

Hints for Organizing
“Leftover-Sharing”
of Home & Yard Chemicals

What do you do with leftover home and yard chemicals? Let them sit around in your garage or basement? Watch the containers rust and corrode? That’s dangerous for your family and pets – and not good for the environment, either.

Want a better idea? Share your good leftovers with friends and family. Safely store any “no good” leftovers until Utah County has its next household hazardous waste collection event.

Here are the basic steps in leftover chemical sharing:

1. Advertise and Promote The Idea of Sharing Leftovers.

Advertising can be lots of fun. You can perform a skit, make up a song, make signs. Anything to get people interested in exchanging or sharing their leftovers! Advertise a lot for best results!

- Contact a group of friends or neighbors (such as your church group, club, school/office friends, etc.).
- Make copies of and distribute a Home Hazardous Waste Inventory Sheet.
- Ask people to write “no good” on any products that have frozen or that are clearly out of date. Make sure they take those to the HHW event and do not share them with friends.
- Post a “sign-up” sheet somewhere people can see it easily. Ask people to list the products they want to give away, and the products they need. When there’s a “match,” ask the people to get together to share their leftovers.
- Pick a group of friends who live close by or see each other fairly often. That makes it easier for them to actually give leftovers to each other.
- Ask a Scout to do this as a project.

2. More Bright Ideas.

- Let people know they should not store chemicals in the garage over winter. When toxic chemicals freeze, they become ineffective – but they remain toxic. Store them safely (locked, high up) indoors or in the basement.
- To avoid leftovers in the future, your friends can:
 - Choose nontoxic alternatives, using toxic chemicals as a “last resort.”
 - Buy smaller bottles of toxic chemicals so they have less waste.
 - Buy together. Two people can split the cost and share a toxic product if they really need it.

3. “No Good” Leftovers? Ask people to take their “no good” leftovers to the Household Hazardous Waste Collection event. Please make sure they do not pour them on the ground or down the drain, and that they do not put them in the regular garbage

4. Be Safe. Ask people to call 801-851-7525 for information about proper disposal of specialty chemicals (hobby chemicals, unusual pesticides, and so on).