



Household Hazardous Waste and Petroleum Products Management

Home-Owner Risk Assessment Sheet

Keeping Hauser Lake Clean

WORKSHEET 5

ASSESSMENT 1 – Product Selection, Purchase, and Use – The assessment table below will help you identify potential environmental risks related to Hauser Lake in your use of hazardous products around the house. For each question indicate your risk level in the right-hand column. Your goal is to lower your risks. Some choices may not correspond exactly to your situation. Choose the response that best fits. When finished turn to the **Action Checklist** on page 5-11 and record your medium and high-risk practices. Use the BMP recommendations in the Section #5 *Household Hazardous Waste Management* to help you decide how to best reduce pollution.

	LOW RISK	MEDIUM RISK	HIGH RISK	YOUR RISK
Product selection:	I always read labels; understand signal words; and respect the health or environmental hazards that labels describe. I use less hazardous products when possible.	I don't read labels or don't understand what they mean, but I use a "common sense" approach to safety.	I never read labels. I purchase products without considering what the product is made of or how it will be used.	<input type="checkbox"/> Low <input type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> High
Quantities purchased:	I buy only what is needed for a specific job. I use up most of the product during the season of purchase. I dispose excess at a county waste drop-off site.	I buy excess product, but provide safe and accessible storage.	I buy more than is needed, then purchase additional product without checking on current supplies.	<input type="checkbox"/> Low <input type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> High
Safety precautions:	I follow label instructions and take recommended precautions against exposure, like wearing protective clothing (gloves, and safety goggles). I never mix product.	I occasionally read the label. I take precautions based on my knowledge of the product. I occasionally mix products for specific cleaning tasks, but refer to label first.	I never follow label instructions and take no precautions – even when recommended. If one product doesn't work, I add another without checking safety precautions.	<input type="checkbox"/> Low <input type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> High
Use of less toxic alternatives:	Alternatives to toxic materials are used whenever applicable.		No alternatives are used.	<input type="checkbox"/> Low <input type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> High

ASSESSMENT 1 CONTINUED – Product selection, Purchase, and Use

	LOW RISK	MEDIUM RISK	HIGH RISK	YOUR RISK
Pesticides:	Non-chemical pest control used. Pest control products are chosen and used according to the label. Stored, handled and disposed of properly.	When solving pest problems, I do not practice much prevention or explore non-chemical options.	I may not always handle pesticides as directed on the label. Pesticides are applied near my well or at the edge of streams and Hauser Lake.	<input type="checkbox"/> Low <input type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> High

ASSESSMENT 2 - Safe Storage - When finished turn to the **Action Checklist** on page 5-11 and record your medium and high-risk practices.

	LOW RISK	MEDIUM RISK	HIGH RISK	YOUR RISK
Child safety:	Hazardous products are stored in a locked cabinet or other location inaccessible to children.	Products are kept out of the direct reach of children (on a high shelf, for example) but still accessible.	Products are easily accessible to children (for example, in an unlocked cabinet within a child's reach).	<input type="checkbox"/> Low <input type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> High
Containers, storage location, and spill protection:	Unused product stored in original container clearly labeled. Dry product stored separately and above liquids. Spill prevention and containment is considered in storage area.	Unused product is stored without regard to location. I don't provide protection against leaks or spills.	Unused products have been transferred to other containers such as used milk jugs or glass jars lacking caps or lids. I don't provide protection against leaks or spills.	<input type="checkbox"/> Low <input type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> High
Location of storage area in relation to well and the lake:	Hazardous products are safely stored in a protected location; a spill could not reach the lake or my drinking water and well.		Products are stored close to my well, or even in my pump house. A spill in the storage area could reach the lake or well.	<input type="checkbox"/> Low <input type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> High

ASSESSMENT 3 - Product Disposal — When finished turn to the **Action Checklist** on page 5-11 and record your medium and high-risk practices.

	LOW RISK	MEDIUM RISK	HIGH RISK	YOUR RISK
Antifreeze, used motor oil:	Recycled at county approved drop-off site or automotive shop. Used oil burned for heat in an approved space heater.	Disposed of at unapproved landfill or dump.	Dumped on property or in on-site sewage treatment system.	<input type="checkbox"/> Low <input type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> High

ASSESSMENT 3 Continued - *Product Disposal*

	LOW RISK	MEDIUM RISK	HIGH RISK	YOUR RISK
Household trash and hazardous product containers:	Non-hazardous plastic bottles and aluminum cans are recycled. I triple rinse empty yard and garden pesticide containers and include rinse water in yard and garden management.	Non-toxic materials are burned on my property. If burning is legal, burning guidelines are strictly followed. Burning barrels are emptied at an approved landfill.	I don't recycle. Hazardous materials are burned, releasing metals, acids, and chlorine compounds. Burning barrel emptied on the property.	<input type="checkbox"/> Low <input type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> High
Batteries: May contain mercury, cadmium, lead, or acid.	I recycle batteries, or take them to a county hazardous waste drop-off site. I trade-in my used car or boat battery at an auto or tire store.	Used batteries are disposed of in a county landfill.	Used batteries are stored or buried on my property near a well or waterway. Small batteries used in flashlights etc. are burned with my trash.	<input type="checkbox"/> Low <input type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> High
Cleaning and repair products containing hazardous solvents (non-water-soluble), and paint:	I share leftovers. Unused products containing mercury, pesticides, or hazardous solvents are taken to a county waste drop-off site.	Allow liquids to evaporate away. Sludge or leftover products are placed in normal trash flow which goes to a county landfill.	Leftover products are dumped on the ground near a well or waterway.	<input type="checkbox"/> Low <input type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> High
Drips and spills:	Contained on paved area with absorbent material (kitty litter) then disposed of at county landfill.	Drips and spills not contained, occasional flushing onto property.	Drips and spills not contained. Frequent flushing onto property and infiltration into ground.	<input type="checkbox"/> Low <input type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> High
Pesticides:	Containers are triple rinsed and disposed of at a recycling event and are used according to label instructions. Leftover pesticides are shared when possible and any used product is returned to the dealer or disposed of at county recycling event.		My disposal practices do not follow these guidelines; leftover pesticides should never be burned, buried, mixed together, poured on the ground, dumped in the water, poured down the drain, or put into the garbage.	<input type="checkbox"/> Low <input type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> High
Strong acids and bases: Found in hobby and recreation products, building cleaners and repair products.	I share any leftover products, or I take leftover product containers to a county household hazardous waste drop-off site.	Strong acids and cleaners are poured down the drain. Leftovers are stored or disposed of in trash.	Leftover products are dumped on the ground near a well or waterway.	<input type="checkbox"/> Low <input type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> High

