

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF PORT COQUITLAM

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION COMMITTEE

MINUTES

A meeting of the Environmental Protection Committee was held in the Administration Offices #214 - 2571 Shaughnessy Street, Port Coquitlam, B.C. on Thursday, March 10th, 1988 at 5:15 p.m.

Personnel in Attendance:
Alderman M.D. Gates, Chairman
Alderman R.H. Talbot
R.A. Freeman, City Clerk/Deputy City Administrator

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Recommended:

That the minutes of the meeting of the Environmental Protection Committee held on Thursday, February 18th, 1988 be taken as read and adopted.

Carried.

ITEM I "GOOD NEIGHBOR" POLICY - PESTICIDE USE.

Alderman Gates referred to the above noted subject and advised that the North Shore Health Unit had such a program in effect.

Recommended:

That the Committee Secretary be instructed to contact the North Shore Health Unit and ask for information concerning their "Good Neighbor" Policy in respect to pesticide use.


Carried.

ITEM II "BURRARD THERMAL" GENERATING PLANT.

Recommended:

That the Committee Secretary be instructed to seek information from the City of Port Moody concerning the proposal to generate electric power for sale to the United States at the Burrard Thermal Generating Plant.

Carried.


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ITEM III OUTDOOR BURNING.

Alderman Gates referred to a memorandum from the Fire Chief on the subject of outdoor burning and advised that he and Alderman Talbot would contact the City Engineer to see if a fenced area could be made available inside Reeve Street Park to help alleviate concerns in this regard.

ITEM IV: S.P.C.A. RE: ANIMAL SHELTER.

Recommended.

That Mayor Traboulay be requested to make the requested appointment to a committee that would consider replacement of the present animal shelter.

Carried.


ITEM V: LAND APPLICATION - VALLEY RITE MIX LTD.

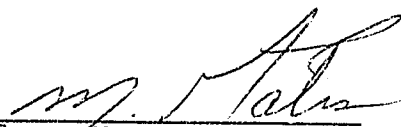
Recommended.

That the Committee Secretary advise the Ministry of Forests and Lands of the Committee's agreement with items 3(b), 3(c), and 4 as set out in the District of Coquitlam's letter to that Ministry dated January 7th, 1988.

Carried.


The Meeting Adjourned at 5:30 p.m.


R.A. Freeman
City Clerk/
Deputy City Administrator


Alderman M.D. Gates
Committee Chairman

NOTE: Minutes not read and adopted by the Committee until certified correct by the Committee Chairman's signature.

c.c. Mayor and Alderman
City Administrator
City Engineer



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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION COMMITTEE MEETING

5:15 P.M.

THURSDAY, MARCH 10, 1988

1. "Good Neighbour" Policy pertaining to Pesticide use.
2. "Burard Thermal" Generating Power for sale to U.S.A.
3. Outdoor Burning memo from Fire Chief, February 25, 1988.
4. S.P.C.A. letter of February 23, 1988 to Mayor.
5. Land Act Application - Valley Rite Mix, District of Coquitlam reply, February 22, 1988.


MAR 10 1988

THE CORPORATION OF THE
CITY OF PORT COQUITLAM

MEMORANDUM

TO: R.A. Freeman
Environmental Protection Committee

February 25th, 1988


FROM: J. Boileau
Fire Chief

RE: Outdoor Burning

In view of the attached report from the GVRD dated May 14th, 1987, the letter to Mayor Traboulay from Mrs. B. Brenner and numerous telephone complaints during Spring and Fall burning, I believe Council should review the present policy on Spring and Fall burning.

Also attached for information is a pamphlet "Are you killing your fish", a news article from the Vancouver Sun and a list on "Disposal of Hazardous Household Products".

COPIES: Ald. Gates
Ald. Talbot


MAR 10 1988



Greater Vancouver Regional District
4330 Kingsway, Burnaby, British Columbia, Canada V5H 4G8

Jim B.

Item No. 5a

Engineering & Oper

Engineering: 432-6450 • Forestry: 432-6410 • Operations & Maintenance: 432-6405 • Pollution Control: 432-6420

TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS
FROM: WATER & WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
RE: OUTDOOR BURNING IN THE GVRD
DATE: MAY 14, 1987

Page 1 of 4

REPORT:

Open burning of a variety of waste materials has occurred in all lower mainland municipalities in past years with control being exercised by Municipal and Regional authorities. This report describes the types of material for which open burning is the prevalent method of disposal and the current situation in municipalities, together with the direction in which the Regional District is moving.

(a) Domestic Backyard Burning

The semi-annual practices by homeowners of caring for trees and shrubs results in the generation of significant amounts of prunings, cuttings, etc. which require some means of disposal. Historically, municipalities in the District have authorized periods in the Spring and Fall of each year for burning such wastes on site. Provisions for administering this practice are specified in municipal Fire Bylaws and are mainly oriented toward the prevention of damage to property by fire.

The concern of the District's Pollution Control staff centres on the impact this practice has on regional, local and neighbourhood air quality. Actual impacts can vary considerably depending on meteorological conditions, timing of municipal burning periods, and the extent to which homeowners take advantage of the opportunity to burn. The nature of these wastes and the low combustion temperatures achieved can result in very dense smoke emissions which create health and nuisance concerns.

In 1982, Dr. John Blatherwick, in a report to the Simon Fraser Union Board of Health, recommended that Spring and Fall burning periods be eliminated. To support this conclusion, he cited the potential health effects of emissions on people with chronic respiratory disease and stated that "at least 10% of the general population have some degree of airway hyper-reactivity which places them at increased risk from a wide variety of airborne irritants, but particularly to complex mixtures of pollutants such as smoke". The health effects due to inhalation of fine particulate matter (smoke) is becoming increasingly important and air pollution control strategies in both Canada and the United States include establishment of ambient air quality objectives for this parameter.

The attached Table illustrates current practices of municipalities in the District. Clearly, there is a trend toward the elimination of backyard burning, with the City of Vancouver being the first to implement such a ban in 1983. The Districts of Burnaby and North Vancouver subsequently adopted similar bans and, beginning this year the City of New Westminster no longer allows open burning to occur. Other municipalities continue to authorize Spring and Fall burning periods.

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(b) Demolition and Construction Burning

A variety of wastes are generated during the construction and demolition of buildings. Many building materials are composed of asphalt products (e.g., roofing materials) chlorinated plastics, treated wood, etc. When burned in the open, these materials can produce a variety of air toxics in addition to smoke.

Prior to the District's involvement in air pollution control, each municipal fire department controlled the frequency and duration of such fires by issuing permits on site specific bases. The District's administration of the Pollution Control Act and subsequently the Waste Management Act, indicated that significant problems were being created by the numerous open burning occurrences on building project sites. Considering the poor emission quality and the incidence of complaints from the public, open burning of these wastes is not allowed.

A control program was implemented by the District in co-operation with most Fire Departments which effectively disallowed open burning of these wastes. This program continues to be enforced by advising first-time violators of the District's requirements, followed by increasingly severe actions for repeated violations. Compliance with these requirements has been high and public complaints have been significantly reduced.

(c) Land Clearing Fires

The burning of vegetation waste (land clearing debris) indigenous to a particular site is exempt from the Waste Management Act if the burning is conducted on the actual site. Removal of this material to another site for burning is not allowed in the District unless a permit under the Waste Management Act has been issued. Presently, operators need only obtain a permit from the local Fire Department to burn land clearing debris on site. The common practice is to use highly combustible materials such as rubber tires or dry demolition wastes to initiate fires. Operator attention to fires is the prime emission control measure taken, but experience has shown that minimizing emissions receives fairly low priority during the clearing procedure.

The District's Pollution Control Officers receive numerous complaints from the public regarding smoke impingement and fly ash deposition on surrounding property. While it is presently difficult for the District Director to take action in such instances, the Officers routinely draw these problems to the operator's attention and suggest ways of mitigating the negative impacts. A degree of success has been achieved using this approach.

(c) Industrial/Commercial Burning

Open burning of wastes generated in industrial plants and commercial businesses has been controlled in a manner similar to that for construction/demolition burning. Many Lower Mainland municipal fire bylaws also disallow these types of open burning, making their elimination fairly straightforward.

Enforcement of the Waste Management Act focuses on the control of industrial emission sources through issuance by the District Director of Permits, Approvals and Orders. Uncontrolled sources such as open burning of wastes would not be allowed under such authorization. Compliance by companies with these requirements has been quite good.


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CONCLUSION

Open burning is still used as the disposal method for a large volume of waste materials generated in the GVRD. The heightened sensitivity and awareness of the public to air quality and other issues has prompted Municipal Councils and the District to restrict some open burning.

A positive step toward a regional solution is the study authorized by the Administration Board in November, 1986 to develop alternatives for the disposal of demolition, land clearing and garden wastes at a Regional facility. Adoption and implementation of a plan on a regional basis will be a significant advance in the abolition of open burning and the reduction in the number of air quality complaints.


RECOMMENDATION:

That the report on Outdoor Burning in the GVRD be received .


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OUTDOOR BURNING REGULATIONS AS OF APR/87

West Vancouver:	Fridays and Saturdays in October and April
North Vancouver District:	No burning allowed.
North Vancouver City:	Two weekends in fall and two weekends in spring. Burning in approved incinerators allowed year round.
Vancouver:	No burning allowed.
Burnaby:	No burning allowed.
Richmond:	15 days in spring and 15 days in fall.
Delta:	15 days in spring and 15 days in fall.
Surrey:	Burning allowed year round. Permit required May 1 to October 31. Otherwise unrestricted.
White Rock:	1st Saturday and Sunday of each month November to April inclusive.
New Westminster:	No burning allowed.
Coquitlam:	Two consecutive weekends fall and spring. No landclearing fires May 1 to October 15.
Port Coquitlam:	One month in fall and one month in spring between October 14 and April 14. Council has made an exception this year and allowed a six week period ending April 30
Port Moody:	One month in fall (usually November) and one month in spring (usually April). Construction waste and landclearing fires allowed year round with permit.


MAR 10 1988

J. Bailew

March 21/87.

Mr. L. Traboulay, Mayor,
City of Pt. Coquitlam,
2272 Mcallister,
Pt. Coquitlam, B.C. V3C 2A8

Dear Sir:

Finally, a beautiful spring day and what do we get?
Stinking smoke and ashes all afternoon swirling everywhere,
and not for the first time.

With all this fuss over smoking in public places I
find it hypocritical and archaic to allow burning every
spring and fall in our city. Clean air is a priority,
isn't it? Gasoline on rubber tires doesn't do much for
our environment.

Please disallow burning; it stinks!

Yours truly,

B. Brenner (Mrs.)
1663 Robertson Ave.,
Port Coquitlam, B.C. V3B 1C9

BP
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These common household products are hazardous to fish.

Automotive Products

motor oil
antifreeze
brake fluid
carburetor cleaner
gasoline
gasoline additives
transmission fluid
degreasers
sealers

Paints and Solvents

paints
shellacs
lacquers
varnishes
enamels
paint thinners
paint and varnish strippers
rustproof coatings

Recreational Products

swimming pool contents
(chlorine)
outboard motor products
(gas, oil, etc.)

Pesticides

- disinfectants (bathroom, kitchen, etc.)
- insecticides (garden products, flea collars, etc.)
- fungicides (mold and mildew control)
- rodenticides (rat and mouse bait)
- herbicides (weed killers)
- molluscides (slug baits)
- wood preservatives (creosote, pentachlorophenol)

Cleaning Products

- detergents
- drain and toilet cleaners
- rug and upholstery cleaners
- leather preservers
- dry cleaning agents
- car wash detergent
- polishing agents (shoe products)

**HELP PRESERVE YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD
STREAMS AND THEIR FISH AND WILDLIFE
RESOURCES!**

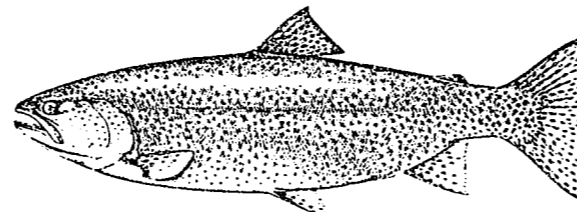
**GVRD Recycle Hotline — 636-8636
OR**

**Ministry of Environment and Parks
(Waste Management)
584-8822**

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Cutthroat Trout



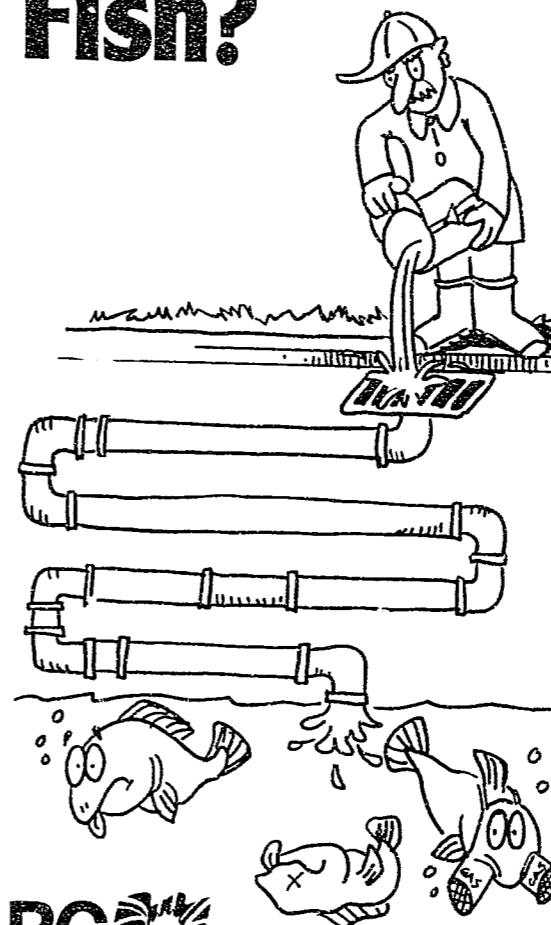
Cutthroat trout and salmon will appreciate your care.
Please keep hazardous household wastes out of
storm drain systems.

Queen's Printer for British Columbia ©
Victoria, 1987

MR-1238

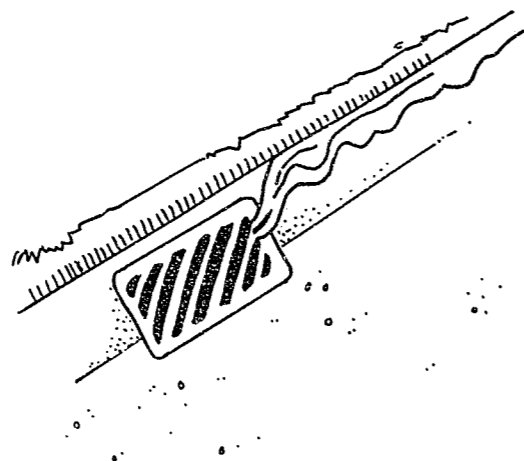
03/87

Are You Killing Your Fish?



BC

Ministry of Environment and Parks



Do you know what this is?

This is a "Storm drain" or "catch basin". There are many thousands of these drains located throughout the Lower Mainland, including your neighbourhood. Their purpose is to collect rain and melted snow that drain off exposed surfaces such as roads, parking lots and driveways.

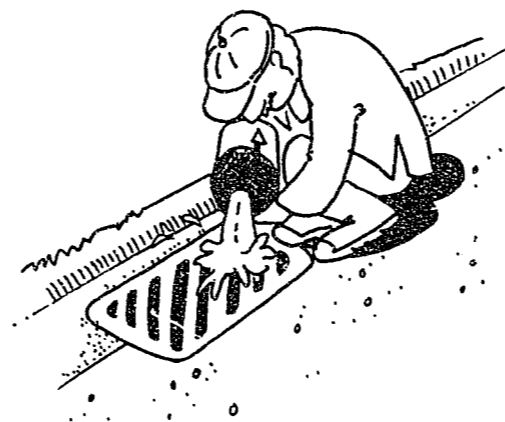
Do you know where it leads to?

Many of these basins empty into underground storm sewer systems. Their contents are quickly discharged into nearby streams, which are important habitats for trout and salmon. Unlike domestic wastes collected by sanitary sewers, the contents of many storm sewers are not treated at sewage treatment plants prior to their discharge into a stream.

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Are you polluting a stream?

Many people don't realize that hazardous household waste products that they wash or dump into these drains go right into their neighbourhood streams. Oils, detergents, paint compounds and solvents, pesticides, and many other common household products often end up in streams via the storm sewers. Most of these contain chemicals that are toxic to fish, and many small discharges from thousands of households can poison many miles of neighbourhood streams.

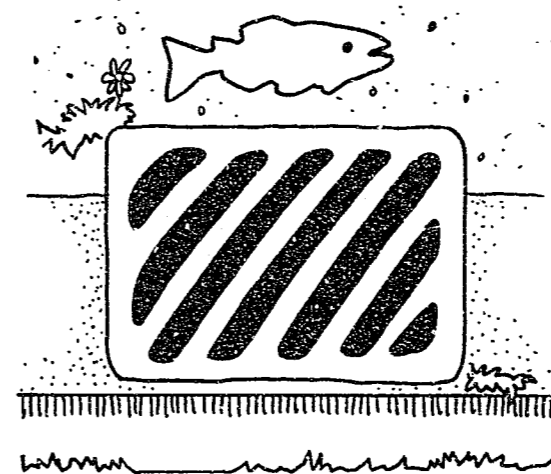


What can you do?

Please don't dump hazardous household products into storm drains. Some products, such as used motor oil, are recyclable locally. Other products must undergo special processing to render them harmless.

For information on local recycling and disposal facilities, contact:

GVRD Recycle Hotline — 736-8636
OR
Ministry of Environment and Parks
(Waste Management)
584-8822



Can you do more to protect a neighbourhood stream?

Yes, you can, by becoming involved in the Storm Drain Marking Program! In many neighbourhoods, concerned citizens are voluntarily marking a yellow fish symbol beside storm drains that discharge into local streams.

This fish symbol reminds neighbourhood residents that if they permit toxic substances to enter marked storm drains they may be poisoning fish in a nearby stream.

They may also be committing a crime! Under the Fisheries Act it is an offense to dump toxic substances into fishbearing waters.

How Do You Become Involved in the Storm Drain Marking Program?

Contact the Fisheries and Oceans Canada Community Advisors for your neighbourhood. If you live north of the Fraser River, call 666-0743. If you live south of the Fraser River, call 666-0742.

The Vancouver Sun, Friday, November 20, 1987

Hunt for coho killer goes on

By MARK HUME

Members of the Sapperton Fish and Game Club planned to be out patrolling the banks of battered Brunette River again today searching for the cause of an ongoing fish kill.

For the past 10 days club members have been finding dead adult coho salmon scattered along the shore of the urban stream. The Brunette straddles the New Westminster-Coquitlam border and runs into the Fraser River.

So far about 50 coho have died from unknown causes on their way up the Brunette to spawn.

"We've been working for about 20 years to try and save this river," club member Harold Robinson said Thursday. "It's not a shock that fish are being killed, but it's a damn shame."

The river was once so badly polluted it was devoid of fish, but largely through the efforts of the Sapperton club the waterway was cleaned up and salmon and trout have made a comeback.

Last fall about 500 coho ran up the Brunette. This year a run of around 300 to 500 fish is expected.

Robinson said club members have found about 50 dead coho so far, which represents a sizable amount of the run, "and of course we don't know how many others have died and been washed away. We are definitely worried about this. We are very, very concerned."

Robinson said the club is patrolling the river searching for a source of pollution.

"We feel it is a detergent, or oil, or something ... We want to stress to the public the dangers in putting paints or chemicals in a storm sewer. That all ends up in the Fraser River eventually."

Federal Fisheries officer Randy Webb said his department is baffled by the kill.

"There are live coho, live chum and live trout in the Brunette right now. The only fish turning up dead are adult coho ... They are healthy looking fish which haven't spawned, so something is definitely wrong."

Webb said the troubled Brunette has a fish kill of some kind almost every year. "It's one thing to have a fish kill, but to see it drawn out like this is something else."

The Peace Arch News,
Saturday, October 3, 1987

Fish kill probed

Someone who disposed of toxic waste in a storm sewer or a tributary of the Serpentine River, effectively wiped out the efforts of hundreds of volunteers who stocked the river with salmon fry earlier this week.

Tom Keall, past president of the Tynehead Hatchery Association, says volunteers from his group, along with Surrey School children, raised and released a total of 23,000 coho and 50,000 chum fry into the Serpentine last spring.

"The spawners were taken in dirty, wet, cold weather by these dedicated people," Keall says.

"Eggs were removed and tended carefully so that a good hatch was achieved. When the small fish swam up, they were put into a tank and fed every 15 minutes by these volunteers. The snow and ice covered everything as they were out in the open, like they've been doing for two years now. Then, the small fingerlings were released and expected to return in three years time."

Officials of the B.C. Ministry of Parks and Environment are investigating.

Ridge Meadows Times, March 3, 1987

Fish in those waters

There are fish in these waters and ministries of environment and fisheries want people to think twice before dumping oils, chemicals or swimming pool waters into storm sewers.

Peter Caverhill, fisheries biologist, told council last week a volunteer force of school children, community groups and individuals will be enlisted to mark storm sewer drains with fish. He said hopefully seeing a fish painted near a drain opening will give people pause to think

before dumping chemicals into the storm sewers.

Caverhill said unlike sanitary sewers, storm sewers empty directly into streams, many of them fish bearing. Chemicals from pools and oil go directly from the drain into the streams and the result is nearly always a fish kill which cannot be detected to its source.

He hopes the fish marking program will save the fish in the network of tiny streams laced throughout Maple Ridge.

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The Province, Tuesday, January 27, 1987

Fish kill angers officers

By SUZANNE FOURNIER
Staff Reporter

This time, they're vowing to make the culprit pay.

Officials are trying to find out who dumped chemicals into Reay Creek in Sidney, wiping out 2,000 fish in a salmonid enhancement project.

It's the third such spill in five years.

"We'll try our best to pinpoint a culprit and lay charges," said federal fisheries officer Bruce Grant yesterday.

A first offence under the Fisheries Act carries a maximum \$50,000 fine.

Grant says fisheries officers, the city of Sidney and Saanich municipality are joining forces and calling for "citizen snoops" to help stop the dumping.

Grant says chemical samples and dead fish from the weekend spill are being analysed.

Particularly hard-hit by the spill were local children.

Anglers' Association president Tom Davis said neighborhood kids, some in tears, smelled the chemical in the creek on the weekend and told him of the fish kill.

"Kids were thrilled when a few fish came home to spawn last year, despite the repeated, irresponsible dumping of toxic chemicals in the creek," said Davis.

"Parents are worried because kids play in the creek and chemicals are toxic to humans, too. We want to save our creek and stop this dumping."

DISPOSAL OF HAZARDOUS HOUSEHOLD PRODUCTS

Reduce: Buy products that are needed, and will be used up entirely.
Re-Use: Give unwanted products to friends, neighbours, or organizations that may need them.
Recyclable Products: For information on where to take recyclable material, call 736-8636.

Non-Recyclable Products: There may be a collection site in your Municipality or City for non-recyclable products. For further information, please call your Municipal/City Hall or the Ministry of Environment & Parks (M.O.E.P.) (15326 - 103A Avenue, Surrey, B.C.), 584-8822.

AUTOMOTIVE

Motor Oil:
Antifreeze:
Brake Fluid:

Carburetor Cleaner:

Gasoline:

Gasoline Additives:
Transmission Fluid:
Degreasers:

Sealers:

recycle at Mohawk Gas stations or call 736-8636.
dispose into sanitary sewer (toilet).
call your local Municipal/City Hall or drop off at M.O.E.P.,
in Surrey.
call your local Municipal/City Hall or drop off at M.O.E.P.,
in Surrey.
call your local Municipal/City Hall or drop off at M.O.E.P.,
in Surrey.
mix with gasoline in tank (takes water out) or call 584-8822.
recycle at Mohawk Gas stations or call 736-8636.
call your local Municipal/City Hall or drop off at M.O.E.P.,
in Surrey.
call your local Municipal/City Hall or drop off at M.O.E.P.,
in Surrey.

PAINTS & SOLVENTS

Paint:
Shellacs:
Lacquers:
Varnishes:
Enamels:
Paint Thinners:

Paint & Varnish Strippers:

Rustproof Coatings:

add sawdust (or sand) to solidify, then dispose in garbage.
same as paint above.
same as paint.
same as paint.
same as paint.
call your local Municipal/City Hall or drop off at M.O.E.P.,
in Surrey.
call your local Municipal/City Hall or drop off at M.O.E.P.,
in Surrey.
spray or paint into paper bag and dispose in garbage or drop
off at M.O.E.P., in Surrey.

RECREATIONAL PRODUCTS

Swimming Pool Contents:
(Chlorine)
Outboard Motor Products:
(Gas, Oil, etc.)

direct into sanitary sewer system.

recycle oil at Mohawk Gas stations/use gas up or call M.O.E.P.,
in Surrey.

PESTICIDES

Disinfectants:
(bathroom, kitchen)
Insecticides:
(garden products)
Fungicides:
(mold & mildew control)
Rodenticides:
(rat bait)
Herbicides:
(weed killers)
Molluscides:
(slug bait)
Wood Preservative:
(Creosote)

call your local Municipal/City Hall or drop off at M.O.E.P.,
in Surrey.
same as disinfectants above.
same as disinfectants.
same as disinfectants.
same as disinfectants.
same as disinfectants.
same as disinfectants.
same as disinfectants.

CLEANING PRODUCTS

Detergents:

Drain & Toilet Cleaners:

Rug & Upholstery Cleaners:

Leather Preservatives:

Dry Cleaning Agents:

Car Wash Detergent:

Polishing Agents:
(shoe polish)

purchase phosphate-free or low phosphate detergents. call
your local Municipal/City Hall or drop off at M.O.E.P., in Surrey.
call your local Municipal/City Hall or drop off at M.O.E.P.,
in Surrey.
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in Surrey.
call your local Municipal/City Hall or drop off at M.O.E.P.,
in Surrey.
call your local Municipal/City Hall or drop off at M.O.E.P.,
in Surrey.
purchase phosphate-free detergent-be sure that detergent run-off
does not go into storm drains.
dispose into garbage.

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