PORT AND RESOURCE RECOVERY DEPARTMENT



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DEAN R. HAEN DIRECTOR

## Poison Prevention Doesn't Go in the Trash

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 18, 2024 (Brown County, Wis.) – The warmer weather has many homeowners in Brown County thinking about cleaning out their homes, garages and sheds. Brown County Resource Recovery encourages everyone to consider the harmful chemicals and materials you may have and how to dispose of them properly.

Poison Prevention Week, which takes place March 17 – 23, is the perfect time to take stock of the materials you have that could potentially pose a threat to loved ones, pets or the environment. "Chemicals are used in our daily lives for cleaning, home improvements and even technology," said Mark Walter, Brown County Resource Recovery Business Development Manager. "It can be easy to take these materials for granted and to forget that when left unattended or disposed of improperly they can cause major harm."

Cleaning products, paints, solvents and even batteries are all considered hazardous materials. To learn how to properly store and dispose of these materials, simply look at the label. "Labels on hazardous materials provide a lot of helpful information to the consumer," added Chris Blan, Resource Recovery Technician. "They can help teach people the proper way to store and dispose of materials to avoid accidental poisoning or contamination of the environment." Most hazardous materials can be brought to the Brown County Hazardous Material Recovery (HMR) facility for disposal for a small fee.

The HMR facility accepts things like pesticides, bleach, pool chemicals and even batteries or electronics. "Instead of disposing of poisons or chemicals down the drain or in the garbage, taking a trip to the HMR facility provides a safe way to remove harmful materials from your home," said Blan. The HMR facility also accepts materials from businesses that are considered very small quantity generators (those that generate less than 220 pounds of hazardous materials in calendar month).

Brown County also offers the Batteries NOW Included program at the HMR facility, accepting household batteries and battery containing devices for FREE from Brown County residents.

The HMR facility is open to Brown County residents on Tuesdays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Thursdays from noon to 6 p.m. Businesses may schedule an appointment at www.browncountyrecycling.com.

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<u>Brown County Resource Recovery</u>: The purpose of the Brown County Port & Resource Recovery Department is to meet the solid waste disposal needs of local communities and businesses through methods which are environmentally sound and economical.

> For more information, visit our website at: www.BrownCountyRecycling.org Follow us on: Facebook | Twitter | YouTube | Pinterest

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