradually phased in since 2007, with all manufacturers now in full compliance (January 2010).

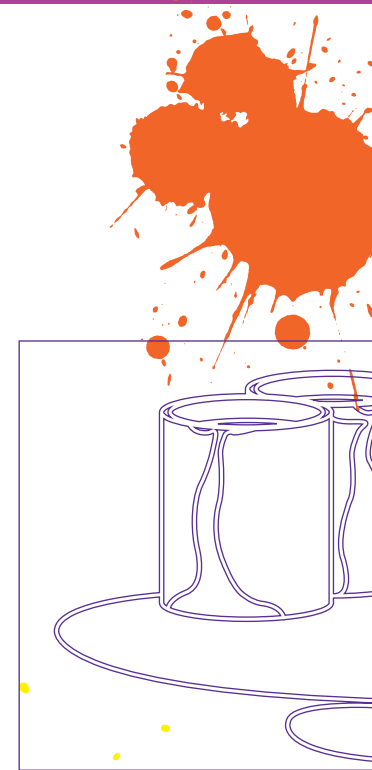
This reduction in emissions also means that these products are less odorous which makes for more comfortable living during house decorating and DIY projects.

## TIPS FOR REDUCING WASTE PAINT AND OTHER PAINT PRODUCTS:

- Research colour, type and quantity of paint carefully: large quantities of unused or barely used paints are brought to recycling centres every year. There are on-line "paint calculators" which will allow you to accurately calculate the amount of paint needed for a particular project. Taking time to calculate paint needs in advance of shopping may also

save you money as many outlets do not offer a refund on paints.

- Ask the retail assistant for advice or read the label carefully to ensure you are purchasing the right product for your DIY project.
- Choose water based paints where possible as these are less hazardous. Product choices are widening and there are more "Eco-Friendly" paint options now available.
- Use it up- if there is only a little paint left at the end of the project, try & finish it off rather than discarding the left over paint.
- If you have enough paint left it is worthwhile to keep for touching up at a later date, ensure you store the paints correctly: tap the lid in place using a mallet rather than a hammer which will distort the lid, then store the can upside down. Use a marker to write on the base of each can for future identification: Date opened, colour, brand, and the room the paint is for.
- If you have a lot of left over paint or unused paint, donate to a charity or check out your local civic amenity centre as many have paint reuse schemes.





## GARDEN PRODUCTS

Many of us rely on pesticides to kill garden pests & insects, herbicides to kill weeds, and fertilisers to improve the nutrient content of our soil. But all three of these have a negative impact on the environment.

Pesticides and herbicides especially get into the food chain, working their way up through insects to birds and rodents, and harming the balance of our local ecosystem. Fertilisers often leach off and pollute the water, damaging the harmony there.

Slugs are a particular problem for gardeners in Ireland as our moist, mild climate allows them to thrive.

Many common brands of slug pellets are toxic and responsible for killing pets & birds every year that inadvertently eat the slug pellets. Such pellets also wipe out beneficial insects and earthworms, look out for eco-friendlier versions based on an iron compound, or alternatively check out these simple, “home-made” options for keeping slugs at bay:

- Use copper piping on the edge of beds as slugs won't cross this medium
- Try spreading crushed egg shells, pine needles, straw, sawdust or shredded bark near your beds as a slug repellent
- Plant lavender, thyme, sage, mint and

geraniums – all disliked by slugs again acting as a natural repellent

- Set up a “Slug Pub” or Beer Trap to intoxicate garden slugs into an untimely death.

We often reach for well known brands or “old favorites” when we purchase products to help us garden, but just looking at the ingredients on the labels of many of these gardening products and the hazardous symbols displayed on the labels should make us think twice and reach for an alternative which is more environmentally sympathetic.

### For example:

#### 1. Pesticides.

Insects in the garden are often a huge concern to gardeners. But in fact, they need not be as big a deal as they are. If your garden is in good health, then bugs are less likely to be able to damage or kill your plants. For those insects that truly are voracious, consider an organic alternative to pesticides, such as a soap and water spray or introducing natural predators, such as ladybirds into your garden. There are lots of gardening websites, books and evening classes which offer a wealth of advice on “chemical free” and organic gardening.

#### 2. Herbicides.

The best way to get rid of weeds without resorting to herbicides is, of course, to pull them by hand. But for those who would rather enjoy a garden without so much work, mulch is your best bet. Bark mulch spread 6 to 8 inches deep will

keep ninety-nine percent of weeds from being able to grow. Those that do can be easily pulled in just a few seconds. Mulch should be spread in the spring and autumn whenever possible; 3 to 4 inches twice a year will make a huge difference to keeping weeds at bay.

#### 3. Fertiliser.

Why not make your own compost and start to use this as an alternative to store bought fertilisers? A third of all household waste is organic, all raw fruit and vegetable matter can be composted making a nutrient rich product suitable for gardening. In addition most of the urban areas within the Limerick Clare Kerry Region are serviced with a “brown bin” collection which takes both raw and cooked food waste from householders and converts it to compost. Cré (the Composting Association of Ireland) has just undertaken a project to determine a quality standard for compost derived from source-separated biodegradable materials in order to promote the development of markets for compost-based products on the island of Ireland as well as to protect human, plant, soil and animal health.

So very soon we should be able to purchase compost for use as fertiliser in our gardens which is derived from food waste collected from households and businesses in Ireland.

In the meantime some of the region's Civic Amenity Centres offer free mulch to customers made from garden waste deposited at the sites. Ask at your local Civic Amenity Centre whether they offer this service or not.

Alternatively if you can get it, manure

from a local farm is an excellent replacement for petroleum-based fertilisers, but caution is advised, please ensure manure is spread properly as it can be as harmful to the water courses as petroleum-based fertilisers due to its nutrient rich properties. Properly spread, however, and lightly composted before planting, it works wonders for the sluggish garden.

In terms of garden furniture, fences, shed and decking which require treating look out for more eco-friendly alternatives than the more traditional type of wood preserver. Check out your local DIY store and ask the retail assistant for advice, read the labels carefully to ensure the product suits your needs. Buy only what you need and use sparingly.



## CLEANING PRODUCTS

Open the cupboard under any sink in an average Irish kitchen or bathroom and you will find a wide range of cleaning products. Over the years more and more products have been developed, a large proportion of these products are specific to tasks, rather than multi-purpose. In other words they have been developed to treat a particular household chore such as cleaning the sink, removing stains from the carpet or washing the floor. Both brand loyalty and advertising also play a crucial role in our consumer decision making process.

Cleaning products are necessary for maintaining attractive and healthy conditions in the home and workplace. In addition to the obvious aesthetic

benefits of cleaning, the removal of dust, allergens, and infectious agents is crucial to maintaining the indoor environment. However cleaning products can present several health and environmental concerns. Many of these products carry hazardous symbols such as flammable or irritant or their packaging has a negative impact on the environment. Products such as aerosols are particularly difficult to treat.







### LET'S TAKE A CLOSER LOOK AT SOME OF THESE IMPACTS:

Cleaning products are released to the environment during normal use through the evaporation of volatile components and rinsing down the drain of residual product from cleaned surfaces, sponges, etc. so householders and cleaning staff, in fact anyone using these products, are in danger of being exposed to the ingredients contained within concentrated cleaning products.

Certain ingredients in cleaning products can present hazard concerns (e.g., skin and eye irritation in workers) or toxicity to aquatic species in waters receiving inadequately treated wastes. For example, alkyl phenol ethoxylates, a common surfactant ingredient in cleaners, have been shown in laboratory studies to function as an "endocrine disrupter," causing adverse reproductive effects of the types seen in wildlife exposed to polluted waters.

Ingredients containing phosphorus or nitrogen can contribute to nutrient-loading in water bodies, leading to adverse effects on water quality for example algal blooms on inland waterways & lakes.

Volatile organic compounds (VOCs) in cleaning products can affect indoor air quality and also contribute to pollution and in particular smog formation.

In order to prevent hazardous waste arisings from cleaning at home, in small businesses or on the farm, we could revert to a time when convenient cleaning products were less prevalent and many were actually "home-made" rather than purchased commercially. Many ingredients traditionally used for cleaning purposes are "everyday" products that are readily available and are not hazardous; they are phosphate free and biodegrade quickly. Examples of traditional and/or natural cleaning products which are not hazardous include: vinegar, lemons, baking soda, oil and pumice stones to name just a few.

The other tip to "green cleaning" and preventing household hazardous waste is to "use less product and a little more effort". Using natural products such as some of these listed below will also save you money as these products can be sourced very cheaply. Here are some ideas, tips and recipes:

### Cleaning With Vinegar

Vinegar will help tackle all those 'tough' tasks where we might ordinarily reach for bleach or a strong chemical cleaner. Vinegar is mildly acidic so will give an anti-bacterial clean to worktops and sinks. Just wipe the vinegar on with a clean cloth and buff to shine. Boiling a 50% mix of vinegar and water in metal kettles will dissolve all lime scale, but don't use on aluminum appliances! Vinegar is also excellent for cleaning windows, buff off with scrunched up newspaper. A 250ml bottle of vinegar costs as little as 90c

### Cleaning With Bicarbonate of Soda (Baking Powder)

Bicarbonate of soda (baking soda or bicarb) is granular so it can be used as a scrub to clean really tough stains or dried in dirt. Mixed with vinegar, bicarb cleans even the grimeiest ovens and baked on grease. Bicarb is also an odour eliminator. A sprinkle in the bottom of bins keeps them smelling fresh. Baking soda will clean plastics without scratching them, while removing any nasty smells (very handy for sandwich boxes which have been 'forgotten' in a bag under the stairs!). Also good used dry to lift stains from carpets (e.g. red wine) and marks from surfaces and very good for cleaning shower curtains. A 200g pack of baking Powder cost as little as 80c

### Cleaning With Salt

Salt is antibacterial and another great 'scrub' item. Salt water can be used to disinfect toilet bowls or sinks. Salt will absorb grease. So sprinkling salt on any greasy spots at the bottom of the oven will make them easy to wipe away with a soapy rag. Salt is very abrasive and can be used to remove stains from ceramic and stainless steel sinks. Rust marks on our stainless steel sinks will disappear when rubbed with a little salt and lemon juice. Leave for a few hours then rub off to remove the rust stain. Value Packs of salt cost as little as 50c.





### Household Cleaning With Lemons

Any citrus fruits can be used as they are all acidic and fresh smelling. Lemon is one of the most popular scents for cleaning products. Half a lemon placed in the door rack of the fridge improves odour. A rub over stainless steel cooker tops and sinks with a lemon brings up a fantastic sparkle and gets the whole kitchen smelling zesty. Mix lemon juice with salt to clean copper and brass. Mix lemon juice with water to whiten whites and brighten colours in a low degree wash cycle. Lemons retail for as little as 30c each.

### Olive Oil Furniture Restorer

3 parts olive oil to 1 part vinegar makes great furniture polish for wood. 2 parts olive oil to 1 part vinegar makes a nourishing feed and polish for leather (furniture, boots, coats etc).

In both cases shake the oil and vinegar in a jam jar till it emulsifies and resembles a salad dressing. Rub on with one soft clean rag then buff off the excess with another. Make sure you remove

all the excess to prevent your sofa becoming sticky! You don't need much to keep wood and leather looking fresh. Cleaning furniture with olive oil is not as extravagant as it may sound. You need very little and you don't need to use the best oils, prices vary but you can purchase a 750ml bottle for as little as €3.15

### Sunlight

Sunlight acts as a bleaching agent, it's excellent for whitening infants' nappies and tea towels and it's free!

### Tea-tree oil

Tea Tree oil is both antiseptic and disinfectant; it effectively eliminates mould and mildew or can be diluted as a deodorizer for musty clothing.

### Soda Crystals

Soda crystals (Washing Soda) are the "multi-tasking" agent of home made cleaning products and have a multitude of uses. Here are just 20 uses for soda crystals in your home and garden:

1. As a degreaser in the kitchen. Dissolve in hot water prior to use (the hotter the better to remove grease). Then use with a cloth, sponge or scourer to clean cooker tops, hoods, ovens, tiles, floors, etc.
2. By adding half a cup of Soda Crystals to your wash load you will soften the water and need to use less of your usual powder.
3. Remove heavy stains on cottons or linens including grease by soaking in a strong solution of Soda Crystals or use Liquid Soda Crystals directly on the

stain. Soda Crystals can shift grease, blood, ink, tea and coffee stains.

4. Soda crystals can be used to remove tarnish from metals such as cutlery, and gold and silver jewellery, but please take advice before immersing precious stones or valuable items. Place tin foil in a dish, add soda crystals and pour on boiling water. Immerse the item, leave for a few minutes, rinse, dry and polish.
5. To clean greasy cooker hoods a 10 minute soak in strong Soda solution will melt the grease away.
6. Great for getting brown stains out of mugs. Half a teaspoon per mug (or a whole one if they are really bad), top up with boiling water, and by the time it's cold the stains will wash out easily. Stand your teaspoons in the cups and do 2 jobs for the price of one.
7. A strong soda solution or Liquid Soda Crystals are very effective for removing burnt-on grease and food from pans, dishes and grill pans. Soak stubborn debris overnight. NB Soda Crystals are NOT suitable for aluminum pans.
8. Scrub chopping boards with Liquid Soda Crystals or a regular solution to remove stains and odours. Soda Crystals will leave no residual smell or taste once rinsed.
9. Descale your kettle by boiling a regular Soda Crystals solution and a raw potato inside. Rinse thoroughly before use but do not use if your kettle has any aluminum components.
10. Flush some Soda Crystals down the loo to clean and freshen, and to help prevent blockages. Use a regular solution to clean toilet brushes too.
11. Use a strong hot solution of Soda Crystals to help keep waste pipes clean

and fresh. A regular flushing will help keep waste pipes clear of blockages.

12. Clean wall tiles with a regular solution, or use Liquid Soda Crystals to leave them clean and sparkling. Soda Crystals will bring new life to grouting too.
13. Freshen them up and get rid of that 'greasiness' on sponges, flannels and combs with a soak in a hot regular solution of Soda Crystals.
14. Paintwork (and upvc window frames) will brighten after a wipe-down with Liquid Soda Crystals or use a regular solution of Soda Crystals in warm water. You can prepare bare wood for painting too with a regular solution.
15. A wipe with a regular solution of Soda Crystals will brighten Venetian blinds, and help to shrug off dust.
16. Red wine and food stains can be treated with a strong solution of Soda Crystals. Large spillages can be treated by applying dry crystals directly to the stain, followed by rinsing in clean water. Use Soda Crystals for ink and grass stains too.
17. To clean outdoor wooden floors and decking, dissolve a medium solution of



Soda Crystals in hot water and mop as usual. To prepare wooden flooring for varnishing or painting, make sure that all debris and flakes are removed and mop with a strong Soda Crystals solution.

18. To clear moss and rotting leaves and to get rid of slime on drives, patios & steps, sprinkle Soda Crystals directly onto the area and leave overnight before brushing off with a stiff broom and plenty of water.
19. Barbecues, grills and utensils - Make up a solution of Soda Crystals (1 cup in 5 Litres of water), soak grills and utensils before cleaning with a wire brush. For barbecue body casings, apply with a sponge or brush and leave for an hour before washing off with a sponge soaked in the solution. Rinse off with clean water. A wire brush or scouring pad will help remove burned-on grease and food.
20. Drains, gutters and waste pipes - Pour half a bag (500g) of Soda Crystals directly down the drain and leave for ten minutes before rinsing with very hot water to keep them clear of grease and blockages. Wash gutters with half a cup of Soda Crystals per litre of water to remove rotting leaves etc.



## PERSONAL HYGIENE & BEAUTY PRODUCTS

Many beauty and personal hygiene products have an impact on the environment as they contain ingredients that are extremely hazardous and depending on the product's packaging (such as aerosols) the disposal of left over product or the empty packaging can also cause concern and place these products in the hazardous waste category.

Looking at the ingredients list on beauty and hygiene products will give a clear indication of the range of hazardous materials it contains. Examples include dibutyl phthalate, or DBP, which is found in nail polish, acrylamide, formaldehyde and ethylene oxide found in products such as hair colour and bleaching products, hair relaxer, nail treatments and skin lightening products.

Even lipstick is a cause for concern as it contains man-made oils, synthetic colors and petroleum based waxes.

Being more aware of the chemicals used in the production of cosmetics is a starting point. To reduce the impact of these hazardous materials on the environment make sure you use them wisely:

- Purchase only what you need,
- Store products correctly: out of direct sunlight, with the lid firmly on,
- Dispose of empty packaging and/or product properly by using your local Civic Amenity Centre

Ask your retailer about earth-friendly brands or greener alternatives and



consider switching to these: they may also be better for your skin, nails and hair.

### Hairsprays, deodorants & other aerosols:

Most people are aware that Chloro Fluoro Carbon's (CFC's) were the main ingredient in aerosol propellants, until it was discovered that their use was adding to the depletion of the ozone layer and these products were gradually phased out during the 1980's.

The additives in aerosols which are now attracting the most concern are volatile organic compounds or VOCs. These are colourless, tasteless chemicals which easily vaporize at room temperature and are found in many indoor aerosol products including air fresheners, furniture polishes, cleaning and personal hygiene products.

There are a wide variety of VOCs – some which are odourless and some which have a sharp chemical smell. So it's not possible to identify whether the product



you are purchasing contains VOCs by odour alone. Instead take a careful look at the label to see what ingredients it contains before you make your purchase. Researchers have also been studying the effect of using more than one aerosol product in the home and concerns have been raised about the combined effects on health through the build-up of VOCs in the home.

It is thought that pregnant women and very young children are most vulnerable to health risks from VOCs as well as other 'at risk' groups such as the ill and the elderly.

Although VOCs were thought to be a better alternative to CFCs, they still contribute to ozone depletion in the stratosphere as well as global warming as they can react with nitrogen oxides in polluted air which leads to the creation of 'bad' ozone at ground level.

Pump hair spray is definitely a better alternative to aerosol hair spray. Aerosol hair spray is appearing less and less on store shelves these days but if you have some at home, be sure to use it up before recycling the packaging.

Why not switch to a green alternative or have a go at making your own hair spray? It's cheap and easy:

### Home Made Hair Spray

Place a sliced lemon into two cups of boiling water. Cool this and leave it in the refrigerator. Add one ounce of rubbing

alcohol, use a clean empty spray bottle to store it, it should last for up to 2 weeks outside of the refrigerator. Making your own hair spray is a great way for you to ensure that you aren't exposing yourself or the planet to unnecessary toxins for the sake of your hair.

### Deodorant and antiperspirant – What's the difference

Surprisingly there is a difference between the two: antiperspirants reduce or eliminate sweating while deodorants mask or mitigate odors generated when we sweat. However both are packed with chemicals; let's have a look at some of these ingredients:

Most commercial antiperspirants contain aluminium in some form - it's the active ingredient to help reduce sweating. There are health concerns about the affects of absorbing aluminum.

Other ingredients include triclosan which is a powerful anti-bacterial agent that cannot be filtered out during waste water treatment and of course, that's where most of it ends up. As triclosan is toxic to algae, it can be a threat in waterways in terms of reducing food sources for creatures dependent on algae.

These are just two components of antiperspirants and deodorants that are cause





for concern. If you take a look at the ingredients label of your own deodorant, it will probably read like a laboratory shopping list.

All things considered, deodorants and antiperspirants do have quite an environmental impact.

### So what to do?

For many of us who can't/won't go without mainstream commercial antiperspirants and deodorants, here are a few tips to reducing their impact:

**Frequency** - do you really need to use deodorants every day? For example, if you're not going to be out and about one day, perhaps this can be a deodorant free day. Even if you can reduce use by one day a week, that's close to a 15% overall reduction.

**Overkill** - some people use deodorants multiple times a day – is this really necessary? Try to spray/roll/splash only once a day if possible and just a quick spritz rather than bathing in the stuff. Remember that our sense of smell will become dulled to the fragrance if we use it all the time, leading us to think we need more.

**Chemicals** - compare between brands and research those mysterious ingredients. Go for the lesser of the evils and definitely try to avoid products with triclosan.

**Packaging** – Where possible avoid aerosols: pump sprays and sticks are a

better way to go, especially if these are in packaging that can be recycled.

As with many aspects of going green, these tips not only reduce environmental impact, but can also save you money too!



## Top Ten Tips to Preventing Household Waste

**1. Knowledge is power** – learn more about ingredients and labels on everyday home and garden products– don't be misled by labeling, ask the retailer for advice when choosing alternatives.

**2. Check out** alternative environmental products to those you would normally buy especially for cleaning, decorating & gardening and personal products.

**3. Don't be hasty** - Use up all the existing hazardous products you have – dispose of the residue and packaging carefully at your local Civic Amenity Centre.

**4. Save money** by only buying what you need: larger quantities or buy one get one free offers may appear economical but end up being costly if never used. Or if bulk buying share with a friend or neighbour.

**5. Less is more:** dilute cleaning products properly, use personal, household and garden products that contain chemicals sparingly, **CAUTION:** you may need to use a little more elbow grease!!

**6. Always** have a supply of "wonder" products at

hand – we have listed 20 uses for Soda Crystals, there are lots more besides. These environmentally friendly options are multi-tasking and very cheap in comparison to commercial brands.

**7. Check out** the web and your local library for advice and assistance on switching to environmental alternatives and living with less hazardous waste.

**8. Eliminate** certain hazardous wastes entirely such as household batteries by investing in a recharger and rechargeable batteries.

**9. Always** choose packaging that is easily recyclable, pump action sprays are better than aerosols and avoid disposal products such as antibacterial or bleach wipes for household cleaning purposes.

**10. Join an Environmental Group** or take a night class to learn more about green living and gardening: it's better for you, your pocket and of course the environment! Spread the word amongst family & friends – **its hip to be green.**





## Contact Information

Regional Waste Management Office  
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Please try to prevent hazardous waste and dispose of the materials you have carefully at these sites throughout the region:

	BATTERIES	OIL PRODUCTS	OIL FILTERS	OIL BASED THINNERS	Inks & Toner Cartridges	ADHESIVES	RESINS	LACQUER	VARNISH	WEED KILLERS	CLEANING AGENTS	FLUORESCENT BULBS	AEROSOLS
<b>CO. KERRY</b>													
North Kerry Landfill	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓
Kerry County Council Waste Transfer Station Coolcalagh Killarney	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Kerry County Council Waste Transfer Station Milltown	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Kerry County Council Waste Transfer Station Kenmare	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Kerry County Council Waste Transfer Station Caherciveen	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
West Kerry Waste & Recycling Centre Lispolse	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
<b>CO. CLARE</b>													
Emmis Recycling Centre	✓	✓	✓									✓	
Scariff Recycling Centre	✓	✓	✓										
Lisdeen Recycling Centre, Kilkee	✓	✓	✓										
Central Waste Mgt Facility, Inagh	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
<b>LIMERICK CITY</b>													
Park Road Depot	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓
<b>CO. LIMERICK</b>													
Kilmallock Recycling Centre Shannon Development Ind Est	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓			✓	✓
Newcastlewest Recycling Centre Station Road	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓			✓	✓
Mungret Recycling Centre Bunlicky	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓			✓	✓
Gortadroma Landfill Site Ballyhahill	✓												

Some Local Authorities may charge a nominal fee for access to the recycling centres / civic amenity sites in their area

