

Protecting Guam's Fresh Water: Your Personal Solution

Wherever the Rain Can Go – Pollutants Can Also Go

We all depend on our island's natural supply of clean, fresh water. Guam's supply of fresh water falls as rain and makes its way to into bodies of surface water such as rivers and lakes and underground water collections such as the Northern Guam Lens Aquifer. Some of this fresh water will be pumped, cleaned, and piped into our homes for drinking, cooking, cleaning, gardening and much, much more.

If you wouldn't drink it, don't dump it!

Wherever the rainwater can go, pollution can also go. Whatever we dump in our yards, roadsides, drains, septic systems, storm drains and even our trash can get into our fresh water supply. So, if you wouldn't drink it, don't dump it.

Storing and Disposing of Your Household Chemicals

Here are some ways to manage your hazardous household chemicals such as automotive oil, paint, pesticides, fertilizers and solvents without harming our fresh water supply.

- Buy only the amount you need and use all or as much as possible before disposing of leftovers.
- If the product goes down the drain in normal use, then it's okay to dilute with water and pour it down the drain.
- Never mix chemicals together before disposing of them.
- Don't "hide" your hazardous household waste in your regular trash pickup.
- Fertilizer - Use organic fertilizers instead of chemical fertilizers. If you must use chemical fertilizers, cut back and don't fertilize during rainy season. Dispose of leftovers according to label directions.
- Insecticides and herbicides - Poisons that kill pests and weeds can introduce harmful chemicals into the water supply. Pull weeds and allow for a few munched leaves. If you must use insect or weed killers, use only the amount as directed follow safety precautions. Dispose of leftovers according to label directions.
- To find the best place to dispose of hazardous waste, check the Guam EPA's "Guam Recycling Guide." <http://epa.guam.gov/activities/recycling-guide/>

Keep Your Family Safe

Store household chemicals safely out of the reach of children. Always read the labels. Take care to store chemicals so that the labels remain readable for future use and disposal.