

**Upper Valley Household Hazardous Waste Committee
Greater Sullivan County Household Hazardous Waste Committee**

ANNUAL REPORT 2012

During 2012, a new website was established to represent both the Upper Valley Household Hazardous Waste Committee and the Greater Sullivan County Household Hazardous Waste Committee. This regional website (hhw.uvlsrc.org/) provides educational outreach, nontoxic alternatives to typical toxic products, and the schedule for upcoming household hazardous waste and unwanted medicines collections provided by the Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission.

The Commission received a USDA grant to include assessing current HHW collection practices and evaluate if there are more efficient methods to garner greater participation, especially from towns that are farthest from collection sites.

Home & Life Show Event Booth: The Household Hazardous Waste Committee's booth in March 2012 featured information on buying nontoxic products in the store. The exhibit showed enlarged examples of labels on every day products such as toilet bowl cleaner. Who could read the tiny print to see you should wear goggles, gloves, and protective clothing to clean your toilet!! A large map displayed the household hazardous waste collections in the area in both New Hampshire and Vermont with their dates, times, and contacts for further information. Schedules for local HHW and unwanted medicine collections were also provided. About 200 people participated in an educational survey and a drawing for nontoxic cleaning ingredients. Fewer people attended the Home Show in 2012 due to the unusually gorgeous weather.

Household Hazardous Waste Collection Support: Both Committees provided volunteer support at the collections keeping waiting times short and residents informed. There were four collections in 2012: July 12th in Lebanon, August 18th in Sunapee; September 15th in Claremont; and October 20th back in Lebanon. A total of almost 900 households from Claremont, Cornish, Enfield, Goshen, Hanover, Lebanon, Lempster, Lyme, Newbury, Newport, Orford, Piermont, Plainfield, Springfield, Sunapee, Unity Washington, and Wilmot.

Unwanted Medicine Collections: Dartmouth-Hitchcock Outpatient Pharmacy partnered with the Committees and the Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission to provide unwanted medicine collection at the Lebanon collections. Local police provided collection in Sunapee and Claremont. Almost 140 households brought unwanted medicines for proper disposal in 2012.

Both Committees are made up of volunteers from towns in the Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Region. We encourage anyone interested to attend our meetings and become involved as a member or as an event volunteer. Contact Joyce Noll, Chair of the Upper Valley HHW Committee at 643-3083. They typically meet in Lebanon. Contact Tom Bennett, Chair of the Greater Sullivan County HHW Committee at 763-4614. They typically meet in Sunapee. We would love to talk to you.