



County of San Diego
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH
HAZARDOUS MATERIALS DIVISION
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<http://www.sdcounty.ca.gov/deh/hmd/>



INFORMATION BULLETIN

Attention: Automotive Maintenance and Repair businesses

Chlorinated automotive product use banned after December 31, 2002!

(The sale of these products has been banned since July 31, 2002)

The California State Air Resources Board has adopted an Air Toxic Control Measure that bans the sale and use of chlorinated automotive consumer products to reduce public exposure to three toxic air contaminants:

- **Perchloroethylene** (Tetrachloroethylene, perc)
- **Trichloroethylene** (TCE)
- **Methylene chloride** (MeCl)

These compounds are sometimes contained in products used in auto repair and maintenance. They may be found in aerosol or liquid products such as brake cleaners, carburetor/fuel injection cleaners, engine degreasers and general all-purpose cleaners. Exposure to these compounds may result in cancer and other health effects to the liver, kidney and heart.

After December 31, 2002, automotive products with these banned ingredients must not be used at your business. Waste products must be disposed of as hazardous waste. Use a State registered hazardous waste hauler or call 1-800-714-1195 to find out if you qualify to self-haul the waste to the County's approved disposal facility.

In place of these products shops can use non-chlorinated products that are available. Be advised that an alternative ingredient, **n-Hexane**, may cause other adverse health effects such as numbness in the hands, muscle weakness and permanent nerve damage*. Aqueous (water-based) products are a recommended alternative because they are less toxic and usually non-flammable.

For all products you buy and use:

- Read the label and ingredients.
- Purchase the least toxic product.
- Get the Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) for each product type purchased. Keep these on file and updated; many manufacturers change formulations.
- Read the MSDS and follow stated precautions.
- Always work in a well-ventilated area.
- Use as little of the product as possible to complete the job.
- Dispose of unused products and waste properly.

IT IS AGAINST THE LAW TO DISPOSE OF HAZARDOUS WASTE TO THE TRASH, SEWER OR STORM DRAIN

Here are some websites that you can visit for more information about this issue:

Air Resources Board – www.arb.ca.gov/toxics/amr.htm

Aqueous Vendors List – <http://www.aqmd.gov/business/water.html>

*N-Hexane Health Advisory - <http://www.dhs.ca.gov/ohb/hesis/nhexane.pdf>

If you need additional guidance on the proper management of hazardous waste, please contact the Hazardous Materials Division Duty Specialist at (619) 338-2231, Monday through Friday, from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm.