

Flood related Hazardous Materials and Household Hazardous Waste Collection THIS WEEKEND

The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) are working together to characterize, safely remove, and dispose of oil and other orphaned hazardous materials and containers that were left in place following the December flood along areas in the Nehalem River Valley in the vicinity of Vernonia and Mist.

Local agencies have helped DEQ and EPA identify many containers that will be removed.

Please call a response team member through Vernonia public Works at 503-429-5291 extension 105 with information about any hazardous materials along the river that need to be removed or hazardous items that have floated into neighborhoods. This effort is being conducted free of charge to protect the health of residents, clean-up crews and the environment.

Hazardous waste collection contractors will also receive flood related Household Hazardous Waste (HHW). Local residents can bring HHW to the Volunteer Center located at 998 Bridge Street across from Vernonia City Hall.

**The HHW collection event will be held on Saturday, Sunday, and
Monday April 5, 6, and 7 2008 during the hours of 10 AM until 2 PM.**

Household hazardous waste includes: unused or leftover portions of products used in the home that contain toxic chemicals. Products labeled Caution, Warning, Danger, Poison, Toxic, Flammable, or Corrosive are considered hazardous.

Examples of HHW that will be collected include:

<i>Aerosols</i>	<i>Latex/Oil-Based Paint</i>
<i>Antifreeze</i>	<i>Pesticides</i>
<i>Auto Batteries</i>	<i>Pool Chemicals</i>
<i>Auto Fluids</i>	<i>Propane Tanks- less than 30 gallons</i>
<i>Disinfectants</i>	<i>Solvents</i>
<i>Fertilizers</i>	<i>Used Oil and Oil Filters</i>

Other potentially hazardous flood related materials that are large, such as drums or tanks, or items that cannot be safely and easily brought to the HHW collection event should be reported to 503-429-5291 extension 105 and contractors will come and remove those items.

DEQ and EPA greatly appreciate the assistance of many local agencies including: The Upper Nehalem Watershed Council, City of Vernonia Public Works, Columbia County Road Department, Jim Presley, and Dick Titus who are donating the collection location.