

# 2012 Household Hazardous Waste Collections

Saturday **April 14**, 8AM-12PM, in Nashua

Saturday **May 5**, 8AM-12PM, in Milford

Thursday **June 7**, 3:30-7:30PM, in Nashua

Saturday **Aug. 4**, 8AM-12PM, in Nashua

Saturday **Oct. 6**, 8AM-12PM, in Nashua

Saturday **Nov. 3**, 8AM-12PM, in Nashua

## LOCATION

**Nashua Public Works Garage** ~ 9 Stadium Drive, Nashua, all dates EXCEPT May

**Milford Public Works Garage** ~ 289 South St. (Rt 13), Milford, MAY ONLY

## PARTICIPATING COMMUNITIES

Amherst | Brookline | Hollis | Hudson | Litchfield |  
Merrimack | Milford | Mont Vernon | Nashua |  
Pelham | Windham

## USER FEES = \$10

This covers up to 10 gallons or 20 pounds of waste per vehicle. Residents who bring more will be charged accordingly. Please bring cash or check payable to NRSWMD.



## Nashua Regional Planning Commission

9 Executive Park Drive, Suite 201

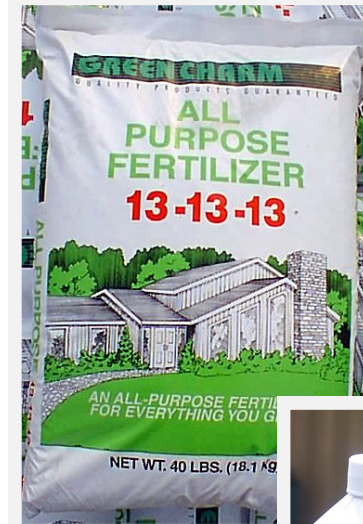
Merrimack, NH 03054

603-424-2240

[www.nashuarpc.org/hhw](http://www.nashuarpc.org/hhw)

## Fertilizers & Pesticides

*A guide to environmentally sound purchasing, use, and disposal*



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# Why Worry?

## FACTS & FIGURES

- According to the US Fertilizer Institute, annual revenue for the fertilizer business is \$10 billion.
- The US is the second largest consumer and producer of fertilizer behind China.
- The US agriculture industry uses roughly 800 million pounds of pesticides annually.
- Roughly 90% of US households use pesticides of some form. Homeowners in the US use roughly 70 million pounds of pesticides annually on their lawns.

## IMPACTS

- When fertilizers enter a water body, they promote the increased growth of aquatic plants. As these plants die, the dissolved oxygen content of the water decreases, which suffocates and kills fish.
- The algae that proliferates as a result of fertilizer contamination in water bodies can be toxic. Blue-green algae, for example, can cause rashes, nausea, and respiratory problems in humans and can kill livestock and pets that drink affected water.
- When pesticides are dumped down the drain, septic, or sewer, they contaminate the water supply, harming humans and wildlife.
- Each year, 110,000 pesticide poisonings are reported to poison control centers in the US and 23,000 people go to the emergency room as a result.



# What's the Alternative?

## FERTILIZER ALTERNATIVES

- *Test your soil regularly.* It's the only way to know what's already there. If you have sufficient amounts of nutrients then you don't need more.
- *Know the nutrient needs of your plants.* Providing more nutrients than a plant needs will not help it to grow and will likely be unused. Unused fertilizer can wash into lakes, rivers, and streams, and leach into ground water.
- *Pay attention to time.* Only apply fertilizer during periods when plants will use it.
- *Skip store bought fertilizer.* Use compost or plant debris instead. Placing dried leaves on top of garden plots in the fall creates great fertilizer by spring.

## PESTICIDE ALTERNATIVES

*Ants* ~ red chili powder at entry points

*Fleas & Ticks* ~ scatter pine needles, fennel, rye, or rosemary on pet beds

*Flies* ~ keep a well watered pot of basil nearby

*Insects on plants* ~ soapy water on leaves then rinse

*Mosquito repellent* ~ citronella candles

*Rodents* ~ "Havahart" or other humane live animal traps

*Slug/snail/nematode repellent* ~ onion and marigold plants



# What to Do?

If you are discarding pesticides and fertilizers on the ground, into a storm drain, or even placing them in the trash in a sealed container, you are disposing of them improperly.

- *Use it up.* The best way to dispose of fertilizers and pesticides is to use them as they were intended. Avoid overuse by purchasing the smallest amount possible to complete your job.
- *Control erosion.* Be extra cautious when applying fertilizer and pesticides on slopes. Control runoff into streets and storm drains to prevent surface water contamination.
- *Store fertilizer and pesticide properly.* Keep these products under a shelter and off the ground so they can't be washed away by the rain. Follow manufacturer's instructions for proper storage.
- *Contact the manufacturer.* Some companies offer programs to take back outdated products or empty containers.
- *Do not rinse empty pesticide containers or place them in with household recycling.* Instead, bring empty containers to an HHW collection.



## ATTEND A HHW COLLECTION

If you do find yourself with products that you cannot use, bring them to a Household Hazardous Waste collection. See the reverse for a complete schedule. Accepted items include herbicides, fertilizers, insecticides, No-Pest strips, pesticides, and rodent killers.