City of Stockton
Municipal Utilities Department
Stormwater Program
209.937.8700
www.stocktongov.com/mud
Household Maintenance

- Always read labels carefully before buying household cleaning and maintenance products. Know that ingredients range in toxicity levels from CAUTION (least toxic) to WARNING and, finally, to DANGER or POISON (most toxic). A symbol of a skull and cross-bones also refers to high toxicity. Avoid buying products containing extremely toxic ingredients.
- Use safe, less toxic alternative cleaners such as baking soda, salt, borax, vinegar, water, or just elbow grease.
- Choose water-based paints instead of oil-based paints. Do not use any paint over 15 years old since it may contain lead. Take them to the San Joaquin County Hazardous Waste Facility located near the Stockton Airport.
- To minimize waste and spills, use products carefully and store them in heavy duty, airtight containers.
- Flush drains with boiling water instead of using potentially hazardous chemical drain cleaners.
- Buy products made from renewable resources and recycle any nonbiodegradable products.

Disposal of Products

- Never pour toxic paints, preservatives, brush cleaners, solvents, or anything else into gutters or down the storm drains, sinks, or toilets. Take them to the San Joaquin County Hazardous Waste Facility located near the Stockton Airport.
- Only buy the amount needed and use the entire product. Otherwise, give unused portions to a neighbor instead of throwing it away.
- Let paint particles settle out of paint thinner in a closed jar. Pour out the clear liquid for future use and dispose of the waste by wrapping it in newspaper and throwing it away.