

## **Home Hazardous Waste- Audit**

**Due:**

Many familiar products contain *hazardous substances*. Becoming more aware of the hazardous substances we encounter everyday and the types of hazardous waste they produce is the first step in learning how to properly handle and dispose of them, thereby protecting the environment and ourselves.

***Hazardous substances*** are materials that present a threat or potential risk of injury to people or the environment when they are produced, transported, used or disposed of.

*To be hazardous, a substance must have one or more of the following characteristics:*

**A. Corrosive:** capable of chemically wearing substances away (corroding) or destroying them.

**B. Toxic:** poisonous to people and other organisms. Toxic substances can cause illness – ranging from severe headaches to cancer – and even death if swallowed, and many can be absorbed through the skin.

**C. Ignitable:** capable of bursting into flames. Ignitable substances pose a fire hazard and irritate the skin, eyes, and lungs. They may also give off harmful vapors.

### **Assignment:**

Make a list of the hazardous products in your home (*by location*), and sort them into *corrosive, toxic, and ignitable*. Simply read the labels on each product- they will tell you the warnings.

Organize each product by WHERE (*location*) you find them in your home- *ie: kitchen, bathroom, garage, laundry, etc.*

**Summarize Your Results:**

*Choose ONE of the following:*

- Summarize your results in a **data table and discuss** your results in a one page summary
- Create a **visual (collage)** representing the products found in your home
- Create a visual showing some products found in your home and the **alternatives** to using those products
- Create a **handout/flyer** to give to people in your neighborhood-explaining the risks and the alternatives to using these products
- Your Choice: Please see me