# Campaign for a Fishable/Swimmable Blackstone River

# H2W – Household Hazardous Waste

Lawns/ Gardens

Terrific

Car Care

Pet Waste

Trees

Carefully storing and disposing of household cleaners, chemicals, and oils



## WHY?



Antifreeze, household cleaners, gasoline, pesticides, oil paints, solvents, and motor oil are just some of the common household products that can enter our **storm drains**. Help keep these out of our lakes and streams. Instead of putting these items in the trash, down the storm drain, or on the ground, take them to a local hazardous waste center or collection day.

#### HOW?

Rooftop Runoff/ Rain Gardens

Household Hazardous Waste

Pervious Surfaces

Stream Buffers Here are some simple steps you can take to carefully dispose of household wastes and help keep our water clean. Give them a try. A few simple changes can make a big difference!

• Identify it. Be aware of household products that can harm children, pets, and the environment. The words "danger," "caution," "warning," or "toxic" indicate that you need to be careful in how you use and dispose of the product.

• Less is better. Reduce waste and save money by purchasing only the materials you need. When possible, choose less toxic alternatives. For example, try cleaning your windows with vinegar and water.

• Store properly. Keep unused products in their original containers with labels intact. Select cool, dry storage areas that are away from children, pets, and wildlife.

• Disposal is key. Never dump motor oil, chemicals, and other toxic materials down storm drains, sinks, or on the ground. Contact your local community for disposal locations, guidelines, and dates.

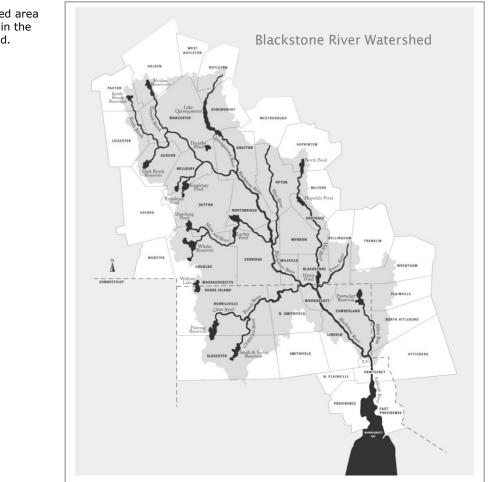
• Don't forget the RV. Dispose of recreational vehicle sanitary waste at a nearby drop-off location. Never put it down a storm drain or roadside ditch!

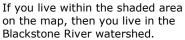
# RESOURCES

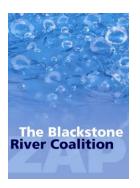
https://keepmassbeautiful.org/what-we-do/waste-reductionrecycling/household-hazardous-waste.html https://web.uri.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/61/HazardousWaste.pdf For more information on RV dump locations and requirements: https://www.rvdumps.com/map-of-rv-dump-stations/ mol

## BENEFITS

By keeping these toxic materials out of our waterways, you make living much easier for aquatic critters and plants.







**The Blackstone River Coalition** is a partnership of numerous organizations working to restore the Blackstone River and improve the health of its watershed. For more information contact BRC Coordinator Peter Coffin at 508-753-6087 or <u>peter.coffin@zaptheblackstone.org</u>.

This guide was developed by Mass Audubon for the BRC.



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Blackstone River Coalition <u>www.zaptheblackstone.org</u>