

TOWN/VILLAGE OF HARRISON
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Stormwater Quarterly

What's the Alternative?

TOXIC CHEMICALS used around our homes ultimately find their way into our waterways. While these chemicals are effective in keeping our homes, cars and yards looking great, safer alternatives are available which provide similar benefits without the harmful side effects.

USING alternative products drastically reduces the presence of toxins in stormwater. Common toxic chemicals found in the home include cleansers, paints, automotive products, fertilizers, pesticides and fuels.

COMMONLY USED PRODUCTS AND SAFER ALTERNATIVES:

SAFER alternatives are available for many of the used products in and around our homes.

- **Aerosols**—Use pump-type and non-aerosol products
- **Art Supplies**— Purchase water-based paints or inks.
- **Batteries**— Rechargeable batteries are a cost effective alternative to disposable batteries.
- **Chemical Fertilizers**— Compost yard waste and food scraps. Manure can also be used as an alternative to chemical fertilizer.
- **Gasoline**— Reduce gasoline use by car-pooling, walking, bicycling or using public transportation. Purchase a hybrid or electric car.

- **Motor Oil**— Use re-refined (recycled) motor oil.
- **Pesticides**— Keep your yard and garden free of breeding grounds for insects. Certain plants and flowers act as natural insect repellants. Integrate these into your landscaping.

THE INTERNET provides a wealth of information on safe alternatives to everyday products. A very good website that is easy to navigate is www.ehow.com. In the search box, type in “safe alternatives to ...” (whatever you are looking for) and you will be provided with a list of options.

“GREEN” products are more widely available in local and chain stores, and on-line and they aren’t limited to cleansers, paints, automotive products, fertilizers, pesticides and fuels. Green products are available for every room in your house, from the kitchen to the storage room.

THE ALTERNATIVES ARE LIMITLESS.

Source: USEPA

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