HAZARDOUS HOUSEHOLD PRODUCTS QUIZ

1. Name two hazardous products often found in homes.

2. How are the solvents used in household products different from industrial and commercial solvents?

3. Name one popular cosmetic that is mostly composed of organic solvents.

4. Name three words found on product labels that indicate a product is hazardous.

5. It is your turn to clean the stubborn stain in the bathtub. Why should you never add ammonia to strengthen the power of the chlorine-based scouring powder you are using?

6. Why are consumers often uncertain about the ingredients contained in the products they buy and use?

7. Define “toxic.”

8. How long does it take an acutely toxic substance to produce adverse health effects?

9. What is meant by chronic exposure to a toxic substance?

10. Name three ways that toxic substances can enter your body.

11. The child you are baby-sitting swallows a toxic substance. What should you do?

12. Why are aerosol sprays potentially harmful to your health?

13. You helped change the motor oil in the family car. What should you do with the used motor oil?

14. Name one hazardous household product that can be recycled.

15. When is a product hazardous?

(Turn over for answers.)
HAZARDOUS HOUSEHOLD PRODUCTS ANSWERS

1. Answers vary......examples include many household cleaners, most automotive products and many hobby products.

2. They aren't.

3. Nail polish or nail polish remover.

4. “Caution” and “Warning” indicate a moderate hazard level; “Danger” and “Poison” indicate the highest hazard level.

5. Ammonia plus chlorine produces a poisonous gas.

6. Vague terms are used; label requirements are not specific; chemical terms are unfamiliar.

7. A poisonous substance that can cause injury, illness or death.

8. Immediately or in a very short time.

9. Exposure to small amounts of a toxic substance over a long period of time.

10. Inhalation, ingestion, skin contact and skin absorption.

11. Call the Poison Center (1-800-222-1222) or 911.

12. You could breathe the particles when they are dispersed; the can could explode if it is near a source of heat or a spark.

13. Recycle it by taking it to your nearest collection point for used oil, such as an automotive center. In King County, call the Hazards Line for more information, at 206-296-4692 or 1-888-ToxicEd.

14. Motor oil, latex paint. In King Co., call the Hazards Line for more information.

15. When its use, storage or disposal poses a threat to human health or the environment.

(Taken from Waste Reduction and Recycling Integrated Waste Management Guide 7-12 Curriculum, Thurston County, WA)