



# The impact of domestic waste on the environment

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# What is domestic waste?




**Domestic waste is excess matter in the form of cardboard, yard clippings, wood and other forms of garbage.**

These items are usually located on property and in dwellings.



Other forms of household waste include aerosol cans, ammunition, motor oil, paints and solvents. Americans produced 250 million tons of household waste in 2010, consisting of grass clippings, furniture, packaging, food garbage, appliances and newspapers. This translates into 4.3 pounds of garbage for every person each day.



Household waste also contains items that are deemed hazardous, including toxic, corrosive and flammable refuse. Paints and pesticides are a few items that require special means of disposal. Pouring these hazards down drains or sewers is an improper disposal method, posing a risk to human health and damaging the environment. These items also pose a danger to pets, and the toxicity can kill fish in rivers. Toxic items that are improperly discarded can also damage septic and water treatment systems.

Reducing household waste minimizes exposure and protects the environment. Recycling as much waste as possible is another solution, and reusing waste is something to consider. These items should not be mixed with other products, and there are certain counties that have designated hazardous waste collection days. When storing hazardous garbage, it is important to keep them far from reach and in an area that is dry and above freezing.





**THANK YOU  
FOR  
YOUR  
ATTENTION!**

Do not contaminate the environment.